

Special Studies

The following is a list of special study opportunities at Quincy University.

Business Certificate Program

In response to the dynamics of today's market place, and to increase options for students in program selection, Quincy University offers a Business Certificate Program. Through this program a student completes requirements for one of the traditional liberal arts or sciences degrees and concurrently completes coursework in accounting, business, and economics. Both the degree and the certificate are indicated on the student's transcript. Students interested in the Business Certificate Program should see p. 57 for details.

Contract Major

For the student with special needs or study interests, the Contract Major provides a custom-designed curriculum. In consultation with faculty advisors and the Dean of Academic Support Services, a student may propose a program that combines the offerings of several programs in a pattern which fits the student's special interests, rather than the definitions of a standard curriculum. The general requirements for graduation remain effective, but major and elective sequences are described in a "contract" approved by the student, chair or dean, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs. This description may utilize courses from the regular curricula, along with private and independent study courses and CARE credits. Accredited courses may also be transferred from other colleges, and credit by examination is applicable, according to the regular rules for such transfers and applications. Contracts must conform to interdisciplinary major requirements of the University stated on p. 10.

Directed Studies

Credit may be earned for study projects designed by the student under the direction of a faculty advisor, provided that the design is approved by the appropriate Chair or Dean and that evidence that the design has been realized is provided, usually by presentation of an acceptable research paper and by passing an examination in the area of study. If the addition of such a course causes a student to exceed the ordinary hour-limit of a full-time student, or if it is taken outside the calendar of a regular semester, additional tuition will be charged. To be eligible for a directed studies course, a student must have completed 30 hours of collegiate-level coursework with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Normally, a student may not take more than two courses or six semester hours through directed studies.

Early Exploratory Internship Program

The Early Exploratory Internship Program is a unique Quincy University opportunity for students. Through a combination of state grant funds from the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program of the Board of Education, and the cooperation of businesses and agencies, students can gain pre-professional experience in fields of interest. The program is designed for first and second year students, and like the Field Experience in Education, offers students the chance to explore off-campus business and technical options related to their academic fields. The program allows students a maximum of fifteen hours per week paid employment. A Faculty Advisor coordinates the program, which is open to students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher by application. Students must be Illinois residents to participate. See p. 159 for courses. Students may take courses in the INT 180-480 sequence for credit. These courses are designed to make possible better career choices and greater dedication in the classroom as a consequence of an improved sense of direction.

Honors Program

The Honors Program provides an academically challenging course of study which adds an interdisciplinary dimension to a student's major field. Honors students and faculty pursue the University's mission to heighten students' educational experience, to prepare them for leadership, and to build relationships with faculty and each other. The Honors Program promotes academic excellence through critical thinking, original research, exceptional writing, and public presentation of scholarship. It creates a shared experience in an intellectual community and prepares students for a life of service and leadership.

Independent Study

Juniors or seniors who are seriously inconvenienced by the established schedule of curriculum offerings may study courses

outside the regular class schedule, provided a faculty member agrees to direct this study. The requirements and assignments of the regular syllabus for the course must be fulfilled to the satisfaction of the study director. If the course causes the student to exceed the 22 ordinary hour limit of a full-time student, or if it is taken outside the calendar of a regular semester, additional tuition will be charged. Students may not take more than four courses or twelve semester hours through independent study during their university career.

Study Abroad

Quincy University encourages qualified students to enrich their education with an international study experience. The Dean of Academic Support Services works with students to select international study programs that meet their interests. International study opportunities are available for all majors. Quincy University has developed several special relationships and opportunities for study abroad. Students who have studied abroad for one full semester will automatically be granted a GCCS (G:) designation, and will not need to take a Global Studies course to complete this requirement.

Minor

Although a student does not need a minor to graduate, a student may select a minor or secondary area of emphasis. The minor is worked out with the appropriate faculty or department and must contain at least 18 semester hours unique from the major courses, 12 of which must be at the 200-400 course level and 12 of which must be taken at Quincy University. A cumulative grade point average of 2.00 must be earned in the minor. Any approved minor is indicated on the student's transcript. Declaration of a minor should be filed with the Office of the Registrar no later than the end of the junior year (or before completion of 86 semester hours).

Practicum/Internship

These experiences may take a variety of forms but are designed to provide students with the opportunity to gain practical knowledge about their field of interest in a professional atmosphere. Typically these experiences involve observing and providing assistance to a practicing professional. The work is supervised and evaluated in conjunction with an on-campus coordinator and a designated individual in the agency, institution, or business organization providing the experience. Practicum experiences are normally performed on or in close proximity to the campus and usually are done on a part-time basis while the student is enrolled full time in coursework. One semester hour of academic credit is granted for each 50 hours of field experience.

Research

Many academic disciplines offer the opportunity to do work beyond the regular catalog offerings through special projects and research. Significant responsibility lies with the student to work independently to develop a proposal for study which must be approved by a faculty advisor and Chair or Dean. In general, research opportunities are only available for junior and seniors.

Summer School

The University offers a range of courses in several summer sessions. Graduate and undergraduate courses are offered and are designed for those who wish to accelerate their course of study, for teachers and other professionals who desire additional training, and for those who may desire to take advantage of the opportunity for cultural and educational advancement during the summer months. A complete schedule of courses offered during the summer session can be obtained from the Office of the Registrar or online at www.quincy.edu under Registrar.

Teacher Education Program

The University has a long tradition of preparing teachers for elementary and secondary schools. Students seeking certification at the elementary and secondary levels are immersed in the public and parochial school setting beginning with their pre-professional education courses. A professional development school model of instruction onsite in these settings allows prospective teacher candidates to work in K-12 classrooms throughout each semester and gives them the opportunity to observe, mentor, tutor, and provide both small- and large-group instruction in authentic settings. The rich school resources of the entire Quincy Area are available to students for field experience and student teaching assignments. Students seeking certification also have available on campus a reading center which offers excellent clinical experiences for

potential teachers. The University offers an Audio-Visual Center and an Instructional Media Center which provide extensive materials and resources.

Teacher candidates are evaluated at benchmarks throughout the teacher education program using outcome-based assessments of both academic and disposition performance. Satisfactory performance on these assessments ensures that all teacher candidates will meet Illinois State Certification Standards. Candidates in the School of Education may be removed from the program as a result of inappropriate disposition(s) at any point in their program.

Three-Year Degree Program

This program option suggests that a degree can be completed in three years by a student utilizing fast-track options such as escrow and Advanced Placement courses as well as CLEP exams. These in combination with heavier course loads, summer school, and proficiency exams can produce a degree in three years. Students interested in this option should contact their faculty advisor.