BACHELOR OF INDIVIDUALIZED STUDY (BIS)

300 Level Courses
BIS 300: Understanding Interdisciplinary Studies. 3 credits.
Focuses on literature and issues relevant to interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary studies and the BIS program. Students explore selected topics, develop and gather feedback on individualized concentration proposals, and review BIS program requirements. Notes: Open only to pre-BIS students and BIS majors. Offered by Bachelor Individualized Study. May not be repeated for credit.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Individualized Study or Undeclared.

Schedule Type: Lecture
BIS 390: The Research Process. 3 credits.
Focuses on skills to develop a research project, find and organize relevant information, examine and critique evidence, establish criteria, and create plan to complete senior project. Notes: Open only to pre-BIS students and BIS majors. Students cannot receive credit for both BIS 390 and 391. Offered by Bachelor Individualized Study. May not be repeated for credit. Equivalent to BIS 391.

Specialized Designation: Writing Intensive in the Major
Recommended Prerequisite: BIS 300 and grade of 2.0 or above in ENGL 302/ENGH 302.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Individualized Study.

Schedule Type: Lecture
BIS 391: The Research Process for Honors. 3 credits.
Focuses on skills to develop an honors-level research project, find and organize relevant information, examine and critique evidence, establish criteria, and create plan to complete Honors Senior Research Project (BIS 490). Approved research proposal required prior to registration in BIS 490. Notes: Students cannot receive credit for both BIS 390 and 391. Offered by Bachelor Individualized Study. May not be repeated for credit. Equivalent to BIS 390.

Recommended Prerequisite: Acceptance to pursue honors in the major.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Individualized Study.

Schedule Type: Seminar
BIS 399: Special Topics. 1-3 credits.
Selected topics reflecting interest in specialized areas. Notes: May be repeated when topic is different. Offered by Bachelor Individualized Study. May be repeated within the term for a maximum 6 credits.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Individualized Study.

Schedule Type: Lecture

400 Level Courses
BIS 489: Directed Readings and Research. 1-3 credits.
Readings and research on a topic directly relevant to student’s core concentration. Notes: Open only to pre-BIS students and BIS majors. Individualized sections by arrangement. Guided by instructor with expertise. Topics must be approved by instructor and BIS director prior to enrollment. Offered by Bachelor Individualized Study. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

Recommended Prerequisite: Open only to degree students in the Bachelor of Individualized Study Program.

Schedule Type: Independent Study
BIS 490: RS: Senior Project. 3 credits.
Project or thesis on a topic directly relevant to student’s concentration. Guided by student's faculty advisor and 490 instructor. Notes: Open only to BIS majors. Individualized sections for BIS honors. Capstone course in BIS core concentration. Research proposals must be approved by faculty mentor, executive committee, and BIS director prior to enrollment. Offered by Bachelor Individualized Study. May not be repeated for credit.

Mason Core: Synthesis
Specialized Designation: Research/Scholarship Intensive
Recommended Prerequisite: BIS 390.
Recommended Corequisite: BIS 491.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students in the BIS Individualized Study program.

Schedule Type: Independent Study
BIS 491: Senior Project Presentation. 1 credit.
Focuses on preparation and delivery of a formal presentation of student’s BIS 490 project. Includes review of basic presentation techniques. Notes: Open only to BIS majors. Offered by Bachelor Individualized Study. May not be repeated for credit.

Specialized Designation: Research Associated
Recommended Prerequisite: BIS 390.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a major in Individualized Study.

Schedule Type: Lecture
BIS 495: Career Practicum. 1-6 credits.
Supervised experience in application of specified area. Offered by Bachelor Individualized Study. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 9 credits.

Recommended Prerequisite: Permission of instructor or BIS Director.

Schedule Type: Internship