

Degree Programs

The College of General Studies offers 11 majors that combine basic skills with specific areas of study in order to best prepare graduates for the workforce. Each major requires the completion of general education requirements as well as specific curricula within the major. All courses are taught by regular University faculty.

Administration of Justice

Develop your understanding of the evolution, theory, structure, functioning, and process of change in the system of American criminal justice. Choose one of these four specialized areas: adult and juvenile corrections, law enforcement practice, forensics, or cybercrime.

Dental Hygiene

If you have graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program, this major provides you with the opportunity to complete a Bachelor of Science degree.

Health Services

Our health services BA major is designed to build communication, management, analytical, and leadership skills, while relating all to the health services field. Our health services BS major is a degree completion option for students who have an associate degree in select allied health fields or are licensed diagnostic medical sonographers, radiologic technologists or respiratory therapists.

Humanities

Choose courses from three of the following departments: Africana studies, classics, communication, English, German, history of art and architecture, linguistics, music, philosophy, religious studies, Spanish, studio arts, and theatre arts. A pre-education option is available for students interested in the comprehensive English program in the School of Education.

Legal Studies

This interdisciplinary course of study combines the theories and methods of several social science disciplines and law. It is not designed as a pre-law program; its goal is to enable you to develop an understanding of the nature, content, and operation of American law and legal institutions.

Liberal Studies

This major allows students to incorporate all of the prerequisite course work needed for admission into the Instructional 1 certification programs in early childhood education and elementary education in the University of Pittsburgh School of Education. These options may be used by students interested in the professional year or the Master of Arts in teaching programs offered in the School of Education. Students must complete this program by April 2012 because of certification changes.

Media and Professional Communications

This major features a dual emphasis on the theories of mass media process, history, and ethics, as well as the opportunity to specialize in one of three professional practice areas: corporate/community relations, writing for the professions, or digital media. The three tracks are designed to strengthen both the knowledge base and proficiencies of students pursuing careers in communications fields, such as print, television, radio, film, news media, or corporate/organizational communications.

Natural Sciences

Choose courses from three of the following departments: anthropology, astronomy, biological sciences, chemistry, geology and planetary science, history and philosophy of science, neuroscience, physics, or psychology. A pre-med and two pre-education options are available. Students interested in teaching certification can pursue the required course work for the earth and space science and general science programs in the School of Education.

Public Service

This major prepares students for careers that are focused on the resolution of public problems or the delivery of public services at the local, state, national, or international level. Students take a common core and then choose one of three concentration areas: public administration, nonprofit management, or a self-designed concentration.

Self-Designed

If you are interested in the self-designed major, please see an advisor.

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Social Sciences

Choose courses from three of the following departments: Africana studies, anthropology, economics, history, Jewish studies, legal studies, political science, psychology, religious studies, sociology, urban studies, and women's studies.

College of General Studies

The College of General Studies (CGS) provides adult and continuing education programs that are designed to address changing employer and student needs. The high-quality, flexible programs include courses, certificates, and degrees. CGS provides a single point of access to the University's innovative programs and services that both enrich lives and promote the economic health of the region.

For more information, contact:

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