



Bachelor of Arts/Science in General Studies

The General Studies major provides maximum flexibility for the student who wishes to embrace a broad educational program of study while maintaining a focus on personal, career, or professional goals.

This tutorial is designed to help you discover if the General Studies major is right for you, and how you can complete this degree through SUU.

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General Studies: What & Why?

General Studies is a design-your-own major that is ideal for students who:

- Have accumulated credits in various areas and may not be close to finishing a “traditional” major
- Need to complete a Bachelor’s degree entirely online

General Studies allows students to pull in as many disciplines as they wish to fulfill their degree requirements.



Marketing Your General Studies Degree

As a General Studies major, you may be wondering how to market your degree after graduation. Many employers will not care what major a student has completed, as long as it is a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. However, some employers *will* care about the type of degree/major earned. To that end, all students in the General Studies major should think about how they will explain their major to potential employers, graduate schools, or whomever may ask you about your degree. The GOSC 4020: General Studies Capstone course will help you with this.

All students are also highly encouraged to make an appointment with [SUU's Career Center](#), which offers free services in:

- Finding a job or internship
- Preparing resumes
- Writing cover letters
- Practicing interview skills
- Learning about graduate school options
- Networking strategies



SUU Career Advisors

General Studies Graduation Requirements

Students who choose a General Studies major must complete the following requirements:

- [General Education](#)
- [EDGE Program](#)
- General Studies Core Courses:
 - GOSC 4010: General Studies Research Seminar (3 crs)
 - GOSC 4020: General Studies Capstone (3 crs)
- 120 total credits
 - 120 credits must include 40 credits of upper-division (3000-4999) coursework
- Bachelor of Arts in General Studies requires 16 credits in one [foreign language](#) (Credits may be earned through testing)
- A completed [graduation application](#) (and \$15 diploma fee)

The General Studies degree is **not** a way to avoid completing requirements such as Math or EDGE. It is intended to be a degree as rigorous as any other Bachelor's degree at SUU.



Eligibility Requirements

You must meet the following requirements before you can declare General Studies as your major:

- You must be an admitted student in good standing (GPA 2.0 or higher) at SUU.
- You must meet with the General Studies Advisor to declare the General Studies major and create a plan of study, which must then be approved by the Dean of the Graduate & Online School.

Common Core Courses

Every General Studies major is required to complete two common core courses in order to graduate with a Bachelor's degree in General Studies.

- **GOSC 4010:** General Studies Research Seminar (3 crs)
 - Prerequisite: ENGL 1010
 - Offered every Fall and Spring semester
 - This course examines the components and process of scholarly research, with an emphasis on literature review.
- **GOSC 4020:** General Studies Capstone (3 crs)
 - Students will complete a written capstone project, reflecting their varied knowledge and experience as General Studies majors.

Both courses are offered exclusively online and may be taken concurrently. *You must successfully complete both courses with a grade of C- or higher.*

Major-Specific Requirements

To complete the General Studies major, you must identify **54 credits** that will make up the General Studies plan. These 54 credits will include the 6-credit Common Core (GOSC 4010 & 4020), as well as the 3-credit EDGE program.

The remaining credits in the major will be composed of courses you have taken or will take to complete your major. They should constitute a deliberate, coherent plan of study.

Of the 54 credits in the major, **21 credits** must be upper-division (courses numbered 3000-4999). The Common Core and EDGE program will provide 8 crs of upper-division coursework.

All courses used in the General Studies major must be graded (e.g. not pass/fail). Courses used in the major must have earned a C- grade or higher.

Residency Requirements

To graduate with a Bachelor's degree at SUU, at least **30 credits** must be completed through SUU. This is called a "residency requirement." You may take courses online to fulfill the residency requirement.

- 20 credits (out of those 30 SUU credits) must be upper-division (courses numbered 3000-4999)
- 10 credits (out of those 20 upper-division SUU credits) must be included in the General Studies major (6 credits will come from the Common Core)

You may already have 120 credits, and 40 upper-division credits, *but* if fewer than 30 of those credits were awarded from SUU, you **will** still need to complete the residency requirements.

Determining Age of Credits

Credits used towards General Education requirements and electives essentially have no expiration date.

However, you may only use credits towards the General Studies major that will be less than 20 years old by the time of your graduation.

Example: If you have courses that are currently 19 years old, but it will take you 2 years to graduate, those courses are not applicable to the General Studies major.

Note: Because the General Studies degree was developed to offer maximum flexibility for students, you **may** be able to use credits 20 years or older with permission from the Department Chair of the major or minor, the Dean of the major or minor, and the Provost.

Meeting with Your Advisor

Your Advisor will help you put together your General Studies plan, and track your progress towards graduation. Your Advisor is also available to answer any questions or address any concerns you have along the way.

It is best to meet with your Advisor as soon as possible, to determine the most efficient path to graduation.

General Studies Advisor:
Aimee Kaiser
aimeekaiser@suu.edu
(435) 865-8308

You do not have to be a current SUU student to talk with an Advisor. If you have questions about applying to SUU and completing a General Studies degree, please reach out.

Applying to SUU/Declaring a General Studies Major

Ready to finish your degree?

Current Students:

- Work with the General Studies Advisor to [declare the major](#)

Not a Current Student?

- [Apply for admission to SUU](#)
- Pay the enrollment deposit as soon as you are accepted
- Meet with the General Studies Advisor

Still have questions? Contact Us!

General Studies Advisor

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