# The Guide: guide.wisc.edu requirements for degrees, majors, and certificates

# Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS)

## at least 120 degree credits

at least 108 credits in Liberal Arts & Sciences (LAS) courses at least 60 credits in Intermediate or Advanced level courses Courses you have already completed may apply to some of your degree components.

UW General Education and Letters & Science requirements

courses for your major

elective courses for your interests, certificates, additional major, and post-graduation plans

### **UW General Education**

Choose five courses (15+ credits)

Communications Part A course ("Comm A"): foundation in literacy and writing proficiency Communications Part B course ("Comm B"): in-depth research and communication skills

Quantitative Reasoning Part A course ("QR A"): foundation in mathematics or formal logic Quantitative Reasoning Part B course ("QR B"): in-depth math or formal logic within a discipline

Ethnic Studies course: culture & contributions of persistently marginalized racial/ethnic groups in U.S.

# L&S BA & BS requirements

The BA and BS have slightly different course requirements for science, mathematics, and language. Complete the requirements for your chosen degree plan.

#### L&S Major

Choose at least one major (30+ credits)

Majors can be completed in either the BA or BS degree. The major's requirements are the same for both degrees: **go.wisc.edu/lsmajors** 

#### Declare a major when you are eligible and ready.

See the major's "How to Get in" tab in the Undergraduate Guide for any conditions to meet before declaring. After declaring, rely on the degree audit tool for your requirements: enroll.wisc.edu/dars

#### **L&S Breadth**

Choose courses in all three academic areas (36+ credits)

**Humanities** (BA & BS) at least 12 credits, including at least 6 credits in Literature courses

Understanding humans as thinkers, citizens, and creators of art, literature, and culture, including history, philosophy, and religion.

#### Social Sciences (BA & BS) at least 12 credits

Understanding humans and their interactions in societies, institutions, and systems, including law and politics, sociology, economics, anthropology, psychology, communications, and the cultural study of race, gender, and regions.

#### Natural Sciences (BA & BS) at least 12 credits

Systematic study of the natural and physical world, and the use of abstraction and logical reasoning, including chemistry, mathematics, data and computers, and the study of plants, animals, and the environment.

(BA) a 3+ credit Biological Science course and a 3+ credit Physical Science course

(BS) 6 credits in Biological Science courses and 6 credits in Physical Science courses

**plus** 6 credits in either Natural, Biological, or Physical Science courses

#### L&S Mathematics

(BA) no requirement

(BS) two 3+ credit Intermediate or Advanced courses in Mathematics, Computer Sciences (limit 1), or Statistics (limit 1)

#### L&S Language

Increasing proficiency in languages other than English 1 unit = 1 semester of college or 1 year of high-school language (BA) fourth unit of one language; *or* third unit of one language and second unit of another language

(BS) third unit of one language

Keep in mind: earning your degree is not just checking off these requirements. It's about thinking, exploring, growing, and learning new perspectives.