MacEwan UNIVERSITY

What courses should I take in my first year?

We understand that knowing where to start can be challenging. This sheet has been designed to help you know where to begin with your breadth requirements!

Breadth requirements (also called exit requirements) cover several disciplines and are designed to broaden your horizons and extend your skills. They also give you a grounding in different fields and disciplines to help you determine your interests and strengths, which may help you decide on a major and minor. Most students complete their breadth requirements over their first 3 semesters of university.

Unless otherwise specified, these courses can be taken at any level and completed in any combination. For example, you could take EASC 101 and BIOL 107 to complete the *Biology and Earth and Planetary Sciences* element. Courses used to fulfill the breadth requirements can also count towards the major(s) or minor(s). In our example, EASC 101 can be used for a Physical Sciences major, and BIOL 107 can be used for a Biological Sciences major. All breadth requirement courses will count toward the 120 credits of the overall degree. Courses are 3 credits each, so the degree is 40 courses.

Breadth requirements are divided into the following categories:

English - ENGL 102 and 3 credits in university ENGL (not including ENGL 108, ENGL 111, or ENGL 211)
☐ ENGL 102   ☐ ENGL _____

Chemistry or Physics - 6 credits in CHEM or PHYS (courses must have a lab component)
☐_____   ☐ _____

Biological or Earth and Planetary Sciences - 6 credits in BIOL or EASC (courses must have a lab component)
☐ _____   ☐ _____

Mathematics - One of MATH 114, MATH 120, or MATH 125
☐ MATH 114, 120 or 125

*Mathematics, Computer Science or Statistics -*3 credits in CMPT, MATH, or STAT (not including CMPT 104, MATH 160)
☐ _____

Social Sciences - 6 credits in ANTH, ECON, GEND, LING, POLS, PSYC, or SOCI
☐ _____   ☐ _____

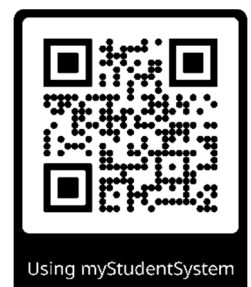*Humanities -* 6 credits in CLAS, COMP, HIST, HUMN, PHIL, or a Language other than English
☐ _____   ☐ _____

A single course cannot be used to fulfill more than one Breadth Requirement. Check out the *Academic Calendar* for course descriptions.

Academic Calendar

How do I enroll?

You can enroll yourself in courses by logging on to myStudentSystem and selecting the "Manage Classes" tile. For step-by-step instructions, refer to the *Using myStudentSystem Guide*.

Using myStudentSystem

How many courses do I need to take?

A BSc degree consists of 120 credits—36 of which are fulfilled with the breadth requirements. Each course is usually 3 credits, which means you will take 40 courses to complete your degree. If you intend to graduate within 4 years, you must take 10 courses per academic year. If you are not taking Spring/Summer courses, then you will need to take 5 courses each in Fall and Winter to complete your degree within 4 years.

However, students often take longer than 4 years to complete their degree. The maximum course load allowed per term is 5 courses, but you can take 3 courses per term and still be considered a full-time student. You can also take 1-2 courses per term as a part-time student. When deciding how many courses to take per term, consider your commitments outside of school as well as your academic abilities and preferences.

What if I need help?

Email an Advisor

The academic advisors in the *Arts & Science Advising Office* are your first point of contact for academic planning and other Arts & Science program related questions.

Because we have so many students, we do not have the resources to help students build a schedule one-on-one. All first-year students should attend an *Academic Planning Session.* This online session is where you will learn how to use the *Academic Calendar* to plan your degree and choose the right courses for your specific degree program. You will also learn where to find enrolment resources, how to declare your major and minor and how to organize and keep track of your academic progress. We will also email you a reminder of when the sessions are starting, so that you will have an opportunity to sign up for one the sessions.

Planning Session Sign-Up

Do I need to declare a major and minor right away?

All students begin as general, undeclared Science students. Students will have an opportunity to declare their major(s) and minor(s) during the declaration period. If you have an idea of what you'd like to choose for your major and minor, check out the planning resources on the *Arts & Science Academic Planning* page.

Academic Planning

You do not need to declare a major and a minor right away, but it is a good idea to be ready to declare in your second year, or if you are selecting a competitive major or minor, to at least be working towards that declaration. To find out more about the declaration process and to explore the available major and minor options head to the Declaring your major/minor section of the Arts and Science Academic Planning page. You can also go directly to the "Programs A-Z" tab in the *Academic Calendar* to find the same information.

What are the overall degree requirements?

While the BSc is flexible, there are still a few rules that you must follow before you graduate.

Academic Calendar

- You need to complete at least 120 credits (or 40 courses) of non-duplicative coursework that can be used for the major(s), minor(s), and options. Non-duplicative means that you count each course only once.
- A minimum 60 credits must be completed at MacEwan University.
- A maximum of 48 credits (or 16 courses) at the 100-level is allowed.
- A minimum of 72 credits needs to be from Science courses.
- The overall Graduation Grade Point Average (GGPA) must be 2.0 or higher with a minimum GPA of 2.0 on all courses credited towards the major(s) and/or minor (s)

Up to 15 credits from courses offered by a Faculty other than Arts and Science are allowed, but only 3 credits can be taken in a physical activity (PACT) course. **Students with out-of-Faculty minors are limited to Arts and Science Options only.**

For a more detailed list of Bachelor of Science degree requirements, find your major in Programs A-Z in the *Academic Calendar,* then from the major page, click on *Degree Regulations.*