

Bachelor of University Studies

Questions and Answers

What is the difference between a Bachelor of University Studies (BUS) and a BUS with an option in Multidisciplinary Studies?

In the Multidisciplinary Studies option, the “major” is composed of two or three areas of concentration (usually minors) and students are required to complete 45 upper division hours. The Bachelor of University Studies major requires completion of no fewer than 50 upper division hours selected from two or more disciplines. Talk to your adviser, the Student Academic Services Office for your college, the Learning and Student Success Opportunity (LASSO) Center in 214 Student Union, or the Advising Center at OSU-Tulsa if you're not sure which option is best for you.

How do I choose an adviser?

Identify your areas of concentration. Then, go to the Student Academic Services Office for one of the chosen areas of concentration or LASSO in 214 Student Union. They will help you identify an appropriate adviser.

Do I have to keep the first adviser I choose or may I change at some later date?

You may change advisers at any time, however your adviser must advise students in one of the areas of concentration.

At what time may I declare this major?

You may declare the Bachelor of University Studies option at any time.

Will I have a faculty representative in each area of concentration who will approve courses? Example: Concentration #1, Marketing; Concentration #2, Management; Concentration #3, Physical Education. Two colleges, three different departments. Who decides the coursework to be taken?

If the area of concentration has an approved minor/certificate, you will select courses from the minor/certificate with help from your adviser or the adviser for the minor/certificate (minor advisers are listed on the summary of minors). If you select an area of concentration that does not have an approved minor/certificate, a faculty member in the area must approve your courses.

May I select areas of concentration without fulfilling a minor or certificate in any one of them?

Yes. Many minors/certificates require more than 18 hours (a few require more than 27 hours), so you will work with your adviser or the adviser for the minor/certificate to select appropriate courses from the minor/certificate. Substitutions to required courses in the minor/certificate must be approved by the adviser for the minor. If the area of concentration does not have an identified minor or certificate, you may work with a faculty member in the area to determine appropriate courses.

Who approves the completed Bachelor of University Studies Declaration of Major form?

When you declare the degree, you and your adviser will submit a Declaration of Major form to the dean of the college for approval. The plan will then be sent to the Office of the Registrar to verify compliance with BUS degree requirements. After review, the final copy will be sent to the Associate Provost for final approval.

If I select a plan that lists courses I plan to take, may I change the plan with adviser approval?

Yes. Submit the course substitution form signed by your adviser to the Registrar before the semester you plan to graduate.

What should I do if I decide to change areas of concentration?

Submit a revised Bachelor of University Studies Declaration of Major form.

Is there a GPA requirement in the areas of concentration?

You must maintain a 2.0 GPA to graduate from Oklahoma State University. However, if you complete a minor, some minors require a higher GPA.

May I earn a grade of D in the courses included in the areas of concentration?

Yes, however, if you complete a minor, some minors/certificates accept no grade lower than a C.

May I use a course to fulfill requirements in more than one area of concentration?

No. For example, if Sociology 1113 is required in two areas of concentration, you may use the class to fulfill the requirements of only one of the areas of concentration. Select another course to complete the required number of hours in the other area of concentration.

May an adviser refuse to allow me to include a course in the area of concentration (even if the course is listed among minor requirements)?

Yes, if the adviser does not feel the course is fulfilling the intent of the plan of study developed by the student.

Do I have to meet College/Departmental requirements?

You are only required to complete general education courses required by your college of enrollment. Please note that required general education courses (courses with A, S, N, L, H, or I designations) may be listed on degree sheets under general education and college/department requirements.

May I use courses from an associate degree to fulfill requirements for a Bachelor of University Studies degree?

Yes. You may use "major" courses from an Associate of Science or Associate of Arts degree to fulfill one of three areas of concentration. At least 27 hours in the remaining two areas of concentration must be upper division hours.

Will I qualify for alternative certification to become a teacher if I complete this degree?

According to the Oklahoma State Department of Education (www.sde.state.ok.us), a degree in general studies does not qualify you for certification unless you complete coursework that is equivalent to a major in a certification area (for example, if you wish to pursue alternative certification in History you must complete all of the courses listed as major requirements for a Bachelor of Arts in History).

NOTE: Anyone who has been denied admittance to an approved teacher education program or enrolled in and subsequently failed required teacher education courses necessary to meet the minimum requirements of a teacher education program is not eligible for the Oklahoma Alternative Placement Program.

Are there any other requirements for graduation with the Bachelor of University Studies degree?

You must complete at least 120 semester hours with at least 2.00 GPA. At least 50 hours must be upper division, and at least 27 hours in the areas of concentration must be upper division. You must also complete at least 60 hours at a four year institution.