



**OHIO**  
UNIVERSITY  
Zanesville

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## *University College* **Bachelor of Specialized Studies (BSS)**

### **Program Description**

The Bachelor of Specialized Studies program affords undergraduate students at Ohio University the opportunity to design an area of concentration, which stands as the equivalent of an established major. The program permits you to combine available curricula to create a unique field of study.

Typically, the Bachelor of Specialized Studies degree is not an appropriate degree program for someone who has previously completed a bachelor's degree. In special circumstances, a person who has completed a prior bachelor's degree may petition the director of degree programs to seek permission to apply for and complete the B.S.S. degree. The B.S.S. program is not an appropriate choice as a second degree program (double major).

The Bachelor of Specialized Studies degree program reflects the recognition that degree programs, as varied as they are at Ohio University, cannot satisfy the legitimate educational requirements of all students. Through specialized studies, you may construct an individualized degree.

### **Program Requirements**

As a student in the Bachelor of Specialized Studies program, you may complete one or more academic minors, as long as the courses taken to meet the minor requirements are not included in the Bachelor of Specialized Studies area of concentration. You need to indicate your intention to complete a minor at the time you submit your Bachelor of Specialized Studies application. Courses required to earn a certificate may be included in the area of concentration.

To submit an application to the specialized studies program for consideration, you must:

1. Be currently registered as a degree-seeking student
2. Be considered a sophomore or higher with a minimum 2.0gpa

### **Graduation Requirements:**

1. Earn 120 hours, of which at least 39 must be courses with catalog numbers at the 3000-level or above, as shown in the Undergraduate Catalog. **This does not include graduate level courses.**
2. Complete no fewer than 30 hours after being admitted to the Specialized Studies program. This total excludes any transfer credit, transient credit, Course Credit by Examination, Independent Study coursework, etc., for which the initial registration occurred prior to application to the Specialized Studies program.
3. Complete 30-50 hours in the self-designed area of concentration approved by the Bachelor of Specialized Studies review committee. The area of concentration can include courses that are completed, current, and planned at the time of application. The courses included as current and planned in the concentration become requirements for graduation subject to change only by prior permission from a University College advisor and, in some cases, the Bachelor of Specialized Studies review committee. At least 50 percent of the course work taken for the B.S.S. area of concentration must be completed at Ohio University.
4. Complete the University General Education requirements.
5. Complete a minimum of 32 hours of Ohio University coursework to satisfy the University residency requirement.
6. Earn at least a 2.0 GPA in the area of concentration and overall.

## Specialized Studies *Sample Curriculum\**

\*Students who choose to pursue the Bachelor of Specialized Studies program at Ohio University Zanesville will work with the designated B.S.S. advisor to design a course of study that best suits their individual educational goals. The information provided below represents a sample of the programs of study that have been designed by students in the past. They in no way represent a required course of study for future students!

Business Related Concentration
Accounting
Business Law
Economics
Management
Marketing

Environmental Concentration
Geography
Geology
Plant Biology
Communications
Management

Human Services Concentration
Psychology
Sociology
Social Work
Family Studies
Counselor Education

Fine Arts Concentration
Music
Literature
Art/Art History
Film
Humanities

Health Related Concentration
Health
Health Care Administration
Psychology
Sociology
Social Work
Management

Pre-Law or Politics
English
Business Law
History
Political Science
Journalism
Communications

General Education Requirements	
ENG 1510 Freshman Composition or Equivalent	3
MATH Tier I or Equivalent	3-4
ENG ****J Junior Composition or Equivalent	3
TIER II Social Science or Equivalent	3
TIER II Natural Science or Equivalent	3
TIER II Humanities or Equivalent	3
TIER II Fine Arts or Equivalent	3
TIER II Cross Cultural Perspectives or Equivalent	3
TIER II Applied Science and Math or Equivalent	3
TIER II (Student's Choice)	3
TIER III or Equivalent	3