Bachelor of Arts Completion Program Degree Requirements

Common Learning Experience

The Common Learning curriculum includes ten carefully selected courses in five areas where we believe students can sharpen their skills and develop essential knowledge needed for thriving in the information age. These are not 101 courses, but instead a set of interdisciplinary courses for people who have been in the working world and are highly motivated. Interdisciplinary simply means that the perspectives and materials of several disciplines have been brought together in the design of each course. Because all students in the program will take these courses, they will have a common foundational experience so instructors in advanced courses can assume they have attained a specific level of knowledge. The Common Learning Experience will help students learn how to learn, which will serve them in their future academic careers.

The Experience with your major

The major builds on the Common Learning Experience but provides a way for students to specialize and pursue their own interests. In most colleges and universities the major is synonymous with studying in an academic discipline, but at University College your major is interdisciplinary; it draws on several disciplines especially useful for exploring the topics in that major. Students will become conversant with key knowledge in the arts and sciences disciplines, but it will be packaged in a way that helps them to examine key topics in an interdisciplinary field of study. The chief purpose of the major is to provide opportunities for learning how to draw on various liberal arts disciplines for addressing real world problems of organizations and society.

There are five majors from which to choose:

- Communication Arts (http://bulletin.du.edu/undergraduate/majorsminorscoursedescs/universitycollege/communicationarts)
- Environmental Studies (http://bulletin.du.edu/undergraduate/majorsminorscoursedescs/universitycollege/environmentalstudies)
- Global Commerce and Transportation (http://bulletin.du.edu/undergraduate/majorsminorscoursedescs/universitycollege/globalcommerceandtransportation)
- Global Studies (http://bulletin.du.edu/undergraduate/majorsminorscoursedescs/universitycollege/globalstudies)
- Information Technology (http://bulletin.du.edu/undergraduate/majorsminorscoursedescs/universitycollege/informationtechnology)
- Leadership and Organization Studies (http://bulletin.du.edu/undergraduate/majorsminorscoursedescs/universitycollege/leadershipandorganizationstudies)

Students may have started on a major in earlier studies, but those courses that transfer will be treated as electives—they do not need to match any of that work with the student’s new major. Keep in mind that none of these majors provide an industry-specific specialization such as marketing, human resources or project management. We believe that such specializations are more appropriate at the graduate level, and we hope that bachelor’s students will continue in their studies with us or elsewhere. Each major does provide, however, a slightly different set of skills and knowledge relevant to different aspects of the world of work. Each major contains important opportunities for students to relate their studies to their interests and provides three opportunities for them to design experiences that fit their interests.

- The independent study project allows students to follow up on topics of special interest generated in courses.
- The service learning project encourages students to craft a personal experience around their interests to provide needed help in some aspect of the community.
- The integrative project provides an opportunity to conduct an organization-based study, creative project or extended essay in any area of interest or on a topic that adds value to the student’s organization.

The following academic policies apply to major requirements for bachelor’s students at the University.

- The GPA in the major and the minor must be at least 2.0 with the exception of the bachelor of science in accounting which requires a GPA of at least 2.5.
- Credits in the major and the minor must be earned at the level of “C-” or better.
- At least 50 percent of the required credits for the major and the minor must be completed at the University of Denver.