

INFORMATION SYSTEMS, BPHIL

Curriculum

The bachelor's degree requirements are 45 units total and include distribution, writing, and elective courses, and the major requirements.

| Course | Title |
|----------------------------|--|
| CIS 110-CN | Introduction to Computer Programming |
| CIS 313-CN | Telecommunications and Computer Networks |
| CIS 317-CN | Database Systems Design & Implementation |
| CIS 394-CN | Project Management Concepts |
| or ORG_BEH 368-DL | Project Management |
| MATH 202-CN | Finite Mathematics |
| STAT 202-CN | Introduction to Statistics and Data Science |
| or STAT 202-DL | Introduction to Statistics and Data Science |
| ORG_BEH 307-CN | Leadership Principles and Practices |
| ENGLISH 205-CN | Intermediate Composition |
| or ENGLISH 205-DL | Intermediate Composition |
| 6 additional courses from: | |
| CIS 130-CN | Tools and Technologies of the World Wide Web |
| CIS 212-CN | Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming |
| CIS 323-CN | Python for Data Science |
| CIS 324-CN | Applied Data Science |
| CIS 325-CN | Enterprise Data Science |
| CIS 326-CN | Data Engineering |
| CIS 330-CN | Human Computer Interaction |
| CIS 345-CN | Information Security |
| CIS 370-CN | System Analysis and Design |
| CIS 380-CN | Information Architecture |
| CIS 385-CN | Programming for the Web |

Degree Requirements

SPS programs lead to one of three Northwestern University bachelor's degrees, the bachelor of philosophy (BPhil), the bachelor of science in general studies (BSGS), and the bachelor of philosophy in communication (BPhilCom), which is conferred by the School of Communication (<https://www.communication.northwestern.edu/>).

The bachelor of philosophy (BPhil) and the bachelor of science in general studies (BSGS) are conferred by the Judd A. and Marjorie Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences (<https://www.weinberg.northwestern.edu/>). The primary difference between the two degrees is that the BPhil includes a language requirement. Some majors offer a choice of the BPhil or the BSGS degree.

Bachelor of Philosophy

To earn the BPhil degree, students must complete a total of 45 units, including a writing requirement, two years of study in a language other than English (or demonstration of equivalent language proficiency), distribution requirements, a major, and electives. Language proficiency may be demonstrated by completion of a second-year language sequence with a grade of C or better at an accredited college or university. Minors are optional.

| Courses | Units Earned |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| English 111 or 205 and 113 | 2 |
| Language | 6 |
| Humanities | 4 |
| Science | 4 |
| Social Sciences | 4 |
| Major Requirements | 10-22 |
| Electives | Up to 15 |
| Total | 45 |

About the Writing Requirement

The writing requirement ensures that students have the skills necessary to meet the rigorous writing demands of subsequent SPS courses in all majors and disciplines. The expository writing courses provide the tools to meet the demands of advanced academic writing; the courses may not be audited or taken on a pass/no credit basis.

Transfer and performance-based admission students must fulfill the writing requirement through one of two options:

Option 1: Complete an English composition course at SPS.

Demonstrate successful completion of English 111 or 205. A grade of C or higher is required.

Option 2: Successfully appeal the writing requirement via the Student Affairs Petition Form (<https://sps.northwestern.edu/main/login.php>).

Students who believe they have the writing skills necessary for university-level research and analytical papers may appeal the SPS writing requirement.

A successful appeal does not result in credit for the writing course. Students must complete another course in its place according to the needs and guidelines of their program. Writing will be evaluated for standards of good expository writing, including: a fully developed thesis; sound logic and adequate evidence in support of the thesis; effective organization, coherent structure and an overall unity; correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

Appeal materials must be submitted by the quarter deadline (<https://sps.northwestern.edu/part-time-undergraduate/important-dates.php>) before entry.

About the Distribution Requirements

Students complete course work in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences to obtain a broad experience in the liberal arts. Courses that satisfy these distribution requirements include the following areas:

Humanities

Art history, classics, comparative literary studies, English literature, languages other than English (up to two units), history, music history, philosophy, religion, and some courses in African American studies, languages with literature, gender studies, performance studies, radio/television/film, and theatre.

Sciences

Astronomy, biological sciences, chemistry, earth and planetary sciences, engineering, geography, information systems, mathematics, physics and some courses in anthropology, communication sciences and disorders, psychology, radio/television/film, and statistics.

Social Sciences

Anthropology, economics, history, linguistics, political science, sociology, and some courses in African American studies, communication sciences and disorders, gender studies, psychology, and statistics.