



ACADEMIC LEARNING COMPACT



Applied Science

Degree Designation: BSAS

Mission Statement

This unique bachelor's degree program is offered through the Office of Undergraduate Studies as an inter-departmental program. The mission of the Bachelor of Science in Applied Science (BSAS) is to serve as a degree completion program for two-year Associate in Science (A.S.) degree holders who seek a bachelor's degree for self-enrichment, career advancement, employment transition or future access to graduate-level studies. The occupation and technical nature of the A.S. degree provides the student's specialized workforce education and a credible academic experience upon which to build a career within many professions. The integrated capstone approach of the BSAS degree provides the essential components of a quality undergraduate education to include an upper-level academic area of concentration, which compliments previous areas of study or introduces a new area of knowledge applicable to changing workforce demands.

Student Learning Outcomes

Content / Discipline Skills

- Apply the fundamental concepts and principles of their chosen discipline
- Use associated vocabulary and terminology from the field of study appropriately and effectively
- Describe the scope of scholarly reasoning and research which has contributed to the development and direction of the academic discipline
- Demonstrate knowledge of contributions in their particular area of concentration to real-world concerns, such as the workforce, human intellect and social/cultural development
- Identify major issues within the contemporary discourse for their chosen academic area of concentration

Critical Thinking Skills

- Question and debate prevailing assumptions, traditions, conventions and doctrine to inform contemporary thought
- Compare, contrast and synthesize knowledge across multiple and disparate sources to enhance decision-making
- Analyze and evaluate the context and content of course material for validity, relevance and applicability
- Select and apply relevant theories in the analysis of processes, trends and transformations related to the student's specific area of concentration

Communication Skills

- Engage in debate maintaining rationale, civility and respect
- Express explicit thoughts and ideas in a clear and concise manner
- Perform formal oral presentations
- Conduct efficient and effective multiple-source information search and retrieval

- Use existing technology to convey information to others
- Demonstrate oral and written mastery of English grammar and usage

Assessment Strategies

- The academic courses and content for this degree program fall under the purview of each college and department providing the curricula for this broadly integrated program. Learning outcomes will be assessed through departmentally designed evaluations of written work, presentations and laboratory/research exercises. Critical thinking and communication will be assessed as part of the university's General Education assessment processes as well as within the program. A BSAS capstone experience will be used to measure students' acquisition of core competencies, to improve students' achievement and to enhance the program's effectiveness.