

Baccalaureate Degree Requirements:

Total hours for the degree: the total number of credit hours required for a baccalaureate degree shall be 120 hours unless otherwise required for accreditation and/or professional certification purposes. The three classifications of courses within the program of study are as follows:

I. General Education:

Thirty-nine credit hours distributed across six areas of general knowledge: composition (6), math (6), science (9), social sciences (6), humanities (6), humanities-literature (3), arts (3).

II. Courses in the Major:

A major is that part of the degree program consisting of a specialized group of courses in a particular discipline or field. Courses in the major must comprise a minimum of 25 percent of the total hours in the program of study.

A minimum of 50 percent of the courses included in the major requirements must be at the 3000+ level.

Alternative tracks of courses within a major:

Concentration: an alternative track of courses within a major, accounting for at least 30 percent of the major requirements.

Option (Requires UL-System and Board of Regents approval): an alternative track of courses within a major, accounting for 50 – 80 percent of the major requirements.

III. Electives or Selectives:

Students may choose additional courses to complete their college experience. Programs may have lists of courses from which students may choose to complement the required courses in the major (e.g., pre-requisites, co-requisites, university/college/departmental requirements).

Minor (optional):

A minor is that part of a degree program consisting of a specified group of courses in a particular discipline or field. Courses in the minor must comprise a minimum of 15 percent of the total hours required in the degree program.

A minimum of 50 percent of the courses included in the minor must be at the 3000+ level.

Masters' Degree Requirements:

Total hours for the degree: the minimum credit requirement for the Master's degree shall be 30 semester-hours of graduate work.

Courses in the Major discipline:

A major is that part of the degree program consisting of a specialized group of courses in a particular discipline or field. Courses in the major must comprise a minimum of 18 semester hours of graduate credit

A minimum of 50 percent of the courses included in the major requirements must be open to only graduate students (6000+ level).

Thesis option – no more than 6 semester hours may be applied to the thesis.

Non-thesis option – no less than 30 semester hours

No more than 20 percent of the total semester hours required for the degree may be satisfied by coursework completed as independent study.

Doctoral Degree Requirements:

Total hours for the degree: the minimum credit requirement for the doctoral degree shall be a minimum of 60 semester-hours of graduate work.

Courses in the Major discipline:

A major is that part of the degree program consisting of a specialized group of courses in a particular discipline or field.

Coursework concentrated in the student's major field is complemented by coursework in one or two minor fields.

No more than 20 percent of the total semester hours required for the degree may be satisfied by coursework completed as independent study.

Certificates

Undergraduate and graduate certificates require UL-System and Board of Regents approval and once approved, are listed on the CRIN by CIP and subject area.

Undergraduate Certificate

Total hours for the degree: a minimum of 18 semester credit hours.

An undergraduate, university offering of at least 18 semester credit hours, at least 50 percent of which must be 3000+ level. Prerequisites may be stated or implied. The certificate is a series of courses related to a specific topic or skill, particularly in technology or data fields in high market demand.

Graduate Certificate

Total hours for the degree: a range of 12 – 18 semester credit hours.

A graduate-level offering addressing a particular topical area. Graduate certificates provided a shortened, condensed, and focused course of study that supplements an existing undergraduate or graduate degree. They may lead to licensure or certification, provide needed job-related expertise, or focus on a timely area of discussion in a discipline.