



Program of Study

Degree Requirements (120 hours)

1. **Carolina Core (34-46 hours)**

- a. **CMW** (6 hours): any approved CC-CMW course *–must be passed with a grade of C or higher*
- b. **ARP** (6-8 hours)
 - i. MATH 141 *or* MATH 122
 - ii. MATH 142 *or* MATH 170 *or* MATH 172
- c. **SCI** (8 hours): Two 4-credit hours laboratory science courses
- d. **GFL** (0-6 hours): Demonstration of proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the minimal passing grade on the exit examination in the 122 course is required for all baccalaureate degrees. Students can demonstrate this proficiency by successfully completing Phase II of the Proficiency Test or by successfully completing the 122 course, including the exit exam administered as part of that course.
It is strongly recommended that students continuing the study of a foreign language begin college-level study of that language in their first semester and continue in that language until their particular foreign language requirement is completed.
- e. **GHS** (3 hours): any approved CC-GHS course
- f. **GSS** (3 hours): any approved CC-GSS course
- g. **AIU** (3 hours): any approved CC-AIU course

Carolina Core Stand Alone or Overlay Eligible Requirements:

Up to two of these requirements may be met in overlay courses. At least one of these requirements must be satisfied by a course not applied elsewhere in general education. (3-9 Hours)

- h. **CMS** (3 hours): any approved overlay or stand-alone CC-CMS course
- i. **INF** (0-3 hours): any approved overlay or stand-alone CC-INF course
- j. **VSR** (0-3 hours): any approved overlay or stand-alone CC-VSR course

2. **College Requirements (15-18 hours)**

- a. **Foreign language course** (0-3 hours) *–only if needed to meet 122-level proficiency*
- b. **Analytical Reasoning** (6 hours)
 - i. STAT 201 (or equivalent) or higher
 - ii. CSCE 102 (or equivalent) or higher
- c. **History** (3 hours): The College of Arts and Sciences requires one U.S. History and one non-U.S. History course, both of which must be chosen from the approved Carolina Core GHS courses. Whichever is not fulfilled through the Carolina Core GHS requirement must be fulfilled through this college requirement.
- d. **Social Science** (3 hours): choose any from the list of CC-GSS approved courses
- e. **Fine Arts or Humanities** (3 hours)

3. **Program Requirements (20-35 hours)**

a. **Cognate or Minor (12-18 hours):**

Cognate

The cognate is intended to support the course work in the major. The cognate must consist of twelve (12) hours of courses at the advanced level, outside of but related to the major. The cognate may be taken in one or more departments or programs, depending on the interests of the student and the judgment of the advisor.

Courses offered by departments and programs that are acceptable for cognate credit are outlined in the section titled [Courses Acceptable for Cognate Credit in Degree Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences](#).

For cognate course offerings in other colleges, consult the appropriate sections of this bulletin. Some major programs have specific cognate requirements.

It should be emphasized that the cognate is not a second set of elective courses to be chosen at random by the student. The cognate must be approved by the major advisor as being related to the major field of study. Students are urged to consult their major advisors for specific requirements in their major.

Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the cognate.

For Bachelor of Science degrees, grades of **D** are acceptable for completion of the cognate requirement, except where restricted by the major program.

Minor

In place of the cognate a student in the College of Arts and Sciences may choose a minor consisting of at least 18 credit hours of prescribed courses. (Some minors in the sciences require a minimum of 16 hours.) The subject area of the minor may be related to the major. Students pursuing interdisciplinary minors who wish to use courses in their major department for minor credit must petition the College Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions for permission to do so.

The minor is intended to develop a coherent basic preparation in a second area of study. It differs from the cognate inasmuch as the courses must be concentrated in one area and must follow a structured sequence. Interdisciplinary minors can be designed with the approval of the assistant dean for academic affairs and advising.

Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the minor. No course may satisfy both major and minor requirements. **All minor courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher.** At least half of the courses in the minor must be completed in residence at the University.

A list of minor programs of study can be found at [Programs A-Z](#).

- b. **Electives (2-23 hours)** (*to reach required hours to graduate*): No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences allows the use of the Pass-Fail option on elective courses. Further clarification on inapplicable courses can be obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences.

4. **Major Requirements (36 hours)** –*a minimum grade of C is required in all major courses*

Each student must complete a program of studies designed by an interdisciplinary program committee appointed by the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office. The program shall include a minimum of 36 semester hours of credit in major eligible courses in two or more fields. No course submitted in fulfillment of the general education requirements may be included in the program requirements. A maximum of 15 semester hours of independent study courses may be applied to the interdisciplinary studies program requirement.

Procedure: The following procedures shall be followed in designing a program of interdisciplinary studies.

1. The candidate shall apply to the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office for declaration of an interdisciplinary studies program.
2. The candidate must submit to the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office a written statement of goals concerning a potential interdisciplinary studies program.
3. The College Academic Affairs and Advising Office will help the candidate formulate an interdisciplinary program committee, which shall consist of faculty members from the student's areas of interdisciplinary interest. The members of the interdisciplinary program committee shall be appointed by the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office, who will designate one member as chair and as the student's academic advisor.

4. The interdisciplinary program committee shall meet with the student and prepare a program of studies leading to the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies. This program shall include a written justification for the specific program of studies designed with the student. The program of study must be approved by the committee prior to the completion of 75 hours. The committee and College Academic Affairs and Advising Office must approve any subsequent changes in the student's program.
5. The candidate's academic advisor shall advise the student each semester and shall sign the necessary registration and other advisor's forms. Advising shall adhere to the student's approved program of studies. The academic advisor shall consult with the interdisciplinary program committee for approval should deviation from the original program become necessary or advisable. All changes shall be registered with the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office.

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies Degree After Completion of One Year of Medical or Dental School. Upon application to the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office, a student who has completed 90 hours or more of degree-applicable undergraduate work at the University of South Carolina (with the last 30 hours in residence at the University) with a grade point average of 2.00 or higher, will be granted the BSIS degree provided that:

1. The applicant has satisfied all graduation requirements for the BSIS degree in the College of Arts and Sciences, except for the final 30 hours.
2. The applicant has not applied these University of South Carolina credits to obtaining a baccalaureate degree from any institution.
3. The applicant submits documents from an accredited medical or dental school demonstrating satisfactory completion of the first year of study leading to a post-baccalaureate degree.
4. The applicant has the program of study approved by the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office.
5. The College Academic Affairs and Advising Office certifies that the requirements prescribed for the degree have been met.

Interested students enrolled at the University should consult the College Academic Affairs and Advising Office for details concerning this option.