Integrated Studies

Overview

The Bachelor of Integrated Studies (BIS) program is a 90-credit degree designed to accommodate the personal, educational, and career goals of adult students, most of whom already possess diverse learning and who study part-time.

The structure is flexible while ensuring that students receive both depth and breadth of knowledge within their studies. The student achieves depth through choosing a concentration of at least 8 courses in an area of interest. The student achieves breadth through the completion of a required core of basic courses, and by pursuing a diversity of offerings to satisfy personal intellectual curiosity and career interests.

Degree Requirements

The program requires completion of 90 semester-hours of course work.

AREA OF CONCENTRATION (24 semester-hours)
Students must complete an area of concentration totalling 8 courses (24 semester hours). One course in the concentration must be at the 3000 level, and one must be at the 4000 level. A further 9 courses
overall at the senior (3000 and 4000) level are required for graduation. Not more than 12 courses or 36 semester-hours can be at the Introductory (1000) level. The advisor may recommend certain courses according to individual learning plans. Students must achieve a grade of 65% in at least 7 of the 11 courses completed at the 3000-4000 levels.

REQUIRED COURSES (9 semester-hours)
One of UPEI 1010, 1020, or 1030 plus a writing intensive course
Integrated Studies 1930: Creating a Career and Learning Portfolio

ELECTIVES
Students are required to explain and reflect on their course choices when they establish their learning plan. However, the need to ensure coherence in study should not restrict students from intellectual exploration, or from addressing conspicuous gaps in knowledge unrelated to their primary learning objectives. One of the primary roles of the BIS Coordinator is to help ensure that the course choices are balanced, and the over-all outcomes of a well-rounded degree program are achieved.

SUMMARY
The Bachelor of Integrated Studies requirements include:

- 33 semester-hours (11 courses) at the senior level: nine 3000-4000 level courses in any subject, one 300 level course in the concentration, and one 4000 level course in the concentration.
- A grade of 65% in at least 7 of the 11 courses completed at this senior level
- Not more than 36 semester-hours (12 courses) at the preparatory (1000) level
- 6 semester-hours in one of UPEI 1010, UPEI 1020, or UPEI 1030 plus one writing intensive course
- Integrated Studies 1930: Creating a Career and Learning Portfolio

PLAR PROCESSES IN THE BIS
Program PLAR at the University of Prince Edward Island provides for assessment and recognition of prior learning (PLAR) through portfolio assessment. Learners must demonstrate how their learning from sources other than formal study equates to what is expected of a student who is completing the degree through course work. For more information on the role of PLAR, contact the BIS Coordinator.

Example Courses:
IS 193 - Creating a Career and Learning Portfolio
IS 493 - Senior Project

Course Level: 1000 Level
Courses: BIS-1930 Career and Learning Portfolio Development
This course is designed to review and clarify a student's learning and career objectives, and to document and demonstrate experiential learning. Learners understand the various purposes of portfolios; know the conventions of developing and professionally presenting a portfolio; and are capable of articulating acquired learning in job descriptions or degree requirements. (Cross-listed with Education 3190 and University 1930).
3 hours credit

Course Level: 4000 Level
Courses:  BIS-4930 Senior Project
In this capstone project, students synthesize and coherently present knowledge, skills, and attitudes developed over their university careers using a portfolio process. The project thematically demonstrates reflection, analysis, and integration of their personal and intellectual growth; shows how their original learning plans have been advanced and concluded; and demonstrates how they have met the outcomes of the degree program. Although students enrol in Integrated Studies 493 in the final stages of their degree, they are expected to work toward this final project over the duration of their studies. In certain situations, a major paper may be substituted for the portfolio.
6 hours credit

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