

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE PROGRAM OF STUDY

For the associate's degree, a student's program of study includes the graduation requirements for an associate's degree.

For the bachelor's degree, a student's program of study includes the graduation requirements for a bachelor's degree (listed below) as well as additional majors, minors, endorsements, and certificates declared by the student.

Students are required to meet the graduation requirements of the printed version (or *.pdf version) of the catalog that is published for the academic year in which they enter Bethel. If new programs are added to the curriculum after the publication of the printed version of the catalog, currently enrolled students may choose to enroll in a newly added program. They must meet the requirements of that program as it is first published.

Each student is assigned an academic advisor to assist with academic and career planning. Students may also work with the Office of Career Development and Calling (<https://www.bethel.edu/career-development/>) to explore career options. Students are responsible to ensure that they have fulfilled graduation requirements and should use their degree evaluation to do so.

Course Program of Study (CPoS)

Course Program of Study (CPoS) refers to the federal regulation that mandates that financial aid can be awarded only to coursework that fulfills requirements in students document degree plans; for example, the requirements of the General Education program, a major, a minor, an endorsement, etc. Because 122 credits need to be earned for an undergraduate bachelor's degree, elective courses needed to reach a total of 122 may also count.

For more information on CPoS and financial aid eligibility, please see <https://www.bethel.edu/undergrad/financial-aid/eligibility/cpos> (<https://www.bethel.edu/undergrad/financial-aid/eligibility/cpos/>)

Appealing CPoS Ineligibility

If you believe that coursework not considered eligible for financial aid should be accepted, you may appeal that decision by completing the form found on the Registrar's Office webpage (<https://www.bethel.edu/registrar/forms/>).

Majors

All students choose a major from an academic department or multidisciplinary program. They may also choose to develop an individualized major designed to meet their needs and interests. Majors at Bethel range between 37-115 semester credit hours. It is possible to complete a second or third major by using elective credits or increasing the total number of credits taken. At least half of the credits used to meet the requirements of a major must be taken at Bethel. A 2.25 GPA in the major is required unless otherwise noted in the Academic Programs section of this catalog.

Double Majors

The overlapping of requirements **in any combination** of majors chosen by a student is permitted as long as the student meets the requirements listed for each major. All completed programs [e.g., Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.), Bachelor of Music Education (B.Mus.Ed.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.)] will be indicated on the transcript, regardless of overlapping course requirements and without the addition of extra required hours. The senior seminar/capstone experience in both majors is required of students unless the student receives written

approval from one of the departments to waive that seminar/capstone experience. Students should have an official advisor in one of the two majors, but they should regularly check with an advisor in the second major to make sure they are on track with their second major.

Minors

Though not required, many students choose to complete one or more minors in order to pursue areas of interest or to complement their major. Students may choose from the minors in this catalog and may not create an individualized minor. Minors range between 18-24 semester credit hours. Students may choose to take additional credits toward the minor or use their elective credits. Students may not earn a minor in a program in which they will earn or have earned a major except where specifically noted in the Academic Program section of this catalog. At least nine (9) credits of any minor must be completed at Bethel.

Program Overlap Policy

Students may not earn a minor that has the identical name as their major. Some minors and secondary majors are not allowed with particular majors. Consult the major/minor requirements listed in this catalog for further information.

Endorsements

Though not required, students may choose to complete one or more endorsements in order to pursue areas of interest, or to complement their major. Students may choose from the endorsements in this catalog and may not create an individualized endorsement. Endorsements range between 7-26 semester credit hours. Endorsements may have additional non-credit requirements. Students may choose to take additional credits toward the endorsement or use their elective credits. Upon completion of a degree, an endorsement is listed as a comment on the academic transcript.

Certificates

Though not required, students may choose to complete a certificate in order to pursue a specific area of interest or to complement their major. Students may choose from the certificates in this catalog and may not create an individualized certificate. Certificates range between 18-26 semester credit hours. Certificates may have additional non-credit requirements. Students may choose to take additional credits toward the certificate or use their elective credits. Upon completion of a degree, a certificate is listed as a comment on the academic transcript.

General Education Requirements

Print Version: General Education Requirements by Entry Standing: 2024 and forward (pdf)

Course or Category	Category	Course #	Prerequisite	Credits	Terms Offered
First Year Foundations:					
Introduction to Wellbeing	-	GES 140	None	2	F, J, S
Christianity and Western Culture ¹	-	GES 130	None	4	F, J, S
Inquiry Writing Seminar	-	GES 160	None	4	F, J, S
Introduction to the Creative Arts	-	GES 125	None	4	F, J, S
Artistic Experience:					
Artistic Experience	A	1xx-3xx	None	0-4	F, J, S
Biblical Foundations:					

Introduction to the Bible	-	BIB 101	None	4	F, J, S
Christian Theology	-	THE 201	BIB 101 & Sophomore standing	4	F, J, S
Math, Science, and Technology:					
Mathematics	M	1xx-2xx	None (some by placement exam)	4	F, J, S
Laboratory Science	D	1xx-2xx	None	4	F, J, S
Science, Technology, and Society	K	3xx	D-course & M-course	4	F, J, S
Cultural Intelligence:					
Second Language	S	102	Placement exam or credit for 101	4	F, J, S
Cross-cultural Experience	Z	1xx-4xx	None	0-4	F, J, S
Contemporary Western Life and Thought	L	2xx	(GES 130 ² & GES 160 ²) or GES 149 ²	4	F, J, S
World Cultures	U	2xx	GES 130 ² or GES 149 ²	4	F, J, S
Comparative Systems	G	3xx	(GES 130 ² & GES 160 ² or GES 149); L-course or U-course	4	F, J, S
Senior Capstone:					
Contemporary Christian Issues ¹	P	4xx	(GES 160 or GES 149) & THE 201 & L-course, G-course, or U-course & Senior standing	2	F, J, S
Integrated Track (Humanities):					
Humanities I: Greco-Roman through Middle Ages	-	GES 145	None	4	F
Humanities II: Renaissance and Reformation	-	GES 147	GES 145	4	J
Humanities III: Enlightenment to Modernity	-	GES 149	GES 147	4	S

¹ P course and GES 130 *Christianity and Western Culture* requirements cannot be fulfilled through transfer courses.

² May be taken concurrently.

Letters (e.g., A, D) indicate a General Education category from which students select a course of their choice.

General Requirements for a Baccalaureate Degree

Degrees Offered: Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Science Nursing (B.S.N.), Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.), Bachelor of Music Education (B.Mus.Ed.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) *NOTE:* Degree Works identifies each degree separately, and related majors, minors, and endorsements are listed in the evaluation for that degree.

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After students declare majors, minors, certificates, and endorsements, Degree Works identifies each degree separately.

1. A cumulative overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.00. The cumulative GPA includes only courses taken at Bethel.
2. A 2.25 GPA in one's major, unless otherwise noted. The major GPA includes all courses required in the major and all electives taken for the major at Bethel.
3. A minimum of 122 semester credit hours.
4. The following must be taken in programs that meet Bethel residency requirements or at Bethel (see Office of the Registrar (<https://www.bethel.edu/registrar/>) or Office of International and Off-Campus Programs (<https://www.bethel.edu/international-studies/>)):
 - at least 28 of the last 35 credits,
 - at least half of the credits used to meet the requirements of the major,
 - at least 30 of the 122 credits needed to graduate,
 - GES 130 *Christianity and Western Culture* or GES 145, GES 147, and GES 149 in the Humanities Program (must be taken at Bethel; cannot be brought in through any other programs),
 - a Contemporary Christian Issues (P) course (must be taken at Bethel; cannot be brought in through any other programs).
 - GES 140 *Introduction to Wellbeing* must be taken at Bethel except by students who are exempt from this requirement because of their entry level.
5. A minimum of four (4) semester credit hours in General Education Biblical Foundations courses.
6. A minimum of 36 credits at the upper-division level (300 and 400).
7. All General Education required courses and experiences listed on the General Education Entry Standing chart (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/general-information/transfer-credits-bethel/transfer-entry-level/>) that are indicated by a "Yes" for their entry level.
8. Completion of January session courses as indicated on the General Education Entry/Transfer Level chart (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/general-information/transfer-credits-bethel/transfer-entry-level/>) on the following pages (minimum of two [2] credits, maximum of five [5] credits per January).
9. Completion of the requirements of a major (listed by department in this catalog).
10. Demonstration of basic competencies in:
 - *Writing*: One course is designated in each major, in addition to the required GES 160 *Inquiry Writing Seminar* course and a writing emphasis in Contemporary Western Life and Thought (L) course, Comparative Systems (G) course, and Contemporary Christian Issues (P) course.
 - *Speaking*: One upper-division course is designated in each major, in addition to required speaking assignments in the GES 160 *Inquiry Writing Seminar* course, the Humanities Program, and Contemporary Christian Issues (P) courses.
11. In order for multiple majors and minors to be considered as one degree program, they must be taken simultaneously and completed within one academic year of each other. Bethel University will award a student's degree when a student's degree program requirements have been completed, whether or not the student applies to graduate. Students typically maintain eligibility for financial aid while completing their degree program provided that their total credits do not exceed 150% of the credits required for their degree program. Exceptions will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
12. Completion of any departmental and institutional assessment activities.
13. Upon completion of program, participation in commencement ceremonies is expected.

Additional Baccalaureate Degree

An additional Bethel University Baccalaureate Degree [e.g., Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Science Nursing (B.S.N.), Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.), Bachelor of Music Education (B.Mus.Ed.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.)] may be awarded, upon request, when a student has met all requirements of the additional degree and earned, in residence, a minimum of twenty-seven

(27) unduplicated semester credits from the department in which the additional degree is earned. Unduplicated semester credits are those that are not used to meet the requirements of any other Bethel University Baccalaureate Degree. Transfer students who hold a Baccalaureate Degree from another institution may earn a Bethel University Baccalaureate Degree if they meet all the requirements of the degree program including the general education requirement and the residency requirements.

Commencement Ceremony Participation

Students who have not completed all required courses for graduation may participate in the commencement ceremony provided that they have no more than a total of seven (7) credits remaining. For May commencement, students must plan to complete their courses by the end of the fall term of the next academic year. For December commencement, courses must be completed by the end of the spring term of the same academic year.

Policies regarding residency requirements, as well as any departmental residency requirements, apply.

General Requirements for an Associate of Arts Degree

The associate of arts degree contains a balanced program of liberal arts education without orientation to a particular major or minor. Requirements for the degree include 60 semester credit hours and the designated competencies as listed below. These requirements can usually be met in two years of full-time study. General Education Entry/Transfer levels (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/general-information/transfer-credits-bethel/transfer-entry-level/>) apply to students seeking an associate of arts degree.

Communication: 8 credits

Inquiry Writing Seminar (GES 160) and one of the following courses:

- Basic Communication (COM 110)
- Basic Communication Skills (COM 164)
- Introduction to Creative Writing (ENJ 110A)
- Reporting (ENJ 120)

Critical Thinking: 4 credits

Physiology of Wellness (GES 141) or Introduction to Wellbeing (GES 140) and one of the following:

- How Learning Works: Keys to College Success (GES 107)
- Introduction to Healthcare (CHL 110)
- Introduction to Logic (PHI 125M)
- Sustainable Living (ENS 205L)

Natural Sciences: 8 credits

Any D-tagged Laboratory course and 4 credits from any of the following departments/programs: biological sciences, chemistry, environmental science, neuroscience, and physics and engineering or Physiology of Wellness (GES 141)

Mathematics: 4 credits

Any M-tagged Mathematics course

History & Social/Behavioral Science: 8 credits

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- Any U-tagged World Cultures course
- Any L-tagged Contemporary Western Life and Thought course
- American Politics and Government (POS 100)
- Christianity & Western Culture (GES 130)
- Introduction to Anthropology (ANT 200)
- Introduction to Comparative Politics (POS 205)
- Introduction to Psychology I (PSY 101)
- Introduction to Psychology II (PSY 102)
- Introduction to Sociology (SOC 101)
- Socioeconomic & Justice Issues (SOW 240)

Humanities and Fine Arts: 8 credits

Introducción a la Biblia (BIB 102) or Introduction to the Bible (BIB 101) and 4 credits from any of the following courses:

- Any A-tagged Artistic Experience course
- Any Bible (BIB) course)
- Any 200-level Theology (THE) course
- British Literature (ENJ 102)
- How Stories Change the World: How to Read & Why (ENJ 100)
- Humanities I: Greco-Roman Through Middle Ages (GES 145) and Humanities II: Renaissance and Reformation (GES 147)
- Introduction to the Creative Arts (GES 125)
- Introduction to Digital Media (DES 105)
- Introduction to Ethics (PHI 110)
- Topics in American Literature (ENJ 103)

Electives: 20 credits.

Additional Requirements

1. A cumulative GPA of at least 2.00.
2. At least 28 of the last 35 credits must be taken at Bethel.
3. One January session course.
4. Taken at Bethel:
 - a. Introducción a la Biblia (BIB 102) or Introduction to the Bible (BIB 101)
 - b. Christianity and Western Culture (GES 130) or Humanities I: Greco-Roman Through Middle Ages (GES 145) and Humanities II: Renaissance and Reformation (GES 147)
5. Upon completion of program, participation in commencement ceremonies is expected.
 - a. Participation in commencement ceremonies is permitted for students who have not completed all graduation requirements provided they have no more than seven (7) credits by the end of the fall term of the next academic year. For December commencement, courses must be completed by the end of the spring term of the same academic year. Policies regarding residency for particular courses apply.