ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAMS

BACHELOR’S DEGREE

Bachelor’s Degrees, either a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS), are conferred by Kennesaw State University at the completion of a formal course of study consisting of at least 120 undergraduate semester credit hours.

The curriculum structure of the bachelor’s degree at Kennesaw State University is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curriculum Requirements</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education Core Curriculum (Areas A-E)</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area F</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Hours</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>120</strong>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Exceptions to the maximum degree length requirements have been made with the approval of the Board of Regents for specific majors. [A list of programs currently approved for total credit hour exceptions is in the Appendix](#) and available online.

A Baccalaureate Degree Program Requires:

- Students take at least 21 semester hours of upper-division courses in the major field.
- Students take at least 39 semester hours of upper-division work overall.
- Students meet the State Legislative Requirements. Undergraduate students cannot graduate or receive a degree without successfully completing course work or passing a satisfactory examination on the history of the United States and the history of Georgia and the provisions and principles of the United States and the Constitution of Georgia. HIST 2112 or HIST 2111 with a grade of "D" or better satisfies legislative requirements for US & GA History provided an emphasis in US and GA content is evident; POLS 1101 with a grade of "D" or better satisfied US & GA Constitution provided an emphasis in US and GA government content is evident. An exemption exam is required for students with transfer credit that do not meet the aforementioned standards.
**MASTER’S DEGREE**

Master’s degrees, either a Master of Arts (MA) or a Master of Science (MS), are conferred upon the completion of a formal program of study between 30 and 36 credit hours beyond the bachelor’s degree level. A master’s degree may not exceed 36 hours unless approved by the University System of Georgia. At Kennesaw State University, master level graduate courses are numbered 5000-7999.

**EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST DEGREE**

Educational Specialist degrees (EdS) are conferred degree after the student completes between 27 to 36 hours at the post-master’s degree level. This is a self-contained degree program for education students.

**DOCTORAL DEGREES**

Doctor of Education (EdD) degrees are conferred upon the completion of a practice-based program of study focused on educational research.

Doctoral Degrees (PhD) are conferred upon the completion of a formal course of study consisting of at least 60 graduate semester credit hours beyond the master's level. Some doctorate programs have additional requirements, such as a dissertation and/or a foreign language competency.

**SECONDARY ACADEMIC PROGRAM CHOICES**

**MINOR**

A minor is a prescribed area of academic study consisting of 15-18 semester hours. A minor is a secondary academic discipline in addition to a major, and they may offer a specialization that compliments a student’s major or interests. Minors are detailed in section six.

**CONCENTRATION**

Majors may have concentrations (required or optional), which are an approved set of courses that upon completion indicate an in-depth knowledge of an area of the major. Concentrations are recognized on a student’s transcript. Concentration coursework must lie outside the 21 required upper-division major field hours.

**TRACK**

A track is a subset of courses in a program, and it does not appear on a student’s transcript. Tracks cannot be larger than the program’s major field. A track does not count toward the
major field requirements unless all students take the same track or subset of courses. All tracks must share the 21 required upper-division major field hours.

**CERTIFICATE**

Kennesaw State University offers a variety of certificate programs. Students admitted to a degree program may be awarded a related certificate based on completion of the courses in the certificate program provided they also apply for the certificate. While some certificates are part of a program, others are not associated with degrees, but are stand-alone prescribed programs of study. For more information, see this guide’s section on Certificate Definitions.

**ENDORSEMENT**

Endorsements are for education students and are assessed and awarded by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. Endorsements may be issued in specific areas to recognize additional expertise or may be required in order to be considered in-field in a designated area. Some endorsements authorize the educator to work in the designated area only at the grade level and subject matter of the base certificate while other endorsements authorize work in all subjects at specific grade levels.