MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, B.S. (BEHREND)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: Erie

Program Description
The MIS major prepares students for typical IT-related jobs such as programmer/analyst, systems analyst, data analyst, database administrator, team leader, project manager, consultant, and MIS manager. Since the focus of such jobs is on the application of information technology to business problems and opportunities, the MIS curriculum integrates three main areas of study.

In the first area, students take core business courses in order to understand organizational processes and user requirements in analyzing business systems. In the second area, students take core MIS courses in the areas of database management systems, data analysis, and analytics methodologies where the focus is on learning tools, processes, and techniques required for the successful application of information technology to business problems. These core courses are supplemented with a variety of electives and required, and approved internship experience.

What is Management Information Systems?
Data is everywhere: location-based from smart phones, social media, text, corporate data, and more. Companies need to analyze this data to get meaningful information to the people who need it. Hence, Management Information Systems (MIS) lives in the space that intersects technology and business.

You Might Like This Program If...
- Your career interests intersect at "business" and "technology."
- You are equally curious about accounting and coding and economics and database management.
- You are interested in pursuing concurrent education in enterprise resource planning (ERP) with SAP or Oracle.

Entrance to Major
Entry to the Management Information Systems major requires successful completion of 5 entry-to-major courses: ACCTG 211, ECON 102, ENGL 15 or ENGL 30H, MATH 110 or MATH 140, STAT 200 or SCM 200, and a 2.00 or higher cumulative grade-point average. All courses require a C or higher.

Degree Requirements
For the Bachelor of Science degree in Management Information Systems, a minimum of 123 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
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</table>

21 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 6 credits of GQ courses; 6 credits of GS courses; 9 credits of GWS courses.

Per Senate Policy 83.80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned.

Requirements for The Major
Each student must earn at least a grade of C in each 300- and 400-level course in the major field.

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCTG 211</td>
<td>Financial and Managerial Accounting for Decision Making</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA 241</td>
<td>Legal Environment of Business</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA 242</td>
<td>Social and Ethical Environment of Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSU 7</td>
<td>First-Year Seminar Behrend</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prescribed Courses</td>
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<td>Prescribed Courses</td>
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<td>PSU 7</td>
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</table>

Additionally Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15</td>
<td>Rhetoric and Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 30H</td>
<td>Honors Rhetoric and Composition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202C</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Technical Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 202D</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Business Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 110</td>
<td>Techniques of Calculus I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MATH 140</td>
<td>Calculus With Analytic Geometry I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCM 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistics for Business</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or STAT 200</td>
<td>Elementary Statistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select 3 credits from the following</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 470</td>
<td>International Trade and Finance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIN 471</td>
<td>International Finance</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

Exploration

- GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Program Learning Objectives

Critical and Integrative Thinking:

1. Students will be able to think critically by actively considering different points of view and utilize an integrated, holistic approach to construct relevant analyses, arguments, and conclusions.
   a. Students will clearly identify the key issues in the analysis.
   b. Students will present the appropriate analytic framework or warrant.
   c. Students will identify and assess important assumptions and question their validity.
   d. Students will identify and assess the quality of supporting data/evidence & provide additional data/evidence related to the issue.
   e. Students will draw and discusses conclusions, implications, and consequences.
   f. Students will identify key business issues using an integrated approach.
g. Students will apply appropriate holistic analyses to business issues.

h. Students will generate solutions that incorporate an integrated perspective to business problems.

Oral Communication:

1. Upon graduation our undergraduate students in The Sam and Irene Black School of Business will be able to execute the oral communication skills that they have learned in the interactive business courses to business situations where effective explanation, persuasion, exchanging information and ideas are essential.
   a. Students will be able to clearly express their line of thoughts to an audience.
   b. Students will be able to show confidence in their ability to communicate with their audience.
   c. Students will be able to effectively organize their thoughts and clearly communicate their organized thoughts with their audience.
   d. Students will be able to provide accuracy of content in their communication with their audience.
   e. Students will be able to provide depth of content in their communication with their audience.
   f. Students will be able to deliver a professional quality presentation to an audience while using appropriate and supporting technology.
   g. Students will be able to have a professional appearance in front of their audience.

Writing Competence:

1. Students will be able to demonstrate effective writing skills.
   a. Students will organize written assignments effectively.
   b. Students will develop a clear and well-structured argument.
   c. Students will identify and provide evidence sufficient to support the argument.
   d. Students will find reliable sources and cite and reference them correctly.
   e. Students will demonstrate proper writing mechanics with respect to spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Teamwork:

1. Students will be positive contributors to effective team functioning via application of their functional skills in addition to strong interpersonal skills.
   a. Students will be able to recognize the different ways in which their peers contribute to collaborative work.
   b. Students will contribute effectively to teams.
   c. Students will display good interpersonal skills in teamwork contexts.
   d. Students will learn how to interact effectively on teams.

Ethics and Social Responsibility:

1. Students will be able to recognize ethical issues and apply ethical theories in business situations at individual and/or organizational levels.
   a. Students will recognize ethical issues and the inter-relationships between business and society.
   b. Students will identify stakeholders affected by decisions and actions.
   c. Students will understand the consequences of decisions/actions to stakeholders.
   d. Students will analyze an ethical dilemma applying multiple ethical theories.
   e. Students will be able to correctly apply relevant ethical principles.
   f. Students will be able to recommend a plan of action.
   g. Students will be able to supported recommend action with by ethical analysis/evaluation.

Functional Area Knowledge:

1. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material across various business domains.
   a. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material in the Accounting domain.
   b. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material in the Economics domain.
   c. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material in the Management domain.
   d. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material in the Quantitative Business Analysis domain.
   e. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material in the Finance domain.
   f. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material in the Marketing domain.
   g. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material in the Legal and Social Environment domain.
   h. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material in the Information Systems domain.
   i. Students will be able to apply foundational knowledge to analyze and solve problems and interpret written and visual material in the International Issues domain.

Functional Area Knowledge (ACCOUNTING):

1. Students will be able to demonstrate a broad general knowledge of the principles of accounting, both managerial and financial.
   a. Students will be able to perform basic financial accounting transaction analysis.
   b. Students will prepare and interpret general purpose financial statements.
   c. Students will perform financial statement analysis.
   d. Students will apply various principles of managerial accounting.

Functional Area Knowledge (ECONOMICS):

1. Students will be able to demonstrate a broad general knowledge of the principles of economics, both microeconomics and macroeconomics.
a. Students will apply concepts associated with free market operations.
b. Students will conduct decision making based on opportunity costs and marginal analysis.
c. Students will determine consumer behavior based on various measures of elasticity.
d. Students will interpret effects associated with the four major market structures.
e. Students will apply the theory of comparative advantage.
f. Students will apply the basic market and macroeconomic models to explain changes in price and quantity.
g. Students will define, calculate, and interpret major economic indicators.
h. Students will identify and analyze the phases of the business cycle and their characteristics, including the problems associated with each cycle.
i. Students will interpret the impact of fiscal policy effects on the macro economy.
j. Students will interpret the impact monetary policy on the macro economy.
k. Students will identity how various analytical frameworks, (e.g., classical, Keynesian, monetarist, etc.) used may affect the policy conclusions in debates over stabilization policy.
l. Students will apply the theory of comparative advantage and the flows of financial assets principle to trade.

Functional Area Knowledge (FINANCE):

1. Use discounted valuation techniques to make capital investment decisions.
   a. Calculate the NPV for three scenarios (1) base case, (2) best case, and (3) worst case.
   b. Identify relevant initial CFs for NPV calculation
   c. Identify relevant operating CFs for NPV calculation
   d. Identify relevant terminal CFs for NPV calculation
   e. Create and interpret a NPV profile
   f. Analyze and accept or reject a proposed investment project.
2. Understand the relationship between risk and return for equity and debt.
   a. Understand the trade-off between risk and return for individual assets by computing a beta and required rate of return using the CAPM (Capital Asset Pricing Model).
   b. Explain an appropriate proxy for the market rate of return for the CAPM.
   c. Explain an appropriate risk-free rate proxy for the CAPM.
   d. Calculate cost of debt or YTM of corporate bonds
3. Determine the required return on a proposed investment.
   a. Calculate and interpret the weighted-average cost of capital (WACC) by estimating the market cost of equity and debt.
   b. Understand when WACC is appropriate as the required return to evaluate a proposed capital investment.

Functional Area Knowledge (MIS):

1. Students will be able to describe the benefits and challenges of applying information technology in various organizations and functional areas.

Functional Area Knowledge (MARKETING):

1. Students will understand the concept of marketing and marketing philosophies.
   a. Students will understand the concept of marketing and marketing philosophies.
   b. Students will understand the process of marketing plan and how to set marketing strategies.
   i. Be able to prepare an outline of marketing plan (e.g., SWOT analysis).

Functional Area Knowledge (MANAGEMENT):

1. Students will be able to demonstrate a broad knowledge of each business discipline, including management.
   a. More particularly, students will be able to identify the correct core concepts in the context of the following 12 main topic areas:
      i. Introduction to / History of Management
      ii. Managing in the Global Environment
      iii. Decision Making
      iv. Planning & Strategy
      v. Organizational Structure & Culture
      vi. Managing Human Resources
      vii. Individual Attitudes & Behavior
      viii. Managing Teams
      ix. Motivation
      x. Leadership
      xi. Communication
      xii. Principles of Control

Functional Area Knowledge (LEGAL ENVIRONMENT):

1. Students will be able to identify key terms, concepts, and theories of law.
   a. Students will identify key terms, concepts, and theories of law.
   b. Students will analyze legal issues and apply the law to business situations.

Functional Area Knowledge (INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS):

1. Students will be able to will have basic multidisciplinary knowledge needed to conduct international business and understand the impact of globalization.
   a. Our students will develop an awareness of global issues and diverse cultures.
   b. Our students will be able to analyze how global factors affect decision making.
   c. Our students will be able to use information resources to formulate global strategy.

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   c. Our students will be able to use information resources to formulate global strategy.
ii. Be able to choose an appropriate marketing strategy for different types of firms (e.g., market development, product development, diversification, market penetration).

c. Students will understand the process of market research.
   i. Be able to choose an appropriate market research design and method for different types of market research questions.

d. Students will understand buyers and markets.
   i. Be able to understand the mechanism of the buyer behaviors.

e. Students will understand the concept of target marketing strategy.
   i. Be able to use market segmentation variables for targeting and positioning.
   ii. Students will understand the 4P’s (product, price, promotion, place) concepts.
   iii. Be able to formulate MARKETING 4P’S DECISIONS.

Functional Area Knowledge (QUANTATIVE BUSINESS ANALYSIS):

1. Upon graduation our undergraduate students in The Sam and Irene Black School of Business will be able to demonstrate a broad knowledge of business disciplines (quantitative business analysis).
   a. Students will be able to apply the basic rules of probability to assess likelihood within a population.
   b. Students will be able to identify and apply appropriate probability distribution concepts to analyze data.
   c. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of correlation and regression analysis.

Functional Area Knowledge (SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT):

1. Students will be able to demonstrate a broad knowledge of business disciplines (supply chain management).
   a. Students will be able to apply forecasting methods for demand of a product or service.
   b. Students will be able to apply inventory and planning models for managing operations.
   c. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of TQM tools.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

Erie
Kathleen Noce, D.Ed.
Teaching Professor of Management Information Systems
273 Burke

Management Information Systems, B.S. (Behrend)

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2023-24 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contains suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

Management Information Systems, B.S. at Erie Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15 or 30 (GWS)*‡#†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CAS 100 (GWS)‡‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MATH 110 or 140 (GQ)*‡#†</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GH)</td>
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<td>MIS 204*</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GN)</td>
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<td>General Education Course (GA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GHW)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course (GN) (Single Domain or Inter-Domain)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSU 7</td>
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Second Year

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<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACCTG 211*#</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ECON 102*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SCM 200 or STAT 200 (GQ)*‡#</td>
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<td>General Education Course (Inter-Domain)</td>
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<td>MKTG 301*</td>
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<td>General Education Course (GHW)</td>
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<td>SCM 301*</td>
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Third Year

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA 241†</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MIS 430*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MIS 336*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA 242†</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MIS Business Focus Area or Data Analyst Focus Area Course*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Supporting Course MIS/CMPSC/Business*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIS 315 (or PROGRAMMING COURSE)†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Supporting Course MIS/CMPSC/Business*</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Erie, PA 16563
814-898-6508
kxn9@psu.edu
MIS 345*  3 Approved Elective  3
General Education Course (Inter-Domain)  

16  15

Total Credits 124

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

Career Paths
Tailor Penn State Behrend’s MIS degree program to your career interests by pursuing one of three options: Business Analyst, Data Analyst, or Systems Analyst. Graduates typically enter the workforce in IT-related positions such as computer systems analyst, applications developer, web developer, project manager, technology auditor, internet solutions manager, or database administrator. Penn State Behrend has a comprehensive support system to help you identify and achieve your goals for college and beyond. Meet with your academic adviser often and take advantage of the services offered by the Academic and Career Planning Center beginning in your first semester.

Opportunities from Graduate Studies
B.S. in Management Information Systems graduates are well-prepared to pursue master’s- or doctoral-level education in a business or technology discipline, or in Penn State Behrend’s master’s degree programs in Business Administration (M.B.A.), Project Management (M.P.M.) or Manufacturing Management (M.M.M).

University Requirements and General Education Notes:
US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).
W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.

1 Please see your academic adviser for approval before scheduling your course
2 In order for a course to be eligible for an Approved Elective, the course can not be a lower level ENGL (1-6) or MATH (2-41) OR a GHW designated course. Please see your academic adviser if you have a question on a specific course.
3 All students are required to fulfill 45 credits of General Education courses. They include 9 credits of Natural Science (GN), 6 credits of Arts (GA), 6 credits of Humanities (GH), 6 credits of Social Science (GS) and 3 credits of Health and Wellness (GHW). Two (2) classes must be Inter-domain (N) or Linked (Z) courses. One (1) course must be designated an United States culture (US) and one (1) course must be designated an International culture (IL).
Any 3 credits may be substituted for a different designation (GN,GA,GH,GS, or GHW) once 3 credits in each designation area have been successfully completed.