DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

All programs have specific requirements described on the program page. Some common requirements that apply broadly across the university are described here.

General Education
General Education is the heart of the undergraduate experience. From the sciences to the arts and humanities, General Education at Penn State prepares students to thrive personally and professionally in our diverse global society. Through General Education, students acquire skills, knowledge, and experiences for living in interconnected contexts, making life better for themselves, others, and the larger world. As professions become more dynamic and career paths less predictable, the ability to place information into context through critical thinking and the ability to develop solutions to complex problems and make ethical decisions become essential skills for a resilient workforce. Creative and analytical practice prepares students of all disciplines to be resourceful in the application of their knowledge towards complex problem solving, and to communicate that knowledge in a variety of forms.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT GENERAL EDUCATION (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/)

Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements (9-24 credits)
Courses with a Bachelor of Arts attribute satisfy these requirements.

Foreign Language (0-12 credits)
Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/#advisingandplanningadegreeprogramtext).

B.A. Fields (9 credits)
Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language).

Other Cultures (0-3 credits)
Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.

Other University Requirements
The First Year Engagement, Cultural Diversity and Writing Across the Curriculum requirements can be found on the Other University Requirements page.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/other-university-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.