

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES

REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin-Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext>) section of the Guide.

General Education	• Breadth—Humanities/Literature/Arts: 6 credits
	• Breadth—Natural Science: 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits
	• Breadth—Social Studies: 3 credits
	• Communication Part A & Part B *
	• Ethnic Studies *
	• Quantitative Reasoning Part A & Part B *

* The mortarboard symbol appears before the title of any course that fulfills one of the Communication Part A or Part B, Ethnic Studies, or Quantitative Reasoning Part A or Part B requirements.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Total Degree To receive a bachelor's degree from UW-Madison, students must earn a minimum of 120 degree credits. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 degree credits. Students should consult with their college or department advisor for information on specific credit requirements.

Residency Degree candidates are required to earn a minimum of 30 credits in residence at UW-Madison. "In residence" means on the UW-Madison campus with an undergraduate degree classification. "In residence" credit also includes UW-Madison courses offered in distance or online formats and credits earned in UW-Madison Study Abroad/Study Away programs.

Quality of Work

Undergraduate students must maintain the minimum grade point average specified by the school, college, or academic program to remain in good academic standing. Students whose academic performance drops below these minimum thresholds will be placed on academic probation.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the University General Education Requirements, all undergraduate students in CALS must satisfy a set of college and major requirements. Courses may not double count within university requirements (General Education and Breadth) or within college requirements (First-Year Seminar, International Studies, Science, and Capstone), but courses counted toward university requirements may also be used to satisfy a college and/or a major requirement; similarly, courses counted toward college requirements may also be used to satisfy a university and/or a major requirement.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CALS BS DEGREE PROGRAMS

Code	Title	Credits
Quality of Work: Students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.000 to remain in good standing and be eligible for graduation.		
Residency: Students must complete 30 degree credits in residence at UW-Madison after earning 86 credits toward their undergraduate degree.		
	First year seminar (p. 2)	1
	International studies (p. 2)	3
	Physical science fundamentals	4-5
CHEM 103	General Chemistry I	
or CHEM 108	Chemistry in Our World	
or CHEM 109	Advanced General Chemistry	
	Biological science	5
	Additional science (biological, physical, or natural)	3
	Science breadth (biological, physical, natural, or social)	3
CALS Capstone Learning Experience: included in the requirements for each CALS major (see "major requirements") (p. 3)		

Students are advised to complete introductory and basic course requirements (i.e., biological and physical sciences, chemistry, mathematics, communications, etc.) early in their academic programs.

Students must also satisfy a minimum of 15 credits in the selected major that are not double counted with CALS or General Education requirements. All CALS students must also complete a capstone course in their major that meets the stated criteria.

CALS FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR REQUIREMENT

The CALS First-Year Seminar gives students a strong start to their undergraduate experience. Courses that meet the first-year seminar requirement provide an introduction to the opportunities and resources available at UW-Madison. They foster connections, community, and positive relationships through small-group discussions. Students

collaborate with instructors and peers to explore complex questions and develop important academic and personal skills. Students can meet the first-year seminar requirement through a variety of experiences, which have been approved by the college. Students can choose from stand-alone seminar courses, courses associated with learning communities/student groups, or First-Year Interest Groups (FIGS).

APPROVED FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
First-Year Seminar Courses		
AN SCI 135	Grand Challenges and Career Opportunities in Animal and Dairy Sciences	1
BIOCHEM 100	Biochemistry Freshman Seminar	1
COUN PSY 125	The Wisconsin Experience Seminar	1
F&W ECOL 101	Orientation to Wildlife Ecology	1
GENETICS 155	Freshman Seminar in Genetics	1
INTEGSCI 100	Exploring Biology	2
INTEGSCI 140	Exploring Service in STEM	1
INTER-AG 155	Issues in Agriculture, Environment, and Life Sciences	1
INTEREGR 170	Design Practicum	3
INTER-HE 201	Belonging, Purpose and the Ecology of Human Happiness: EcoYou	3
LSC 155	First-Year Seminar in Science Communication	1
MICROBIO 150	Microbiomes and Microbiology - First-Year Seminar	1

Learning Community/Student Group Courses

The following learning community/student group courses are approved as CALS First-Year Seminars. Only the specific course numbers and titles listed, including Topics titles (in parentheses), are approved.

AFROAMER 271	Selected Topics in African American Culture (Topic: Multiculturalism & Social Justice (Seminar for Multicultural Learning Community))	3
COUN PSY 115	Human Resources Development: Educational Effectiveness (Topics: First-Year Transition Active Student; PEOPLE First Year Experience Seminar)	1
INTEGSCI 110	BioHouse Seminar: Biology for the 21st Century	1
INTER-AG 117	GreenHouse Roots Seminar	1
INTER-AG 140	CALS QuickStart: Foundations	1
INTER-AG 175	WISE Seminar	1
INTER-LS 130	CRC First-Year Seminar: Foundations of a Liberal Arts Education	1

First-Year Interest Groups (FIGS)

All First-Year Interest Groups (FIGS) meet the CALS first-year seminar requirement. For more information, see <http://figs.wisc.edu/>.

CALS INTERNATIONAL STUDIES REQUIREMENT

Required of all CALS majors, the intent of the CALS international studies requirement is to deepen student knowledge and understanding of international issues related to scientific and sociological themes in CALS; develop openness, awareness and respect with regard to other cultures; and prepare students to address global challenges as engaged employees and active citizens.

The following learning outcomes must be satisfied for courses to fulfill the CALS International Studies requirement:

- Identify and explain, to diverse audiences, global issues pertaining to one or more CALS priority themes (<https://cals.wisc.edu/about-cals/initiatives/strategic-plan/priority-themes/>)
- Demonstrate critical thinking and comparative perspectives with respect to experiences or cultural approaches to international challenges

Courses that satisfy the 3-credit CALS international studies requirement must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be connected to one or more of the CALS priority themes
- Include substantial international comparative content
- Include substantial non-U.S. content (typically >50% of the content or assignments or grade in the course)
- Facilitate active student engagement consistent with the learning outcomes and university assessment criteria
- Fulfill 3 credits (either by a single course or a pair of courses)

APPROVED INTERNATIONAL STUDIES COURSES (EFFECTIVE FALL 2019 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

Code	Title	Credits
The 3 credit requirement may be fulfilled as either a stand-alone 3 credit course or as a set of courses as listed below.		
A A E/ENVIR ST 244	The Environment and the Global Economy	4
A A E 319	The International Agricultural Economy	3
A A E/ NUTR SCI 350	World Hunger and Malnutrition	3
A A E 352	Global Health: Economics, Natural Systems, and Policy ²	4
A A E/INTL ST 373	Globalization, Poverty and Development	3
A A E/INTL ST 374	The Growth and Development of Nations in the Global Economy	3
A A E/ECON 473	Economic Growth and Development in Southeast Asia	3
A A E/ECON 474	Economic Problems of Developing Areas	3
A A E/ECON/ INTL BUS 462	Latin American Economic Development	3
A A E/ECON 477	Agricultural and Economic Development in Africa	3
AGROECOL 377	Global Food Production and Health	3

AN SCI/DY SCI 370	Livestock Production and Health in Agricultural Development	3
ASIAN/HISTORY/ POLI SCI 255	Introduction to East Asian Civilizations ²	3-4
C&E SOC/SOC 341	Labor in Global Food Systems ¹	3
C&E SOC/ENVIR ST/ SOC 540	Sociology of International Development, Environment, and Sustainability	3
CSCS 500	Global Health and Communities: From Research to Praxis	3
DY SCI 471	Food Production Systems and Sustainability	3
ENTOM/ ENVIR ST 201	Insects and Human Culture—a Survey Course in Entomology	3
ENTOM/ ZOOLOGY 371	Medical Entomology: Biology of Vector and Vector-borne Diseases	3
F&W ECOL/ ENVIR ST 100	Forests of the World ¹	3
F&W ECOL/ ENVIR ST/ ZOOLOGY 360	Extinction of Species	3
LSC 251	Science, Media and Society ¹	3
NUTR SCI/ ENTOM 203	Introduction to Global Health	3
PL PATH/ BOTANY 123	Plants, Parasites, and People	3
PL PATH 311	Global Food Security	3
PLANTSCI 370	World Vegetable Crops	3
The following study abroad courses fulfill the CALS International Studies requirement. Only the specific course numbers and titles listed, including Topics titles (in parentheses), are approved to meet the CALS International Studies requirement.		
BIOCHEM 699	Special Problems (UW SCORE Summer Research in England)	3
BIOCHEM 699	Special Problems (UW SUPERG Summer Research in Germany)	3
NUTR SCI/INTER- AG 421	Global Health Field Experience (UW Mobile Clinics and Health Care in Uganda)	3
INTER-AG 321 & INTER-AG/ NUTR SCI 421	Study Abroad Pre-Departure Seminar and Global Health Field Experience (UW Global Health Community Health and Asset-Based Community Development in Sri Lanka)	3
INTER-AG/ NUTR SCI 421	Global Health Field Experience (UW Food Security, Community Nutrition, and Public Health in Ghana)	3
INTER-AG 321 & INTER-AG/ NUTR SCI 421	Study Abroad Pre-Departure Seminar and Global Health Field Experience (UW Agriculture, Health and Nutrition in Uganda)	3
INTER-AG/ NUTR SCI 421	Global Health Field Experience (UW Health, Education and Tanzanian Culture)	3
MICROBIO 399	Coordinative Internship/ Cooperative Education (UW Biological Sciences Research Internships in Thailand)	3
PLANTSCI 376 & PLANTSCI 378	Tropical Horticultural Systems and Tropical Horticultural Systems International Field Study	4
DY SCI/AN SCI/ FOOD SCI/ SOIL SCI 472 & DY SCI/AN SCI/ FOOD SCI/ SOIL SCI 473	Animal Agriculture and Global Sustainable Development and International Field Study in Animal Agriculture and Sustainable Development	3

¹ Approved for enrollments Summer 2020 and later.

² Approved for enrollments Summer 2021 and later.

CALS CAPSTONE LEARNING EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT

A CALS capstone is a course in which students are required to integrate diverse bodies of knowledge to solve a problem or formulate a policy of societal importance with the intent of facilitating the transition to post-baccalaureate life. Capstone courses are approved by the college for each major.

A capstone experience should:

- Develop problem solving skills
- Expose the student to multidisciplinary approach
- Develop teamwork and interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate effectively to multiple audiences
- Develop skills in accessing and using information resources (e.g., electronic databases, library resources, national repositories)
- Address societal, economic, ethical, scientific, and professional issues
- Communicate and extend the capstone experience via written, oral, and/or multimedia reports by each student

The capstone experience will normally be completed during the student's final 2 or 3 semesters. The intent is to have the student utilize and integrate their undergraduate learning into a culminating, or capstone, experience. Students should consult with their departmental faculty advisors for specific information regarding this requirement. Where appropriate, students should submit a copy of the final project materials to the campus library (via Minds@UW (<https://www.library.wisc.edu/research-support/minds/>) or similar).

DEGREES OFFERED

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences offers four bachelor of science (BS) degree programs:

BS DEGREE

BS-AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/UNDERGRADUATE/AGRICULTURAL-LIFE-SCIENCES/AGRICULTURAL-APPLIED-ECONOMICS/AGRICULTURAL-BUSINESS-MANAGEMENT-BS/](https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/agricultural-applied-economics/agricultural-business-management-bs/))
BS-BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/UNDERGRADUATE/AGRICULTURAL-LIFE-SCIENCES/BIOLOGICAL-SYSTEMS-ENGINEERING/BIOLOGICAL-SYSTEMS-ENGINEERING-BS/](https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/biological-systems-engineering/biological-systems-engineering-bs/))
BS- NUTRITION AND DIETETICS ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/UNDERGRADUATE/AGRICULTURAL-LIFE-SCIENCES/NUTRITIONAL-SCIENCES/NUTRITIONAL-SCIENCES-BS-NUTRITION-DIETETICS/](https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/agricultural-life-sciences/nutritional-sciences/nutritional-sciences-bs-nutrition-dietetics/))

Three of the college's majors have specialized BS degree programs, as listed above. The general BS degree program provides a broad and general foundation for the other majors in the college.

MULTIPLE DEGREES OR MAJORS

Under certain circumstances it may be possible for a student to earn more than one undergraduate major or degree. It is expected that the programs be significantly different from each other and that approval for simultaneous majors or degrees be received prior to the student having earned 86 credits. More information is available below and through CALS policies and procedures (<https://kb.wisc.edu/cals/academicaffairs/73885/>).

EARNING TWO UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS SIMULTANEOUSLY

CALS permits undergraduates to pursue two CALS majors simultaneously. Both majors must be in the same degree program; two degrees must follow the policy outlined below. The following policies and procedures have been established for this program:

1. The student must complete an application form and have approval in advance from their CALS major advisor, the advisor of their desired second major, and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the Office of Academic Affairs in CALS. This approval must be granted before the student has earned 86 credits.
2. The student must satisfy all requirements of both majors. The student must meet all CALS general course requirements and the degree program requirements, as well as all major field requirements.

The diploma awarded will be based on the certification of completion of the degree. The transcript will note the completion of requirements for two or more majors.

EARNING A NON-CALS MAJOR WHILE COMPLETING A DEGREE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES

The College of Letters & Science (L&S) and the School of Education permit undergraduates currently enrolled in the College of Agricultural and

Life Sciences to complete certain additional undergraduate majors offered by L&S or the School of Education and have this noted on the transcript. The following policies have been established for this program:

1. The student must complete an application form and have advance approval from their CALS major advisor, their non-CALS major advisor, and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the Office of Academic Affairs in CALS. This approval must be granted before the student has earned 86 credits.
2. The non-CALS major is not to substitute for any major in CALS.
3. The student must satisfy all requirements of the non-CALS major, both the requirements established by the department (i.e., certain courses) and those established by the other school/college (e.g. for L&S, 15 credits of advanced work in the major in residence at UW-Madison), but is not required to complete the other school/college's degree requirements. The student must meet all CALS general course requirements and the degree program requirements, as well as all major field requirements for the CALS major.

EARNING A GLOBAL HEALTH ADDITIONAL MAJOR WHILE COMPLETING A DEGREE PROGRAM IN ANOTHER SCHOOL/COLLEGE AT UW-MADISON

Students in another school/college at UW-Madison are eligible to declare a Global Health major if they have fewer than 86 credits toward graduation, receive permission from their home school/college, and maintain a primary major in the home school/college. The process for obtaining special permission to declare a Global Health major is dependent on the student's home school/college. Students must also contact the Global Health major advising unit about the steps required to declare an additional major and fulfill all the Global Health major requirements.

EARNING TWO UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES SIMULTANEOUSLY

A student who wishes to earn **two undergraduate degrees simultaneously** (in contrast to earning two undergraduate majors simultaneously) should consult with the CALS Office of Academic Affairs as early as possible in their academic career regarding feasibility.

If the two degrees to be earned are within the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, at least 30 additional credits and all course and grade point requirements must be completed. Thus, a minimum of 150 credits (for most majors) would be required. Some courses may satisfy requirements for both degrees; however, students must complete 15 unique credits in each major. **A student must have an advisor in both major fields.** To work on two degrees simultaneously within the college, a student should seek permission as early as possible to ensure that it is feasible to complete both degrees.

If the two degrees to be earned are from two different colleges (one degree in Agricultural and Life Sciences and one degree in another school or college on this campus), the academic dean in both colleges must approve the student's plan. Note that not all colleges will allow dual degrees. Where allowed, the following academic policies shall be followed (additional policies may exist):

1. Admission into the other college or school shall be based on that particular college or school admission criteria.
2. A student may seek two baccalaureate degrees simultaneously (in contrast to two majors), each from a different college, provided that the two degree programs differ sufficiently so that the combined total requirements for the two degrees are at least

150 credits and that the student's program is **approved by both colleges before the student has earned 86 credits**. The degrees from each college will be awarded simultaneously.

Applications and additional information pertaining to the earning of two undergraduate degrees simultaneously are in CALS policy and procedures (<https://kb.wisc.edu/cals/academicaffairs/73885/>) and available from the Office of Academic Affairs, 116 Agricultural Hall.

SECOND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Students with a bachelor of science (BS) or bachelor of arts (BA) degree from the University of Wisconsin–Madison or other accredited institution may, if eligible, pursue a second bachelor's degree from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

Students who have been out of school for one semester or more must apply for admission (or readmission) with the regular undergraduate application. Continuing UW–Madison students do not need to submit this form. All candidates need an academic dean's permission from the Office of Academic Affairs to work toward a second bachelor's degree. A minimum of a 2.0 GPA is required. Several college majors require a higher GPA.

The following requirements for the second bachelor's degree must be met:

- Students must complete a minimum of **30 credits in residence**, of which 15 or more must be in the major field as specified by the major department. These credits are in **addition** to credits earned for the first degree.
- Candidates must **complete all university, college, major, and curricular degree program requirements**. Credits earned for the first degree will apply toward appropriate requirements for the second. However, students must take at least 30 additional credits, as noted above. Students with their first BS degree from the college must select a new major or degree program.

All second-degree candidates must be accepted by the department offering their program of interest and have their program approved by the college before beginning the program.