

III. DEGREES, GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS, and ACADEMIC RECORDS, GRADUATION

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY DISCLAIMER

Each student is responsible for understanding and completing all requirements established for his or her degree by the University, college and department. A student's advisor or counselor may not assume that responsibility. Any substitution, waiver, or exemption from established degree requirements may be accomplished only with the approval of the student's dean. Exceptions to University requirements, including the General Education requirements, will be authorized only with the approval of the student's dean and the Office of Academic Affairs.

A. DEGREES, DEGREE REQUIREMENTS, and SCHEDULING

1. Baccalaureate Degrees. MSU awards the following baccalaureate degrees: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (B.L.A.), Bachelor of Music Education (B.M.E.), Bachelor of Architecture (B.ARC.), Bachelor of Accountancy (BACC), and Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) (Master's, Specialist, and Doctor's degrees are listed under Office of the Graduate School in this catalog, and in the Graduate Bulletin.)

2. University-Wide Requirements. In order to complete a baccalaureate degree, a student must (1) satisfactorily complete the curriculum requirements, (2) make an overall C average on all hours scheduled and rescheduled at all institutions attended, including Mississippi State University, (3) complete in residence at Mississippi State University no less than 1/4 of his/her degree program in junior and senior subjects (courses numbered 3000 through 5000) approved by the dean of the college or school in which he or she is enrolled, and (4) complete the last 25 percent of course work taken to fulfill degree requirements in residence at Mississippi State University. (Any exception to the 25 percent residence requirement must be made in writing with the Dean prior to taking course work at another institution.)

a. Board of Trustees Core Curriculum. All students who enter Mississippi State University must meet the common core curriculum requirements approved by the Board of Trustees, Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi, to qualify for any bachelor's degree. This core curriculum consists of:

English Composition	6 semester hours
College Algebra	3 semester hours
Laboratory Science	6 semester hours
Humanities and Fine Arts	9 semester hours
Social Sciences	6 semester hours
Total:	30 semester hours

(Note: These requirements are included in the General Education Curriculum which follows.)

b. General Education Requirements. All students graduating after January 1, 1990, in order to receive any bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University, must earn a minimum of 36 semester hours of credit (or equivalency) in courses making up the General Education required curriculum, as follows: (Specific courses to satisfy the General Education Requirements will vary by academic major.)

Students may obtain a list from their advisor or Dean's office of approved courses SELECTED from the following to meet individual degree requirements.

English Composition	6 semester hours
Refer to General Education Requirements—Numbers and Course Titles for approved choices.	
Mathematics and Natural Sciences	15 semester hours
Mathematics: 6-9 semester hours. Consult an advisor in your major for approved choices.	
Natural Sciences: 6-9 semester hours. Consult an advisor in your major for approved choices.	
Humanities/Fine Art	9 semester hours
Six hours must be humanities and three hours must be fine art.	
Refer to General Education Requirements—Numbers and Course Titles for approved choices.	
Social/Behavioral Sciences	6 semester hours
Refer to General Education Requirements—Numbers and Course Titles for approved choices.	
Total	36 semester hours

General Education Requirements - Numbers and Course Titles

NOTE: Students must check course descriptions of General Education classes for prerequisites and/or grade requirements.

NOTE: General Education requirements apply to all students enrolling Fall 2005. Honors sections may be available in selected courses.

English Composition - Freshman level (6 hours)

EN 1103	English Composition I	EN 1163	Accelerated Composition I
EN 1113	English Composition II	EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II

Students with **ACT English sub-scores of 28 or higher** may enroll in **EN 1173, Accelerated Composition II**. Those students earning a C or higher in EN 1173 will **also receive an "S" (credit) in EN 1103, Composition I**. Those students who earn less than a C in EN 1173 must complete the EN 1103/1113 sequence.

Similarly, those students who have been admitted to the **Shackouls Honors College** and have an **ACT-E sub-scores of 32 or higher** may enroll in **EN 1113H, Honors Composition II**. After earning a C or higher in 1113H, these students will receive an "S" (credit) in EN 1103, Composition I. Those students who earn less than a C in EN 1113H must complete the EN 1103/1113 sequence.

Mathematics and Statistics (6-9 hours)

Students who place into a course higher than MA 1313 College Algebra on the mathematics Placement test may fulfill the University mathematics requirement with either MA 1713 Calculus I, MA 1613 Business Calculus, or MA 1463 Finite Mathematics. By itself, MA 1323 Trigonometry does not meet this requirement.

MA 1313	College Algebra	MA 1463	Finite Mathematics and Introduction to Calculus
MA 1323	Trigonometry (fulfills second mathematics only with credit for college algebra)	MA 1613	Calculus for Business and Life Sciences I
MA 1413	Structure of the Real Number System (Designed primarily for special and elementary education majors.)	MA 1623	Calculus for Business and Life Sciences II
MA 1423	Problem Solving with Real Numbers (Designed primarily for special and elementary education majors.)	MA 1713	Calculus I
MA 1433	Informal Geometry and Measurement (Designed primarily for special and elementary education majors.)	MA 1723	Calculus II
MA 1453	Precalculus with Graphing Calculators	MA 2733	Calculus III
		MA 2743	Calculus IV
		MA 2113	Introduction to Statistics
		MA 3123	Introduction to Statistical Inference
		ST 2113	Introduction to Statistics
		ST 3123	Introduction to Statistical Inference
		BQA 2113	Business Statistical Methods I

Natural Sciences (6-9 hours)

Students must complete two lab-based science courses.

ARC 2713	Passive Building Systems I	GG 1121	Earth Sciences II (Lab)
BIO 1004	Anatomy and Physiology*	GG 1123	Survey of Earth Sciences II
BIO 1023	Plant and Humans*	GNS 3103	Genetics I *
BIO 1123	Animal Biology*	GR 1114	Elements of Physical Geography
BIO 1134	Biology I*	HS 2293	Individual and Family Nutrition
BIO 1144	Biology II*	PH 1013	Physical Science Survey
BIO 2113	Plant Biology*	PH 1011	Physical Science Lab I
BIO 3103	Genetics I*	PH 1023	Physical Science Survey
BIO 3304	General Microbiology*	PH 1021	Physical Science Lab II
CH 1043	Survey of Chemistry I	PH 1063	Descriptive Astronomy
CH 1053	Survey of Chemistry II	PH 1113	General Physics I
CH 1051	Experimental Chemistry (Lab)	PH 1123	General Physics II
CH 1213	Chemistry I	PH 1133	General Physics III
CH 1211	Investigations in Chemistry (Lab)	PH 2213	Physics I
CH 1223	Chemistry II	PH 2223	Physics II
CH 1221	Investigations in Chemistry II (Lab)	PH 2233	Physics III
EPP 2213	Introduction to Insects	PO 3103	Genetics I*
FNH 2293	Individual and Family Nutrition	PSS 1313	Plant Science*
GG 1111	Earth Sciences I (Lab)	PSS 3301	Soils Laboratory
GG 1113	Survey of Earth Sciences I	PSS 3303	Soils

* indicates Life Sciences; remaining Natural Sciences are considered Physical Sciences

Humanities (at least 6 hours)

ARC 2313	History of Architecture I	HI 1213	Early Western World
ARC 3313	History of Architecture II	HI 1223	Modern Western World
ARC 3323	History of Architecture III	HI 1313	East Asian Civilizations to 1300
EN 2203	Introduction to Literature	HI 1323	East Asian Civilizations since 1300
EN 2213	English Literature	HI 4683	Europe: The First World War to Hitler
EN 2223	English Literature	PHI 1103	Introduction to Philosophy
EN 2243	American Literature	PHI 1113	Introduction to Logic
EN 2253	American Literature	PHI 1123	Introduction to Ethics
EN 2273	World Literature	PHI 3023	History of Western Philosophy: Part I
EN 2283	World Literature	PHI 3033	History of Western Philosophy: Part II
FL* 1113	Elementary Foreign Language	PHI 3153	Aesthetics
FL* 1123	Elementary Foreign Language	REL 1103	Introduction to Religion
FL* 2133;2143	Intermediate Foreign Language	REL 3213	World Religions: Part I
HI 1063	Early U.S. History	REL 3223	World Religions: Part II
HI 1073	Modern U.S. History		
HI 1163	World History Before 1500		
HI 1173	World History Since 1500		

* French, German, Greek, Japanese, Latin, Russian, and Spanish

Fine Arts (3 hours)

ARC 1013	Architectural Appreciation	MU 1113	History and Appreciation of Music
ART 1013	Art History I	MU 2213	History and Literature of Music I
ART 1023	Art History II	MU 2323	History and Literature of Music II
ART 1113	Art Appreciation	PE 1323	History and Appreciation of Dance
BCS 1013	Architectural Appreciation	PSS 2343	Floral Design
CO 1503	Introduction to Theater	TKI 2413	History and Appreciation of Artcrafts
ID 3643	History of Interiors		
LA 1803	Landscape Appreciation		

Social/Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)

AEC 2713	Introduction to Food and Resource Economics	FO 4113	Forest Resource Economics
AN 1103	Introduction to Anthropology	GR 1123	Introduction to World Geography
AN 1143	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	GR 2013	Cultural Geography
AN 1343	Introduction to Biological Anthropology	HS 1813	Indiv. and Family Development through Lifespan
AN 1543	Introduction to Archaeology	PS 1113	American Government
CO 1223	Introduction to Communication Theory	PS 1313	Introduction to International Relations
CO 1403	Introduction to Mass Media	PS 1513	Comparative Government
EC 1033	Economics of Social Issues	PSY 1013	General Psychology
EC 2113	Principles of Macroeconomics	PSY 3073	Psychology of Interpersonal Relations
EC 2123	Principles of Microeconomics	SO 1003	Introduction to Sociology
EPY 2513	Human Growth and Development	SO 1103	Contemporary Social Problems
EPY 3503	Prin. of Educational Psychology	SO 1203	Marriage and Family
EPY 3543	Psychology of Adolescence		

3. General Education Curriculum Assessment. The General Education Committee (a subcommittee of University Committee on Courses and Curricula) utilizes the following courses to assess the General Education Curriculum student learning outcomes: EN 1103 English Composition I, EN 1113 English Composition II, MA 1313 College Algebra, ST 2113 Introduction to Statistics, MA 1713 Calculus I, BIO 1023 Plant and Humans, BIO 1134 Biology I, CH 1043 Survey of Chemistry, CH 1211 Investigations in Chemistry Lab, GR 1114 Elements of Physical Geography, HI 1063 Early U.S. History, HI 1073 Modern U.S. History, HI 1163 World History before 1500, EN 2203 Introduction to Literature, ART 1013 Art History I, ART 1113 Art Appreciation, MU 1113 History and Appreciation of Music, PS 1113 American Government, PSY 1013 General Psychology, SO 1003 Introduction to Sociology, and EC 2113 Principles of Macroeconomics.

4. Other Degree Requirements. College and school announcements specify additional requirements, including professional communication skills (oral, written, and computer), for the bachelor's degree in the various departments and programs.

5. Second Baccalaureate Degree Requirements. Students should be advised that when completing a second degree, it will be simpler and easier to complete it concurrently with the first degree. A second degree completed after the awarding of the first degree will require additional hours, probably many more than completing the two degrees concurrently.

If you seek a second degree after the completing of the first degree, requirements for the second degree must be certified by the appropriate dean as having met and must include General Education requirements and 30 hours in courses numbered 3000 or above, in residence beyond requirements for the first. Students and advisors should check with the Registrar's Office before making a decision about a second degree.

6. Advisement and Registration. Every student in the University is provided with an academic advisor. A student who has selected a specific major will find the names of the major advisor for that major listed under the name of the department or the major subject in the appropriate college or school section of this catalog. A student who is uncertain of his or her choice of major may register as Undeclared. In addition, advisors are assigned in the appropriate colleges for students wishing to pursue degrees in Business Administration, General Liberal Arts, General Science and Interdisciplinary Studies.

Before registering for any semester, each student is responsible for consulting his or her advisor to work out and secure approval for a specific schedule of courses. With the signed schedule, the student then enters his/her schedule in the computer by using the myBanner/OnCampus System, resolves conflicts, and the student is officially enrolled in each class on the perfected schedule.

A period for schedule planning and registration for the following semester is provided near the end of each regular term; registration for the summer school terms may also be accomplished in the spring registration period. Prospective new students may be advised and registered during Summer Orientation. Late registration is conducted immediately prior to the beginning of classes.

A student who for any reason has been unable to register during these scheduled registration periods may still do so up to the last day for registration and adding courses as listed in the Academic Calendar on the Web but may find the choices of courses and sections limited.

7. Readmission. Undergraduate students who have previously attended Mississippi State University and who wish to re-enter must apply for readmission online or in the Registrar's Office and secure a registration access code from the Registrar's Office. Former students who have attended another college for at least one quarter or semester must be eligible to re-enter that institution, if they desire to return to Mississippi State University. Students who have attended another institution are required to provide the Registrar's Office official transcripts from all other institutions attended prior to receiving a registration permit. Registration access codes may be issued to former MSU students whose MSU and cumulative GPA's are 2.0 or higher.

All readmission students must meet the academic standing guidelines outlined in section 3-Academic Standing. If their GPA is less than the required average, they may be readmitted only on the recommendation of their dean and with the approval of the provost.

Students readmitted with an MSU or cumulative average less than 2.0 will be readmitted on academic probation.

8. Student Course Load. The normal load for an undergraduate student in a regular semester is 15-19 credit hours. Courseload limits at Mississippi State University are based on Grade Point Averages (GPA). These limits are based on **MSU cumulative averages** as noted below.

a. Students on academic probation are limited to an enrollment of 14 credit hours (including ensemble and academic support/developmental classes.)

b. Students between 2.0 and 2.99 are limited to 19 hours excluding ensemble classes. (Any student without a cumulative GPA such as a freshman or a transfer student will be limited to 19 hours.)

c. Students between a 3.0 and 4.0 GPA may elect to take up to 24 semester hours. Students in this category must secure permission of their advisor and academic department head to schedule more than 19 semester hours.

d. A student in a five week summer session may take one course in addition to the normal load (two courses), provided his or her dean approves, and provided his or her MSU cumulative average is between 3.0 and 4.0.

e. Exceptions to the above courseloads require the approval of the advisor, department head, dean and Associate Provost.

Independent study or extension courses will be included in determining the maximum number of hours a student may take on campus, if registration therein overlaps any period of regular enrollment at the University. Such credits earned by either independent study or extension, in excess of the loads specified above must be approved by the student's dean; these hours will count in certifying a student's full time or part time enrollment status for financial aid or other purposes.

For purposes of reporting a student as full-time to the Board of Trustees, Veterans Administration, Social Security or other similar agencies, an undergraduate student must be enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester hours and a graduate student must be enrolled in at least nine (9) or more semester hours at the time the report or certification is submitted. This applies to fall and spring semesters only.

(1) A student's enrollment status is classified according to the following chart:

	Regular Fall-Spring Semesters		Summer School term	
	<i>Undergraduate</i>	<i>Graduate</i>	<i>Undergraduate</i>	<i>Graduate</i>
Full-time	12 + sem. hrs.	9 + sem. hrs.	6 + sem. hrs.	6 + sem. hrs.
Half-time	6 to 11 sem. hrs.	5 to 8 sem. hrs.	3 to 5 sem. hrs.	3 to 5 sem. hrs.
Less than Half-time	less than 6 sem. hrs.	less than 5 sem. hrs.	less than 3 sem. hrs.	less than 3 sem. hrs.
"Regular" Load	15-19 sem. hrs.	12-15 sem. hrs.	6 sem. hrs.	6 sem. hrs.

(2) Concurrent enrollment in independent study, off-campus centers and other institutions will be considered as part of a student's load, and must be approved by his or her dean before it may apply toward meeting degree requirements. All MSU course hours will count in certifying a student's full time or part time enrollment status for financial aid or other purposes.

9. College/School/Campus Changes. A student changing from one college, school or campus to another must complete all arrangements for the transfer prior to beginning the new course of study. Before making the change, the student must initiate a change form in the college or school in which the student is currently, or was last, enrolled. Transfer to a new college, school or campus is subject to approval by the new dean.

10. Schedule Changes - Fall and Spring Semesters. A student has through the fifth class day into the semester to drop a course and through the sixth class day to add a course without being assessed a fee or academic penalty. From the fifth class day through the 30th class day, a student who elects to drop a course must receive the approval of his/her advisor, will be assigned a "W" on his/her academic record, and be assessed a fee. After the 30th class day, a student cannot drop courses except in documented cases of serious illness, extreme hardship, or failure of the instructor to provide significant assessment of his/her performance. A request to drop a course after the 30th class period must be approved by the student's advisor and academic dean. A student receiving permission to drop will receive a "W" on his/her academic record and be assessed a fee after the last day to drop a course.

Summer Terms. A student has through the first class day into a 5-week summer term and through the second class day into a 10-week summer term to drop a course without being assessed a fee or an academic penalty. A student may not add a course after the second class day into a 5-week summer session or after the third class day into a 10-week summer session. After the first class day through the 14th class day in a 5-week summer term and the second class day

through the 28th class day in a 10-week summer term, a student who elects to drop a course must receive the approval of his/her advisor, will be assigned a "W" on his/her academic record, and be assessed a fee. After the 14th class day into a 5-week summer term and after the 28th class day into a 10-week summer term, a student cannot drop a course except in documented cases of serious illness, extreme hardship, or failure of the instructor to provide significant assessment of his/her performance. A request to drop a course during this period must be approved by the student's advisor and academic dean. A student receiving permission to drop will receive a "W" on his/her academic record and be assessed a fee.

Shortened Format Classes (Intercessions). A student has through the first class day to drop a course and through the second class day to add a course without being assessed a fee or an academic penalty. To drop a course after the first day through the fifth class day of a term with 10-15 class days, a student must receive approval from his advisor, will be assigned a "W" on the academic record, and will be assessed a fee. For a term with 16-24 class days, students may drop through the ninth day but must receive approval from his advisor and will be assigned a "W" on the academic record and be assessed a fee. After this period, a student cannot drop a course except in documented cases of serious illness, extreme hardship, or failure of the instructor to provide significant assessment of his/her performance. A request to drop a course after this period must be approved by the student's advisor and academic dean. A student receiving permission to drop will receive a "W" on his/her academic record and be assessed a fee after the last day to drop a course.

Undergraduate/Graduate Policy. Regardless of these and/or other University policies, a student's dean may remove a course (or courses) from a student's schedule at any time during a period of enrollment in case of special circumstances such as accident, illness or scheduling errors. Requests for such changes should be directed to the student's dean. A student will not be permitted to drop a course after the 30th day of classes because of a heavy course load, a change of major, or the likelihood of poor grades. All requests must be documented in writing.

11. Auditing. During registration and the first 10 days of class in the semester, students are not permitted to enter classes as auditors unless authorized by the Dean of the College or School and by the Registrar, upon recommendation of the instructor concerned. A student may not change from credit to audit or audit to credit status after the tenth day of class. A course being audited counts as part of the regular load on the same basis as if taken for credit. Auditors are not required to take tests and/or examinations or to prepare other written assignments. Otherwise, conformity to regular classroom decorum is the same as that required for all students. At the time the request for audit is approved, the professor will inform the auditor of attendance expectations.

12. Pass-Fail Option. An undergraduate student who has successfully passed fifteen (15) semester hours may elect, with the approval of his or her academic dean, to schedule courses under the pass-fail option. This program is open to undergraduate students only and is limited to a maximum of four (4) courses, no more than two (2) of which may have the same course symbol.

A student may register under the pass-fail option for only one course per semester and must meet the prerequisites for the course or have permission of the instructor teaching it. A change from pass-fail enrollment to enrollment for a regular grade, or vice-versa, must be made by the deadline date for adding courses published in the University calendar.

Courses taken to satisfy General Education requirements may not be scheduled under the pass-fail option, nor may courses that are specified by course title in the curriculum in which a student is currently enrolled. In the event that a student changes majors, credit for any courses passed and required in the new major may be allowed with the approval of the student's dean. The instructor shall be informed which students are enrolled in his or her course under the pass-fail option, and he or she shall report a regular grade at the time progress grades are submitted and either S for satisfactory or U for unsatisfactory at the end of a term or semester. A grade of A, B, or C will be considered as satisfactory and a grade of I (incomplete) will be allowed. Other than a grade of I, only a grade of S, U, or W will be recorded on a student's permanent record.

The number of hours passed will be applied toward the hours required for graduation; however, neither a passing nor a failing grade will be considered in the computation of the grade point average.

13. Assessment. Students may be required to undergo testing for the purpose of assessing institutional effectiveness.

14. ROTC Course Credit Toward Academic Degrees. All ROTC courses are bona fide University courses. The total number of ROTC hours allowed as elective credit toward a specific degree varies. Most schools and colleges at the University accept six (6) or more hours of ROTC courses offered toward degrees conferred. A student should contact the appropriate college, school, or department to determine allowable ROTC course credit toward a particular degree.

15. Military Credit. Mississippi State University offers credit for training and experience in the Armed Services for currently enrolled undergraduate students.

Army, Navy, and Marine veterans, active servicemembers, National Guard and Reservists wishing to receive military credit must have an official transcript sent to the University Registrar's Office, Registration & Records, P. O. Box 5268, Mississippi State, MS 39762. The student's dean will determine applicable credit toward a degree.

All current and former active duty, guard, and reserve Army members can order an official transcript through the Army American Council on Education Registry Transcript Service (AARTS) online system at the following link: <https://aartstranscript.army.mil> Official Transcripts should be mailed to: University Registrar's Office, P.O. Box 5268, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

All current and former active duty, guard, and reserve Navy and Marine members can order an official transcript through the Sailor Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript (SMART) online system at the following link: <https://smart.navy.mil> Official Transcripts should be mailed to: University Registrar's Office, P.O. Box 5268, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

All current and former active duty, guard, and reserve Air Force members can order an official transcript through the Community College of Air Force (CCAF) online system at: <http://www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp> CCAF transcripts are mailed directly to the Office of Admissions, P.O. Box 6305, Mississippi State, MS 39762.