Gordon T. & Ellen West
College of Education

Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) Program
What is a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) Degree?

The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) Degree is an Adult Completion Degree. It is a fully accredited four-year degree designed to offer students with previous college hours, and other types of learning "outside" of the classroom, the opportunity to earn a baccalaureate degree.
As an Adult Completion Degree, the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) Degree at Midwestern State University offers adult learners the opportunity to complete their undergraduate degree through an expeditious and direct pathway. The multidisciplinary approach of the BAAS degree builds on the adult learner's background and experiences, and allows flexibility and personalization in selecting courses which matches academic, career, and personal goals.
Who is the Ideal (BAAS) Candidate?

- Individuals who have taken vocational or technical education courses, such as EMT, HVAC, and CNA at community colleges
- Working adults with some educational background and experience
- Current and former military members
- Law enforcement personnel
- Individuals with a large number of college hours and no degree
What are the Components of the BAAS Degree?

- Occupational Specialty (24-39 hours)
  - Computer science completion or proficiency (3 hrs)
- Core Curriculum (42 hours)
- Professional Development (36 advanced hours)

A total of 120 hours needed to complete the BAAS degree.
## Midwestern State University Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) Degree Plan

### Last Name: First Name: Middle Name: ID#: M

| Home Address: | Initial Degree Plan: |
| City: | State: Zip: | Expected Graduation: |
| Cell: | Home Phone: | Final Degree Plan: |
| County: | Email Address: | Catalog Used: 2019-2020 |

To be eligible for the BAAS Program, prospective students must have 24 hours of vocational/technical or elective credit.

This area is comprised of vocational/technical/elective hours, military hours, work credits, and any additional hours necessary to meet the degree requirement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupational Specialty: 24-39 hrs</th>
<th>Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

This area is comprised of selected courses in student's concentration. Courses selected will be advanced (jr/sr) level courses and numbered 3000-4000.

### GENERAL STUDIES CONCENTRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Development 36 hrs</th>
<th>BAAS 4113 Capstone (last semester)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub Total 39

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL DEGREE PLAN HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PENDING EVALUATION BY REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORE COMPLETED (CC)</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Important Notes to Students:

- **120 hours to complete the BAAS degree**
- **30 hours to be completed with Midwestern State University**
- **69 hours is the transfer limit from a 2-year college**
- **Writing Proficiency Requirement (WPR) satisfied between 60-90 hours**
- **No more than 15 business hours from MSU; 30 hours total**
- **Apply for graduation two semesters prior to projected date**
- **Must have cumulative 2.0 GPA to graduate**
- **The Graduation Audit supersedes the BAAS Degree Plan**

I have reviewed my degree plan. I understand the degree plan is not an official record of all of my work completed, and the degree plan does not supersede catalog requirements for which I am fully responsible.

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**Student Signature**

**Academic Advisor Signature**

**Director Signature**
The Occupational Specialty block of the degree plan is where applicable nontraditional credit hours, military hours, work experience, vocational/technical hours, and TCOLE hours are applied.

Elective hours earned from a community college or another university may also fall under Occupational Specialty.
The Core Curriculum is the academic foundation required of all university students seeking a bachelor’s degree.

The Core Curriculum at Midwestern State University consists of the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>6 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life/Physical Sciences</td>
<td>6 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language, Philosophy, and Culture</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American History</td>
<td>6 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>6 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social/Behavioral Science</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural and Global Understanding</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Inquiry</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 hours of Computer Science - Although not part of the core curriculum students must complete 3 hrs of computer science through a course or proficiency exam.
The Professional Development area of the degree plan is comprised of 36 hours of junior and senior-level course work.

The BAAS 4113, Capstone Project is a course requirement of all BAAS students. Students enroll into this course their last, or next to last, semester.

Concentrations under the Professional Development area:
- Adult Education
- Childcare and Adolescent Studies
- Criminal Justice
- General Studies
- Healthcare Administration
- Human Resource Development
- Human Services
- Liberal Arts
- Technology
Adult Education:

- Gateway program
- Provides background to serve an organization in the area of training and development for adults
- Coursework combines strategies in adult learning, instructional system designs
- Integration of technology into the training and development process
- Graduate would be prepared for a career in training and development for the military, civil service, business, or industry
Childhood/Adolescent Studies:

- Prepares individuals to work with children and adolescents in career environments related to youth related social service careers, health care, athletics, and other community & educational settings.
- Interdisciplinary approach allows the student to learn about the unique perspectives of children and adolescents.
- Courses focused on the developmental and cognitive stages of childhood and adolescence.
Criminal Justice Concentration

Criminal Justice:

- Provides students background to pursue employment options in the criminal justice career field, federal, state, and local law enforcement, institutional and community-based corrections, and criminal investigations.
- Combination of law enforcement, political science, psychology, sociology, and social work courses
- Prepares those already working in the field for career advancement
General Studies Concentration

General Studies:

- Multi-interdisciplinary approach
- Students design their own course of study by selecting subject areas of choice
- Students are able to pursue a particular intellectual or personal interest, or complete courses as professional development, which may be employment related
- Employment may be found in both the private and public sectors of the workforce, or students may elect to continue on to graduate and professional studies.
Healthcare Administration:

- Designed for students or healthcare professionals
  - Who have an accredited associate’s degree, certificate, or hours from a vocational technical program, medical or healthcare services program
  - Currently working in the healthcare or medical field
- Provides entry level access for those interested in the healthcare or medical professions, and those continuing professionals in various healthcare and medical professions \textit{not requiring} professional certification, registration, or licensure.
Human Resource Development:

- Prepares individuals to work towards improving the performance of workers within industry or governmental sector
- Multi-disciplinary coursework combines strategies in counseling, adult learning, and the integration of technology into the training and development process
- Graduate would be prepared for a career in training and development within almost any industry
- Those currently in the field will acquire the foundation to further advance knowledge and skills in roles as managers and trainers within their organization’s employee assistance, training, or employee development programs
Human Services Concentration:

- Prepares individuals to meet human needs through an interdisciplinary knowledge base
- Focuses on prevention, remediation of problems
- Graduates will help improve the overall quality of life of the serviced populations
- Multi-disciplinary coursework combines a general foundation of human services theory, work application, and academic coursework for students at entry level or those currently working in social services, governmental agencies, institutional and community-based corrections, child welfare systems, and nonprofit and health service agencies
Liberal Arts Concentration:

- Gateway program that provides students with the critical thinking tools for a lifetime of learning and career achievement
- Designed to fulfill the needs of students who wish to prepare for the challenges of today’s world by acquiring the skills and tools provided by a broadly based liberal arts education
- Equips students with that broad base of knowledge in the liberal arts and provides communication and language skills necessary for success in the marketplace and in life
Technology Concentration:

- Provides students with the technology tools for a lifetime of learning and career achievement
- Designed to fulfill the needs of students who wish to prepare for the challenges of today’s world by acquiring the skills and tools provided by a broadly based technology education
- Equips students with that broad base of knowledge in technology and to provide them with the communication and language skills necessary for success in the marketplace and in life
What else do I need to know?

- At least 24 vocational, technical, elective, or employment-related hours to qualify for the BAAS program.

- Being eligible for the BAAS program does not mean automatic acceptance into Midwestern State University. You must meet all university admission requirements.

- There is no formal major or minor associated with the BAAS degree. The only minor available to BAAS students is a business minor (College of Business), for those students who meet certain criteria and approval.

- Please note that no more than 15 business hours from MSU and no more than 30 total business hours can be applied to a degree plan, unless working on the business minor.
In addition to the core curriculum, Occupational Specialty, and Professional Development course work, 3 hours of Computer Science is required of BAAS students.

30 hours must be completed at Midwestern State University to meet the residency requirement.

No more than 69 hours from a 2-year college can be applied to your degree plan.

All Midwestern State University students must satisfy the Writing Proficiency Requirement (WPR) to graduate. This is a pass/fail essay writing exam. Students may elect to take (ENGL 2113) in lieu of the exam.
What are my next steps?

- **Step 1**: Send copies of all transcripts (can be unofficial) and other documents which might be applicable for a BAAS degree plan evaluation [baas@msutexas.edu](mailto:baas@msutexas.edu).

- **Step 2**: Contact a BAAS academic counselor to discuss the degree plan evaluation in detail and address any questions or concerns.

- **Step 3**: Apply to Midwestern State University (College of Education)
  
  [https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX](https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX)
The degree can be completed online

Flexible degree plans centered around your personal, academic, and professional goals

The ability to utilize unique credit types (vocational/technical, TCOLE, military, etc.), which saves time to degree completion and money

A BAAS degree may help you to earn a promotion, begin a new career path, or accelerate towards applying to a graduate or professional program
Midwestern State University
Gordon T. and Ellen West College of Education

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Student Assistant

BAAS@
MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Midwestern State University

To all persons be it known that

John Doe

having completed the prescribed studies and satisfied the requirements for the degree

Your Diploma

has accordingly been admitted to that degree with all the rights, privileges and immunities thereto appertaining.

Midwestern State University
A journey completed!

A few of our December 2019 BAAS Graduates
A journey completed!

A few of our May 2019 BAAS Graduates
A journey completed!

A few of our December 2018 BAAS Graduates
MSU’s Fountain of “Life-Long Learning”
The only thing missing at MS is “U”!
You will “fall” for MSU
Always Beautiful!
What’s keeping you from picking up your cap and tassel!