Department of

General Studies & University Studies

For more information on either the associate degrees or the bachelor of university studies, go to the Career & Academic Advising Center, Kimball 250, or call (208) 496-1167.

General Studies Courses
Courses listed under General Studies include developmental courses, studies skills, leadership, service learning, college success, and career decision making. They are open to all students as elective credit.

Students can enroll in the Study Skills modules (GS 103A-F and GS 103J) by going to the Study Skills Center (Mck 266). The Study Skills modules can be taken on a credit or non-credit basis. Students can enroll in one module at a time and are limited to two modules per block. No student will be allowed to enroll in a module after the 12th week of the semester. Students may not register for the same module twice in one semester.

UNIVERSITY STUDIES IS BY APPLICATION ONLY

University Studies is a non-specialty degree program designed to meet the needs of students who are interested in a broad based education. This degree allows a student to design their own program. Program requirements consist of general and university requirements, two minors and one cluster, or one minor and two clusters. A cluster consists of 12-15 credits of one or more disciplines. (A discipline is a subject such as math, or English, etc.)

This degree is not designed to prepare students to compete in the job market in specific areas such as business or accounting. University Studies is a degree program generally not intended for transfer; however, some graduate schools will admit students with this degree. Students who plan to attend graduate school should verify this fact before pursuing a University Studies degree.

Important Note: Students should carefully evaluate their career goals and consult with an advisor before selecting this major. This major is not recommended for freshmen or sophomores. Students must meet with an advisor in the Career & Academic Advising Center (CAC), Kimball 250 to complete a contract which must be approved by the Director of Career & Academic Advising at BYU-Idaho.

Associate Degree
Students who desire to transfer to another university after two years may graduate with an Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree with a major in General Studies.

Bachelor in University Studies
Students who desire to tailor their own program can graduate with the Bachelor of Science in University Studies or the Bachelor of Arts in University Studies. The university studies degrees requires the completion of general education and university requirements, a minor and two clusters, or two minors and a cluster, at least 120 credit hours of which 30 must be upper division and 30 must be taken in residence. The last 15 credits must be taken in residence at BYU-Idaho.
Course Descriptions | Credits*
--- | ---
**GS 100 Career Exploration** | (1:2:0)
Fee: $20.00
Designed to aid in making a decision concerning a career or a major. In-depth aptitude tests are given to help students identify strengths concerning majors and careers.

**GS 101 Principles of Personal Achievement** | (2:2:0)
The capacity to determine one's success in college, and life, begins from within, from the way we see the world we live in and the attitudes we use to approach it. This course examines life from a principle's and perspective's viewpoint, then encourages an application using the many resources available across campus. The intent is to focus on principles that produce success in college and beyond.

**GS 102 Study Skills** | (1:2:0)
This class is designed to help students improve their learning effectiveness, attitudes and motivation. Time management, memorization methods, note taking skills, textbook study methods, test taking strategies, and critical thinking are all part of the curriculum. It also provides an orientation to services and resources available to students on campus.

**GS 103A Concentration and Memorization** | (0.5:0:0)
This is a self-directed learning experience where students will learn methods of improving their concentration. This is done by students evaluating their plans of study and teaching helpful strategies. Various memorization methods are also taught which the students will then apply to their class work.

**GS 103B Note Taking and Listening** | (0.5:0:0)
This is a self-directed learning experience where students are taught how to be an effective listener and are then taught how to decrease distractions, and how to recognize lecture organizational patterns. Different note taking formats are also introduced. The students will apply these note taking methods to their present classes.

**GS 103C Thinking Skills** | (0.5:0:0)
This is a self-directed learning experience wherein analytical reasoning skills are applied to problems, i.e.: verbal reasoning, analogies, trends and patterns, and mathematical word problems. The application of these skills is determined by the needs of the student at various times in their lives.

**GS 103D Text Book Study Methods** | (0.5:0:0)
This is a self-directed learning experience wherein students are taught how to analyze their text books and study them more effectively. The SQ 3R (Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Review) method of studying text book will be taught. The students will then have the opportunity to try out this method in one of their own classes.

**GS 103E Time Management** | (0.5:0:0)
This is a self directed learning experience where the students are taught the importance of effective time management. The students will discover how to set short-term and long-term goals. They will be taught how to manage their time by making semester, weekly, and daily charts and schedules wherein priorities are set and carried out.

**GS 103F Test Taking Skills** | (0.5:0:0)
This is a self-directed learning experience where the students learn what their own learning style is and are taught different methods of preparing for tests according to these styles. They will also be taught various test taking hints for multiple choice, true-false, and essay type tests. A four-day test preparation method will be taught and applied to exams in their own classes.

**GS 103J Studying Chemistry** | (0.5:0:0)
Students will learn strategies for studying chemistry in this module. Among the topics covered will be: how to prepare for tests, taking effective notes, retaining information read in their text books, and solving generic chemistry problems.

**GS 104 Pre-Campus Orientation** | (1:0:0)
An online course dedicated to helping new students succeed. No matter how well you performed in high school, this course will present new and different academic challenges and opportunities for learning and growth.

**GS 105** | (2:2:0)
This class is designed to be an experiential class where students will learn various study methods and be given the opportunity to apply them. They will learn about campus resources which can help them. They will also learn what their learning style is and study strategies which apply to their style. Students will review their attitudes toward learning and, hopefully, will develop better ones.

**GS 108A Tutor Training-General** | (1-3:0:0)
Tutor training to meet student needs and national certification. Training in establishing rapport, assessing needs, teaching study habits, helping students accept responsibility.

**GS 108B Tutor Training-Reading** | (1-3:0:0)
Tutor training to meet student needs and national certification. Training in establishing rapport, assessing needs, teaching study habits, helping students accept responsibility.

**GS 108C Tutor Training-Writing** | (1-3:0:0)
Tutor training to meet student needs and national certification. Training in establishing rapport, assessing needs, teaching study habits, helping students accept responsibility.

---

* Credit Description (Credit Hours : Lecture Hours per week : Lab Hours per week)
GS 108D Tutor Training-Math (1-3:0:0)
Tutor training to meet student needs and national certification. Training in establishing rapport, assessing needs, teaching study habits, helping students accept responsibility.

GS 108E Tutor Training-Study Skills (1-3:0:0)
Tutor training to meet student needs and national certification. Training in establishing rapport, assessing needs, teaching study habits, helping students accept responsibility.

GS 109A Tutor Training-Advanced (1:1:0)
Prerequisite: GS 108A
Advanced tutor training to meet student needs and national certification training in collaborative learning, learning strategies, structuring the learning experience and tutoring in specific subject areas.

GS 210 Leadership For Life (1-3:3:1)
Students will learn the principles and skills of effective leadership and service. Christ’s example and the Gospel will be the fundamental foundation on which this course is built. The knowledge and experience gained may be used in various responsibilities throughout life such as in the family, Church, workplace, or community. Planning and carrying out a significant service activity will be an important component of this course. This course is open to all students (limited enrollment).

GS 220 Leadership Practicum (3:3:1)
Study and practice leadership principles that Jesus Christ demonstrated in His perfect leadership. “We will find it very difficult to be significant leaders unless we recognize the reality of the perfect leader, Jesus Christ!” (Jesus: The Perfect Leader, by Spencer W. Kimball, Ensign, August 1979, p.7). “Membership in the Church is a call to leadership.” (The Teachings of Spencer W. Kimball, p. 322). “Effective teaching is the very essence of leadership in the Church” (President Gordon B. Hinckley, Improving Gospel Teaching, p. 1). This class is about “students leading students” by “students teaching students” to know and understand the doctrines and principles of the gospel. (Will fill the student on-line, internet requirement.)

GS 220B Advanced Leadership Practicum (3:3:1)
Prerequisite: GS 220, Leadership Practicum and instructor’s approval.
Three principles are studied and practiced in this class. (1) Effective teaching is the very essence of leadership in the Church (President Gordon B. Hinckley, Improving Gospel Teaching, p.1) (Elder Dallin H. Oaks). (2) The Apartment/Home is a place of teaching and learning. (3) True Doctrine, understood, changes behavior (Pres. Boyd K. Packer). This class will lead, teach, and mentor the Leadership Practicum students.

GS 290A LSI Leadership (1-3:1:0)
Designed to train LSI Student Leaders in principles of leadership and service. This course will emphasize important knowledge and skills necessary to conduct leadership training and community service at BYU-Idaho and throughout life. Learning will be accomplished through instruction, discussion, application, and reflection.

GS 290B APT Leadership (1:1:0)
Designed to train LSI Student Leaders in principles of leadership and service. This course will emphasize important knowledge and skills necessary to conduct leadership training and community service at BYU-Idaho and throughout life. Learning will be accomplished through instruction, discussion, application, and reflection.

GS 290C Student Leader (1-2:0:0)
Designed to train LSI Student Leaders in principles of leadership and service. This course will emphasize important knowledge and skills necessary to conduct leadership training and community service at BYU-Idaho and throughout life. Learning will be accomplished through instruction, discussion, application, and reflection.

GS 290D Service-Learning Practicum (1:0:0)
Upon the recommendation of a faculty member or in conjunction with a person’s coursework, a student may earn one credit by serving 30-35 hours at an agency or service site, attending 2-3 reflection sessions, and writing four, one-page papers that connects their service experience with their coursework. The credit is repeatable and grading is on a pass/fail basis. Interested students may learn more by contacting Doug Ladle, Faculty Coordinator of Service-Learning, Taylor 202A.