



University College

Bachelor of Specialized Studies (BSS)

The scheduling scenario below is intended to present an example pattern by which this major can be completed in three years. Those interested in pursuing this option need to work with an academic advisor to develop a specific plan.

The Bachelor of Specialized Studies (B.S.S.) program allows students to create a faculty-approved, individualized, multidisciplinary degree program tailored to their individual interests and needs. In conjunction with faculty and staff, students design an Area of Concentration (A.O.C) that stands as the equivalent of pre-established major. The B.S.S. program is appropriate for students who would like to combine courses from different academic disciplines to create a unique major, or who have interests and career goals not met by a current Ohio University major.

Bachelor of Specialized Studies (B.S.S.) (General plan to be customized with two areas of concentration or academic disciplines)	Credit Hours	Upper Division	Minimum Grade	Total Hours
Post-Secondary Coursework or Transfer/Advanced Placement (AP) Credit:		Hours Required For Graduation: 120		
15 Credit Hours Minimum -				
Tier 1 and/or Tier 2 Requirement Options ⁽¹⁾				
Tier 1 English Composition (1E)	3			
Tier 1 Quantitative Skills (1M)	3			
Tier 2 Humanities & Literature (2HL)	3			
Tier 2 Natural Sciences (2NS)	3			
Tier 2 Social Sciences (2SS)	3			
	3			15 ⁽²⁾
Semester 1: Fall				
Apply to the B.S.S. program ⁽⁴⁾				
Tier 2 Applied Science & Mathematics (2AS)	3			
Tier 2 Cross-Cultural Perspectives (2CP)	3			
Tier 2 Fine Arts (2FA)	3			
UC 1000 - University College Learning Community ⁽³⁾	2			
B.S.S. Academic Discipline 1 – Introductory Class	3			
B.S.S. Academic Discipline 2 – Introductory Class	3			
				17
Semester 2: Spring				
Tier 2 Social Sciences (2SS)	3			
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 1	3			
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 2	3			
Elective	3			
Elective	3			
				15
Semester 3: Summer				
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 1	3			

B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 1	3			
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 2	3			
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 2	3			
Elective	3			
				15
Semester 4: Fall				
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 1	3			
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 1	3			
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 2	3	Yes		
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 2	3	Yes		
Elective	3			
				15
Semester 5: Spring				
Tier 1 Junior Composition (1J)	3	Yes	Junior	
SPST 4900 (Senior Seminar)	3	Yes	B.S.S. Major	
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 1	3	Yes		
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 2	3	Yes		
Elective	3			
				15
Semester 6: Summer				
SPST 4910 – Internship ⁽⁶⁾	15	Yes	B.S.S. Major	
				15
Semester 7: Fall				
Tier 3 Synthesis (T3)	3	Yes	Senior	
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 1	3	Yes		
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 1	3	Yes		
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 2	3	Yes		
B.S.S./A.O.C. Academic Discipline 2	3	Yes		
				15
Total				122

⁽¹⁾ Tier 1 and Tier 2 Courses, except Tier 1 Junior Composition, can be taken at any time. Since most of the general education courses easily transfer from institution to institution, we recommend that students plan to take these courses before taking courses within a major.

⁽²⁾ The estimated number of hours transferred or taken as AP is set at 15. Students with additional AP credits would be allowed to count them (as appropriate) toward the three-year degree pathway.

⁽³⁾ All University College students with fewer than 30 semester hours are required to be in a learning community their first term.

⁽⁴⁾ Currently registered, degree-seeking students may attend a B.S.S. application workshop and

apply to the Bachelor of Specialized Studies as early as the semester in which they anticipate reaching sophomore rank (at least 30 semester hours earned) and will have attained a 2.0 or higher cumulative GPA. Additionally, new students may enter OHIO as Pre-B.S.S. majors as they develop their major and successfully complete the application process. Information is available at www.ohio.edu/universitycollege.

⁽⁵⁾ Only two courses that satisfy Tier 2 requirements can be included in the Area of Concentration.

⁽⁶⁾ SPST 4910 is highly recommended, but not required (Students may alternately pursue elective coursework). Interested students need to turn in a B.S.S. Internship Application to their B.S.S. advisor, with a job description, to be approved for an internship. One credit of SPST 4910 is the equivalent of 40 hours of internship. Up to 15 credits of SPST 4910 may be included in the curriculum plan.

Note: This curriculum plan includes 48 hours in the areas of concentration and 48 upper-level credits (a minimum of 39 upper-level hours is required). You may include a minor or a certificate in your curriculum plan. Courses for a certificate can be included in the A.O.C. Courses for a minor must be elective courses.