Entrance to Major

1. An entry interview with the candidate, the faculty mentor, and the members of the Bachelor of Philosophy Degree Committee is required prior to admission to the program. This preliminary interview provides an opportunity for the candidate to discuss and justify the intended use of the Bachelor or Philosophy degree program, and the unique circumstances that surround the applicant.

2. Second, third, and fourth-semester students may apply; those selected will begin their programs the following semester. Exceptions may be approved by the committee.

3. Evidence of successful completion of course work requiring independent research is required. In addition, the committee will consider the applicant’s cumulative grade-point average as an index of academic performance and responsibility. Applicants must possess the capability of performing at a 3.0 minimum level.

4. Approval of the student’s program by the committee is required.

Requirements for Graduation

1. Satisfactory completion of a program approved by the committee:
   a. a minimum of 120 credits to include at least 18 credits at the 400 or 500 level;
   b. certification by the faculty mentor; and
   c. approval of a capstone, thesis or equivalent, by the faculty mentor.

2. Approval by the committee for graduation following presentation and defense of the capstone, thesis or equivalent.

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 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

Wendell Schwab
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Career Paths

Graduates of the Bachelor of Philosophy program find work in many different areas, from music therapy to fundraising and development at a large university.

Contact

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