

Merchandising 300. No more than six hours may be taken in a particular discipline, and a student must complete at least 12 hours of upper-division credits from these courses.

Bachelor of University Studies (0100)

The Bachelor of University Studies (B.U.S.) is an individualized degree program. Created to meet the needs of working adults and others whose educational objectives are unmet by the traditional degree programs, the B.U.S. is a self-designed general studies degree in which students choose those academic courses which best meet their career goals. There are no specific course requirements beyond 38 hours in “core” courses, and students may receive up to 30 hours of academic credit for previous non-college learning experiences. The B.U.S. is a full, four-year baccalaureate degree that complies with all university requirements.

The student interested in the B.U.S. option prepares an individualized degree program in consultation with a faculty adviser whose educational and professional background is related to the student's programmatic goal. The entire program must be approved in writing by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (or designate). Copies must be filed with the university registrar, the vice chancellor's designate, the faculty adviser, and the student prior to accumulation of 95 earned hours toward the degree. It then becomes the student's official Program of Study. Any modification to the student's program must be approved by the Online and University Studies Council.

Graduation Requirements

Credits required for graduation	130
Minimum credits in upper-division courses	36
Minimum credits at UT Martin	33

Specific Curricular Requirements

I. General Education (38)

- A. Aesthetics (3)
- B. Biological and Physical Systems (8)
- C. Communications and Computer Literacy (12)
- D. Ethical Awareness (3)
 - Philosophy 160
- E. Global Dynamics (3)
- F. Mathematics (3)
- G. Social Dynamics (3)
- H. Elective (3)

Choose from any of the courses listed in Aesthetics, Biological and Physical Systems, Global Dynamics, Mathematics, or Social Dynamics.

II. Individual Degree Concentration (42-54)

This portion of the student's program provides for the in-depth examination of some area of study. In traditional terms, it would comprise the courses of the major and the minor or the courses of the major plus an integrated cluster of related and supportive courses. The Individualized Degree Concentration will include no fewer than 42 semester hours and no

Undergraduate Degrees and Specialized Programs

more than 54 semester hours. No more than 36 semester hours in one discipline, exclusive of the specific curricular requirements listed above, may count toward the B.U.S. degree. The student must earn a grade of “C” or better in all courses offered for the Individualized Degree Concentration.

III. Experiential Credit (0-30)

While not required, students may be awarded up to 30 hours credit for learning that has taken place in settings other than the college classroom or laboratory. Examples of non-college learning that can be converted into college credit include real estate schools, banking institutes, military training, business programs, law enforcement academies, fire and safety institutes, technical/vocational certificates, seminars, workshops, in-service training, or formal job training. A portfolio, documenting all experiential learning for which credit is sought, will be presented by the student. At the time of submission of the portfolio, the student will be required to pay a \$300 charge per subject area. Submission and award of any credit must be prior to student’s last 30 hours. An evaluation team will be appointed to evaluate the portfolio and may recommend to the Online University Studies (OUS) Committee that the student receive from 0-12 hours credit. Credit for up to 18 additional hours, or any upper-division hours, may only be awarded by the Undergraduate Council. If experiential credit is awarded, it becomes part of the student’s university transcript; it may not substitute for any general education requirement and it may be applied only to the Bachelor of University Studies degree. Portfolio credit does not fulfill minimum credits at the University of Tennessee at Martin, nor does it apply toward four-year institutional hours.

IV. Electives:

Sufficient electives must be taken to bring the total credits for the program to 130 semester hours.