

INTEGRATED SOCIAL SCIENCES, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: World Campus

End Campus: World Campus

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Integrated Social Sciences, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	20-42
Requirements for the Major	51-55

0-18 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 0-6 credits of GQ courses; 0-6 credits of GS courses, and 0-6 credits of GH courses.

Per Senate Policy 83-80.1, "Per University Faculty Senate Policy 83-80.1, every candidate for a degree shall earn as a degree candidate at least 36 of the last 60 credits required for a baccalaureate degree in courses offered by the University or in cooperative degree programs that have been established by formal agreement and approved by the University Faculty Senate."

Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
LA 201W	Experiential Learning Portfolio	3
LA 496	Independent Studies	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
In consultation with your adviser, select 6-8 credits in quantification from MATH, CMPSC, IST, PHIL, ACCT, or STAT		6-8
Select 3-4 credits in statistics of the following:		3-4
PLSC 309	Quantitative Political Analysis	
PSYCH 200	Elementary Statistics in Psychology	
STAT 200	Elementary Statistics	
Select 3 credits in ethics of the following:		3
LER 460		
PHIL 103	Ethics	
PHIL 103W	Ethics	
PHIL 119	Ethical Leadership	
Select 3-4 credits in research methods of the following:		3-4

CAS 390	Qualitative Research Methods
LER 312	
PSYCH 301W	Basic Research Methods in Psychology
SOC 207	Research Methods in Sociology
Supporting Courses and Related Areas	
<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>	
In consultation with your adviser, select 30 credits from social science courses in the following areas: ¹	30
ANTH, CAS, ECON, PLSC, PSYCH, or SOC	
LA 295	Undergraduate Field Experience or Practicum
LA 395	Internship
LA 495	Undergraduate Field Experience or Practicum

¹ Students must select at least 15 credits at the 400 level; 9 credits of the 400-level courses must be in one discipline and 6 credits must be in a second discipline.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.