### Getting Started!
Bachelor of Arts
2020/21 Academic Year

*For general degree planner, as well as major/minor planners, visit www.MacEwan.ca/BAS

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## 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 a number of disciplines and are designed to broaden your horizons and extend your skills. They also give you a grounding in a number of 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 HIST 101 and PHIL 250 to complete the *Humanities* element. Courses used to fulfill the breadth requirements can also count towards the major(s) or minor(s). In our example, HIST 101 can be used for a history major and PHIL 250 can be used for a philosophy minor. All breadth requirement courses will count toward the 120 credits of the overall degree.

Looking for course descriptions? Check out the course lists on the Department websites (macewan.ca/arts and macewan.ca/science), the Academic Calendar (macewan.ca/calendar), and myStudentSystem. Pre-requisites are also listed in the course descriptions.

**Literacy** - ENGL 102 and 3 credits in university ENGL (not including ENGL 108, ENGL 111 or ENGL 211) as well as 6 credits of a language other than English (same language) or world literature (COMP 102/103). Students completing an English major are required to complete 6 credits in one language other than English.

- □ ENGL 102
- □ ENGL __________
- □ _________

**Humanities** - 6 credits in CLAS, HIST, HUMN, or PHIL

- □ _________
- □ _________

**Sciences** - 6 credits in ASTR, BICM, BIOL, BOTN, CHEM, CMPT, EASC, GENE, PHYS, PSYC, SCIE, or ZOOL

- □ _________
- □ _________

**Social Sciences** - 6 credits in ANTH, ECON, POLS, PSYC, or SOCI

- □ _________
- □ _________

**Analytical Studies** - 3 credits in LING, MATH, PHIL 125, or STAT

- □ _________

**Fine Arts** - 3 credits in AGAD, ARTE, DESN, DRMA, CRWR, THAR, THPR, MUSC or one of CLAS 252, 352, 353, 356.

- □ _________

* A single course cannot be used to fulfill more than one Breadth Requirement

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## How many courses should I take?

A BA 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. However, 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.
How do I enroll?

You should enroll yourself in courses by logging on to myStudentSystem and clicking “My Academics.”

For step-by-step instructions, go to macewan.ca/usingmystudentsystem

What if I need help?

All first year students should plan to attend an Academic Planning Session, where advisors will go over all of this information and more. To sign up, go to macewan.ca/bastudent > Get in-person help: Attend an academic planning session.

Because we have so many students, we do not have the resources to help you build a schedule one-on-one. However, we can answer specific questions or help you troubleshoot.

For these specific inquiries, please come by our office during our office hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30 am-4:30pm in 6-211 (closed between 12-1pm).

You can also email us at artsandscience@macewan.ca. Please email us from your mymacewan account, and include your student ID number.

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

All students begin as general, undeclared Arts students. Students will have an opportunity to declare their major(s) and minor(s) during our declaration period. If you have an idea of what you’d like to choose for your major and minor, check out the degree, major, and minor planning sheets, available at macewan.ca/bastudent > How do I plan my degree?

To find out how to declare, including information on competitive majors like Psychology, go to macewan.ca/bastudent > How do I declare my major? Keep in mind that you can always re-declare if you change your mind.

If you’d like to explore your options and see what’s available for majors and minors, the list can be found in the Bachelor of Arts page www.macewan.ca/arts > Program of Study

What are the overall degree requirements?

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

- 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 have to be completed at MacEwan University. (For more details on the residency requirements, refer to the overall degree planning sheet.)
- A maximum of 48 credits (or 16 courses) at the 100-level is allowed.
- A minimum of 72 credits need to be from Arts 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.**