General Requirements for Departmental Majors

Bachelor of Arts

B.A. Programs in Arts and Sciences

Students enrolled in a departmental major must meet the following general program requirements to qualify for the B.A. degree:

- Complete the program of study outlined by the major department or departmental adviser.
- Fulfill the university writing requirement (see page 42).
- Fulfill the university distribution requirement of earning at least 30 additional credits in courses coded for areas outside the area that includes their own department, *excluding courses that are prerequisites for required courses for the major.*
- Complete additional courses needed to meet the minimum degree requirement of 120 credits.

Distribution Requirement

Courses that satisfy the distribution requirement are coded as follows: Natural Sciences (N), Mathematics or other Quantitative Studies (Q), Humanities (H), Social or Behavioral Sciences (S), and Engineering (E). For a departmental major in any one of these areas, courses having a different distribution coding than those in his own department are "outside" courses. For example, a biology major must take at least 30 credits coded (H),(Q),(S),(E), but not (N).

For science, math, and engineering majors, at least 18 credits of the required 30 must be in (H),(S) courses. For humanities and social science majors, at least 12 credits must be in (N),(Q),(E) courses, in any combination. At least 6 distribution credits should be earned in each of the first two years. Credits for independent study, independent research, and internship do not fulfill distribution requirements but do count as credits toward graduation.

B.A. Program in Engineering

Although there are general requirements for the B.A. in an engineering discipline, the curriculum is tailored to each student's individual needs. Students take a core of five fundamental engineering courses, an engineering concentration, broad course work in mathematics and the natural sciences, and more than one-quarter of their total courses in the humanities and social sciences. Planned by the student and his/her adviser, the engineering concentration consists of six or seven courses (at least two at an advanced level) related either departmentally or thematically. Examples of interdepartmental concentrations are biotechnology, systems engineering, and computer technology.

Bachelor of Science

B.S. Programs in Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of science programs are offered in the Physics and Astronomy Department and the Biology Department. The B.S. in physics degree program is designed for students who plan to apply for scientific or technical positions in industry immediately after graduation, or who intend to pursue graduate study in engineering. The program requires 126 credits for graduation.

The Biology Department offers a B.S. degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology designed to increase the breadth of undergraduate training and afford greater educational possibilities and career options. The program requires 120 credits for graduation.

B.S. Programs in Engineering

Each bachelor of science program is offered by a department in the Whiting School of Engineering, which is responsible for the degree requirements. A student working for the B.S. degree must meet the following general requirements:

- Complete the program of study outlined by the department offering the major.
- A minimum of 75 credits earned in courses coded (E),(Q),(N), with at least 30 credits in courses coded (N) or (Q), with no course counted twice. At least 30 of these credits must be earned outside the student's major department.
- A minimum of six courses coded (H) or (S) (at least 3 credits each for a minimum of 18 credits).
- Two writing-intensive (W) courses (at least 3 credits each).

Credits for independent study, independent research, and internship do not fulfill distribution requirements but do count as credits toward graduation. The codes (S),(H),(Q), (E),(N), and (W) are merely guides as to whether a course is suitable to help fulfill distribution requirements. The student's major department or departmental adviser must approve all course selections.