

# THE BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM

A FLEXIBLE DEGREE PROGRAM DESIGNED WITH YOU IN MIND

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DAY, EVENING, WEEKEND, AND ONLINE

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UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
DIVISION of CONTINUING  
& INTERNATIONAL  
EDUCATION



[www.miami.edu/bgsdegree](http://www.miami.edu/bgsdegree)



*The BGS program at the University of Miami changed my life and taught me that, no matter who you are, you can succeed and conquer your dreams.”*

MS. LUISA KIM,  
BGS GRADUATE, CLASS OF 2014

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### What is the Bachelor of General Studies program?

While a bachelor’s degree can add significant value to a resume, it isn’t always easy for working professionals—especially those with families—to earn one. The University of Miami’s Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) program provides a solution with a customizable, degree program that allows adult students to complete their education on their own terms and their own schedule.

Instead of learning within the confines of a traditional college major, BGS students choose an area of concentration, which allows them to map out their own course of study based on personal preferences, current occupations, and future career goals. The program’s flexible design encourages creative thought and critical analysis and exposes students to a variety of social and scientific issues—the basis for a well-rounded education. The option to enroll in a blend of daytime, evening, weekend, and online classes ensures that students can create a course schedule that fits their agenda and satisfies their personal and professional aspirations.

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### How does the BGS program differ from other bachelor degree programs?

BGS students have the unique opportunity to select upper level coursework from numerous University of Miami departments and even blend curriculum from distinct departments to create an individualized area of concentration.

This custom-designed course schedule provides broad exposure to multiple disciplines and furthers personal growth and professional development.



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## How will I benefit from a University of Miami education and specifically BGS?

The BGS program allows students to enhance their career skills and acquire valuable knowledge as opposed to devoting time to prerequisites and mandatory courses. With total flexibility—and expert instructors to guide them along the way—students can design a course curriculum perfectly suited to both their academic needs and their personal schedules. Between classes, BGS students have access to all of the student facilities on the University of Miami’s Coral Gables campus. UM’s resources include a large alumni network and a top-notch career center, which can help BGS graduates enhance their resumes and cover letters, connect with local businesses, and explore various career paths and avenues for opportunity.

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## Is the program right for me?

The BGS program is an ideal choice for:

- » Adults with families or full-time jobs who require flexible college coursework.
- » Adults who started college earlier in life but were unable to complete a degree at that time.
- » Professionals who earned an associate’s degree but would like to augment their education, enhance their resumes, and increase their potential with a bachelor’s degree.

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## Do students choose a major?

Rather than choosing a major, BGS students select an area of concentration. This allows them to focus on obtaining the knowledge and skills needed for their specific line of work instead of spending time and resources on core classes.



*This school is really amazing. It’s changed my life in so many ways, in terms of instilling the kind of confidence and motivation that I needed to pursue my academic career.”*

— KEVIN BROOKS, CLASS OF 2013



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## How long does it take to complete a BGS degree?

The duration of the program depends on the number of credits a student has earned upon entering the program. A minimum 120 credits are needed to earn the degree, and the last 45 credits must be earned in the BGS program. Students who have completed an associate’s degree or enroll with 60 or more transferrable credits typically earn their Bachelor of General Studies degree in 2 to 3 years.

BGS advisors provide one-on-one coursework selection support to ensure that students earn their credits in an efficient manner and in a timeframe that won’t interfere with professional or family obligations.

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## How can BGS work with my schedule?

The University of Miami appreciates that Bachelor of General Studies students have children, families, obligations and part-time or full-time jobs outside of their classes, which is precisely why the BGS program was designed to provide some much-needed flexibility. Depending on preference and availability, students may select courses from day, evening and weekend schedules; students can even elect to take courses online and complete their coursework from home. For working adults, the non-traditional Saturday Bachelor of General Studies program allows students to earn their degree solely through Saturday classes, leaving weeknights and lunch hours free. BGS students complete their degree at their own pace and consult with advisors to determine a feasible workload and realistic class schedule.

Of course, the most flexible component of the BGS program is the opportunity to design a unique area of concentration: a one-of-a-kind course of study that piques their interest and advances their personal and professional goals.



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## Questions?

Contact the BGS office at (305) 284-4000. Our academic advisers can answer any questions you may have regarding the program or application process. Likewise, we will gladly schedule an advising appointment to discuss your educational and professional goals.

## Start Your Application

To begin the application process for the Bachelor of General Studies program, schedule an advising appointment with the BGS program office and then submit the application and \$75 nonrefundable application fee online.

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## Contact Us

### University of Miami

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