



*This document provides updated information about the new **Undergraduate Degree Types** at UW-Stevens Point, including both **Baccalaureate Degrees** and the **Associate Degree**. These new degree type requirements are effective starting Fall 2013. With the implementation of our new [General Education Program \(GEP\)](#), some of our previous policies have been revised. Please see below for additional information.*

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## **Undergraduate Degree Types Offered at UW-Stevens Point**

UW-Stevens Point offers four distinct baccalaureate degrees and an associate’s degree. Below, each degree is generally defined. The requirements for the associate’s degree are the same for all students at UW-Stevens Point. For baccalaureate degrees, individual academic programs have the flexibility to determine which degrees are offered through their major and the specific requirements. Academic programs have the responsibility to do so within the framework of the general definitions below and in support of UW-Stevens Point’s general education mission to equip students with the knowledge and skills to facilitate intellectual and personal growth, pursue their advanced studies, and improve the world in which they live.

*The requirements below are common to all **Baccalaureate Degrees** at UW-Stevens Point:*

- Complete the General Education Program (GEP) requirements
- Complete the requirements of a major
- Earn a minimum of 30 credits in residence at UW-Stevens Point
- Earn at least 40 credits at the 300 level or above
- Earn a minimum of 120 credits
- Earn a minimum 2.0 grade point average in credits attempted at UW-Stevens Point
- Earn a minimum 2.0 grade point average overall, including both UW-Stevens Point and transfer credits

Each academic program will build on the foundation provided by the General Education Program by developing its own mission, goals, and program learning outcomes. In doing so, programs will comply with the following degree requirements, which must be assessed within each major.

## **Bachelor of Arts (B.A.):**

The B.A. is a liberal arts degree intended to develop skills and talents essential to succeeding in a global society. It combines study of the arts, humanities, historical perspectives, and the natural and social sciences with advanced critical inquiry and an in-depth knowledge in an academic discipline (major). The program develops cultural, social, and political literacy, including the abilities to communicate effectively and clearly in writing and in speech, and to understand on a basic level a world language other than one's own.\* In so doing, it fosters the ability to understand and actively participate in discourses both within and beyond the field of the student's major (such as a minor or second major), and it promotes engagement with cultural, social, and political difference.

\* A two-semester sequence of university entry level world language courses (101, 102) is required. The requirement may be fulfilled through equivalent coursework or other language acquisition as demonstrated through a test out policy (including Native American languages and American Sign Language). Students whose native language is not English and who can document formal high school or university study of their native language may use English 101 and 202, or English 150 as a means of fulfilling the foreign language requirement.

## **Bachelor of Science (B.S.):**

The B.S. is a liberal arts degree intended to develop skills and talents essential to professional work. It combines study of the arts, humanities, historical perspectives, and the natural and social sciences with advanced critical inquiry and an in-depth knowledge in a specific academic discipline (major). The program develops an understanding of empirical analysis, scientific methodology and protocols, and mathematics and quantitative techniques. In so doing, it equips students for continued engagement in professional research within the chosen field.

## **Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) and Bachelor of Music (B.M.):**

The B.F.A. and B.M. are professional degrees focusing intensive study and practice in the fine arts, performing arts, and design fields through a specific academic discipline (major). Essential artistic and intellectual development is achieved through building practical experience, repertoire, and mastery within the chosen discipline and through critical inquiry into cultural, historical, and technical aspects relevant to the defined profession. Standards for the B.F.A. and B.M. are established by national accreditation agencies and implemented in the major at the department level.

## **Relationship Between the General Education Program and Degree Types**

The General Education Program (GEP) applies to all students regardless of degree type (BA, BS, BM, or BFA). In addition to the GEP, there are degree requirements for the BA, BS, BM, and BFA which have been integrated into each major.

## **Earning Multiple Baccalaureate Degrees**

Upon the implementation of the new GEP and the new degree type requirements, students will be permitted to receive two separate diplomas if they complete the requirements for multiple different baccalaureate degree types concurrently.

You may want to return to school after graduating to complete additional majors or minors. You may do so without earning a second degree. However, if you have earned one bachelor's degree, you may subsequently earn a second by completing all requirements for the second degree.

You may use courses you completed for your first degree to satisfy requirements for your second degree. The major for your second degree must be an approved major for that degree.

## Associate Degree (A.D.)

The Associate Degree (A.D.) is a liberal arts foundational degree for many college majors and is confirmation of an important accomplishment on the path to a bachelor's degree. Meeting the four program outcomes of the General Education Program (GEP) requires the following:

- demonstrate the critical thinking, quantitative, and communication skills necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing global society;
- demonstrate a broad knowledge of the physical, social, and cultural worlds as well as the methods by which this knowledge is produced;
- recognize that responsible global citizenship involves personal accountability, social equity, and environmental sustainability; and
- be able to apply this knowledge and skills, working in interdisciplinary ways to solve problems, the completion of the General Education Program, except for the Communication in the Major and the Capstone Experience in the Major.

*The following requirements apply to all **Associate Degrees** at UW-Stevens Point:*

- Complete the General Education Program requirements, except for Communication in the Major and Capstone in the Major
- Earn a minimum of 15 credits in residence at UW-Stevens Point
- Earn a minimum of 60 credits.
- Meet the UW System associate degree guidelines.
- Earn a minimum 2.0 grade point average in credits attempted at UW-Stevens Point
- Earn a minimum 2.0 grade point average overall, including both UW-Stevens Point and transfer credits

*For more information about the Associate Degree requirements, please visit:*

Student Academic Advising Center  
Room 103, Student Services Center  
Phone: 715-346-3361  
Fax: 715-346-3724  
Email: [saac@uwsp.edu](mailto:saac@uwsp.edu)  
Web: <http://www.uwsp.edu/advising/Pages/default.aspx>