

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (AA)

Department website (<https://www.uwp.edu/learn/programs/professionalstudiesaa.cfm>)

The Associate of Arts (AA) in professional studies degree is a generalist degree aimed at preparing students for careers, citizenship, and possibly further education. An AA in professional studies focuses on analytical skills designed for success in the private and public sector.

Students enrolling in the AA will learn valuable professional skills and applications that they will be able to utilize whether they continue in higher education or choose to enter the professional world. Upon completion of the AA degree, students will have the option to continue on to complete a bachelor's degree, with the completed Associate of Arts credential in hand.

The AA degree enables students to earn a credential after approximately two years of study in general education, university skill requirements, program requirements, and a capstone course. Upon entering the program, a student will meet with an advisor to discuss educational and professional goals and plan the best selection of courses to meet those goals. Upon completion of the AA degree, students will have the option to continue on to complete a bachelor's degree, with the completed Associate of Arts credential in hand. Students may pursue any UW# Parkside bachelor's degree program, noting however, that this AA has been created to lead best into Bachelor's degrees in the social and behavioral science disciplines, but does not preclude any student from pursuing the degree.

See the Associate Degree section of the catalog for more programmatic and curricular information.

1. Students earning the AA in professional studies degree will be practically and intellectually prepared to enter the job market.
2. Students earning the AA in professional studies degree and leaving college will be intellectually prepared to consider returning, when ready and able, to complete a four-year bachelor's degree.
3. Students earning the AA in professional studies degree will demonstrate the intellectual and interpersonal skills that will help them contribute to innovation in the community and in the workplace.

Requirements for the A.A. in Professional Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Basic Skills Requirements		
<i>English/Writing Skills Course</i>		
ENGL 101	Composition and Reading ¹	3
<i>Computational and Quantitative Skills Courses</i>		
Select one of the following:		3-4
MATH 102	Quantitative Reasoning ²	
MATH 103	Elementary Statistics ^{2,4}	
MATH 104	College Mathematics with Applications ²	
MATH 111	College Algebra I ²	
General Education Requirements ³		
<i>Humanities and the Arts Courses</i>		
Select four courses from three different departments ^{4,5}		3-6
<i>Social and Behavioral Sciences Courses</i>		

Select four courses from three different departments ^{4,6}		9-12
<i>Natural Sciences Courses</i>		
Select four courses from three different departments ^{3,7}		3-12
Ethnic Diversity Course		
Select one course that carries "DV" credit ^{4,8}		0-3
Program Core Requirements		
<i>Communication</i>		
COMM 105	Public Speaking for the 21st Century ^{4,5}	3
<i>Citizenship</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
POLS 100	American Politics ^{4,6}	
POLS 105	Introduction to Politics ^{4,6}	
PHIL 215	Contemporary Moral Problems ^{4,5}	
<i>Cultural Awareness</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
ANTH 200	Cultural Anthropology ^{4,6}	
ART 124	Lowriders, Kicks, and Graffiti ^{4,5,8}	
GEOG 105	Contemporary Human Geography ^{4,6}	
PHYS 120	Astronomy of Native America ^{4,7,8}	
THEA 208	Multicultural Theatre in America ^{4,5,8}	
Program Fundamental Skills		
<i>Analytical Skills</i>		
Select one of the following:		3-4
ANTH 300	Topics in Data Collection and Analysis:	
CRMJ 200	Criminal Justice Research Methods	
HIST 250	Sources and Methods in History	
PHIL 275	Techniques of Philosophical Research	
POLS 200	Research Methods and Sources	
QM 210	Business Statistics I	
SOCA 250	Statistics for the Social Sciences	
<i>Global Literacy</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
ART 125	Survey of World Art ^{4,5}	
GEOG 110	Introduction to Geography: World Regions ^{4,6}	
INTS 100	Introduction to International Studies ^{4,6}	
POLS 104	Introduction to International Relations ^{4,6}	
Program Advanced Professional Skills		
<i>Required Ethics Course</i>		
PHIL 206	Introduction to Ethics ^{4,5}	3
<i>Private or Public Sector Option</i>		
Select one course from Private or Public Sector Options:		3
<i>Private Sector Option</i>		
BUS 100	Introduction to Business ^{4,6}	
ECON 101	The American Economy ^{4,6}	
ECON 121	Principles of Macroeconomics ^{4,6}	
ECON 120	Principles of Microeconomics ^{4,6}	
<i>Public Sector Option</i>		
CBL 101	Introduction to Community Engagement ^{4,6}	
ENVS 101	Introduction to Environmental Studies ^{4,7}	
GEOG 100	Physical Geography and the Environment ^{4,7}	
POLS 202	Public Policy	
SOCA 101	Introduction to Sociology ^{4,6}	

SOCA 206	Race and Ethnic Relations in the U.S. ^{4,6,8}	
Electives		
In consultation with advisor, select other courses as needed to reach a total of at least 60 credits.		18
Total Credits		60-80

¹ This course fulfills the university writing skills requirements.

² This course fulfills the university computational skills requirements.

³ There are 36 credits required for general education but, after taking required courses for the program, a range of 30 credits will be needed depending on the program elective choices.

⁴ These courses count toward general education requirements for UW-Parkside.

Check the course schedule and work with your advisor to find courses that fulfill your general education and/or ethnic diversity requirements.

⁵ Required courses PHIL 206 Introduction to Ethics and COMM 105 Public Speaking for the 21st Century fulfill part of this requirement. Program elective courses may also fulfill part of this requirement (ART 124 Lowriders, Kicks, and Graffiti; ART 125 Survey of World Art; PHIL 215 Contemporary Moral Problems, and THEA 208 Multicultural Theatre in America).

⁶ Program elective courses may fulfill part of this requirement (i.e. POLS 100 American Politics, POLS 105 Introduction to Politics; BUS 100 Introduction to Business; SOCA 206 Race and Ethnic Relations in the U.S.; ANTH 200 Cultural Anthropology; GEOG 105 Contemporary Human Geography; INTS 100 Introduction to International Studies; GEOG 110 Introduction to Geography: World Regions; POLS 104 Introduction to International Relations; ECON 101 The American Economy; ECON 120 Principles of Microeconomics; ECON 121 Principles of Macroeconomics; CBL 101 Introduction to Community Engagement; SOCA 101 Introduction to Sociology; SOCA 206 Race and Ethnic Relations in the U.S.).

⁷ Program elective courses may fulfill part of this requirement (i.e. ENVS 101 Introduction to Environmental Studies; GEOG 100 Physical Geography and the Environment; PHYS 120 Astronomy of Native America).

⁸ A program elective course may also be used to satisfy this requirement (ART 124 Lowriders, Kicks, and Graffiti; PHYS 120: Astronomy of Native America; THEA 208 Multicultural Theatre in America; and SOCA 206 Race and Ethnic Relations in the U.S.).

How credits count:

Courses can count for multiple requirements such as a program requirement and a general education requirement but, the credits only count once. Therefore, depending on how many courses are chosen that fulfill both program and general education requirements, students may be required to take additional elective courses (from those not already taken in areas above) to reach the required minimum of 60 credits for an associate degree.

Depth, two-course sequence requirement:

The University of Wisconsin system has a requirement that each associate degree program must contain at least one two-course sequence in which the first course provides the foundation for the second course. While there may be multiples in this program the sequence of PHIL 206 Introduction to Ethics, and a Private or Public Sector course fulfill the requirement.