What is General Studies?

General Studies is an adult degree program that allows students to shape their program of study almost entirely. One can earn a well-rounded Associate of Arts (AA) or Bachelors of General Studies (BGS) degree, considered an Indiana University Interdisciplinary Bachelor's degree, in preparation for a wide variety of potential careers or graduate programs. Courses must be taken in Arts and Humanities, Science and Mathematics, and Social and Behavioral Sciences, to prove competency in: Written and Oral Communication, Quantitative Reasoning and Computer Literacy. Many of the credit hours can be filled through electives in the student's area(s) of interest. Students often use existing certificates and minors to build an individualized curriculum around their interests and career goals. General Studies provides a Learning Community Seminar, a survival course recommended for new students or those returning after a long break from college, to orient students to the program.

Developing Your Portfolio: How to sell your General Studies Degree

In order to enhance their marketability, General Studies students are encouraged to develop a portfolio before graduation, and an optional capstone course is available to help. Through the portfolio, students demonstrate what they know and give readers a detailed perspective of their degree specialization. A portfolio helps explain to graduate school and/or employers the flexibility of the BGS through which graduates can incorporate credits they have already earned, utilize life experiences, and pursue specific academic and career interests. A portfolio typically includes a resume with a specific career objective and highlights of relevant academic accomplishments such as: GPA, certificate, minors, internships, activities, and volunteer experience. Certificates and minors provide depth and breadth needed to succeed in a particular industry or to reach specific career goals. Internships provide excellent professional experience and are often used to identify references. Marketing your General Studies Degree is a key factor for graduates.

What Graduate/Professional School Opportunities Exist?

Below are just a few possibilities:

- Liberal Arts
- Social Work
- Public Administration
- Seminary
- Counseling
- Law

Where Can I Get More Information?

IUPUI School of Liberal Arts

liberalarts.iupui.edu