

Bachelor of Integrated Studies

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Integrated Studies Informational Handout

Essential Elements of an Integrated Studies curricular plan

- Integrated, interdisciplinary program of study focused on a theme and related disciplines, tailored to specific student goals
- Two or more disciplines
- Capstone experience portfolio, which includes a reflective essay, self-assessment, and formal presentation demonstrating integration of the multiple disciplines

Program Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes: Graduates with a Bachelor of Integrated Studies degree will be able to:

- Demonstrate a practical and theoretical grasp of a body of knowledge related to two or more disciplines;
- Critically and creatively research, write, and present logical and theoretical connections between multiple disciplines;
- Evaluate, clarify, frame and address a complex question or challenge using perspectives and scholarship from two or more disciplines.

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes: Assessment of learning outcomes will address primarily the portfolio and presentation developed by the student in the culminating course, Integrated Studies Senior Capstone: Portfolio. In these required components of the capstone portfolio, students will demonstrate attainment of each of the learning outcomes. A rubric for evaluating student attainment will be developed by the program coordinator and the Integrated Studies Committee. Assessment measures may include performance in upper level and capstone courses in the integrated disciplines as well as grade point average in all courses within those disciplines. In consultation with the Integrated Studies Committee, the program coordinator will identify an assessment measure to evaluate how effectively and intentionally the student has integrated the disciplines. It is anticipated that these assessments will be completed by early Fall 2012.

Program Requirements: Students earning a Bachelor of Integrated Studies degree will complete 120 total credit hours and the same general education requirements as other undergraduate students (41 credit hours). The specific graduation requirements are:

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| Total credit hours | 120 |
| General education credit hours | 41 |
| Credit hours in integrated major | 45 (including capstone) |
| Electives to complete 120 hours | xx (variable) |
| Total hours must include: | |
| Upper division credit hours | 39 |
| Upper division hours within integrated major | 21 |

Sample Student: A student is interested in opening and managing an art gallery in downtown Chattanooga and wishes to earn one degree in preparation for this career. Currently, UTC does not provide this opportunity in its traditional degree offerings. In consultation with an Integrated Studies advisor, the student may develop a degree plan that includes the following distribution of credit hours:

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| General Education | 41 |
| Art (Introduction, history, art education, etc) | 15 (6 hours upper division) |
| Communication (Introduction, Public relations, Persuasive writing) | 15 (6 hours upper division) |
| Business (Computer skills, Introduction to business, Business communication, Management) | 15 (9 hours upper division) |
| Electives (may include PLA credit earned for working as assistant curator of a local exhibition) | 34 |
| Total | 120 |