nongovernmental organizations studies, Italian, jazz studies,  Latin American studies, Portuguese, public history, rhetoric and writing and Spanish.

Programs leading to eligibility for certification in bilingual-bicultural education, middle level education and secondary special education are also available.

Professional preparation programs are offered in pre-dental, pre-law, premedical and pre-optometry.

**Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.)**

The B.F.A. degree is offered in the following areas:

•     Art (Studio) *with concentrations in*

•     Ceramics

•     Digital Media

•     Graphic Design

•     Metalsmithing and Jewelry

•     Painting

•     Photography

•     Printmaking

•     Sculpture

•     Art Education *with concentrations in*

•     Ceramics

•     Digital Media

•     Graphic Design

•     Metalsmithing and Jewelry

•     Painting

•     Photography

•     Printmaking

•     Sculpture

**Bachelor of Music (B.M.)**

The B.M. degree is offered in

• Music *with concentrations in*

• Music Education

• Performance

**Bachelor of Professional Students (B.P.S.)**

The B.P.S. adult degree completion program degree will be offered with the following concentrations:

     Organizational Leadership

     Social Services

 Strategic Communication

**Bachelor of Science (B.S.)**

The B.S. degree is offered in the following areas:

•     Accounting

•     Art Education

•     Behavioral Health Studies

•     Biology

•     Chemistry *with concentrations in*

•     Biological Chemistry

•     Environmental Chemistry

•     Professional Chemistry

•     Community and Public Health Promotion *with concentrations in*

•     Health and Aging

•     Public Health Promotion

•     Women’s Health

•     Computer Information Systems

•     Computer Science

•     Data Science

•     Early Childhood Education *with concentrations in*

•     Teaching

•     Community Programs

•     Birth to Three

•     Finance

•     Health Care Administration

•     Health Education

•     Health Sciences

•     Health Sciences *with concentrations in*

•     Dental Hygiene Completion

•     Human Services

•     Medical Laboratory Sciences

•     Respiratory Therapy Completion

•     Management *with concentrations in*

•     General Management

•     Human Resource Management

•     Operations Management

•     Marketing

•     Medical Imaging *with concentrations in*

•     Nuclear Medicine Technology

•     Radiologic Technology

•     Certified RT Computed Tomography

•     Certified Medical Imager Management

•     Certified RT Vascular Interventional Radiography

•     Diagnostic Medical Sonography

•     Physical Education

•     Physics

•     Special Education *with teaching concentrations in*

•     Elementary Special Education

•     Elementary Special Education and Severe Intellectual Disabilities

Bachelor of Professional Studies B.P.S.

Jenifer Giroux, Associate Vice President, Professional Studies and Continuing Education

**BPS Degree Liaisons:**

Jayashree Nimmagadda, Interim Dean, School of Social Work

Marianne Raimondo, Interim Dean, School of Business

TBD, Dean of Faculty of Arts and Sciences

**Program Director:  TBD**

Students are registered for courses designated specifically as BPS sections (listed with a B at the end of the prefix); other courses with approval of their advisor.

**General Information**

The Bachelor of Professional Studies (BPS) degree is an online adult degree completion program delivered primarily as a cohort-based model using a split semester plan (two eight-week sessions per semester). The program is limited to adults 25 years and older with a minimum of 24 earned college credits and a minimum of five years of full-time documented comprehensive work experience and/or military training.

The BPS is offered in three concentrations:  organizational leadership, social services, and strategic communication. Each concentration is designed to provide knowledge and skills required for career advancement, delivered in an efficient way to support working adults with considerable workplace experience. There is also an emphasis on diversity and ethics. Students in the cohort model will be registered for their courses each semester.

As part of their BPS program, students will also earn a designated Certificate of Undergraduate Studies (C.U.S.) within their concentration. In Social Services it is in Nonprofit Studies; in Organizational Leadership it is in Workplace Diversity; and in Strategic Communication it is in Conflict and Crisis. Students in the Strategic Communication concentration will also earn a Certificate in Conflict and Crisis Communication Communication.

The Bachelor of Professional Studies also includes a prior learning assessment (PLA) component, with the development of a PLA portfolio in BPS 100 Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Portfolio Development, a first course in the program, which also includes an orientation and onboarding to Rhode Island College.

Under the guidance their BPS 100 instructor, students will document and validate knowledge, skills and competencies earned outside the traditional classroom via workplace learning, employer or armed service-sponsored training, experiential learning, organization and industry certifications, on-the-job-training, professional development, microcredentials, digital badging, continuing education units, self-education, etc. Students will submit a completed portfolio at the end of the course. The portfolio will be evaluated by the instructor for the number of prior learning credits (PLA) to be awarded. The instructor may request an additional review by the BPS liaisons as needed. Students may earn up to 32 credits for prior learning documented in their portfolio.

Any student who decides to pursue a major other than the B.P.S. must then complete all requirements of that degree including the college’s standard General Education program. The Bachelor of Professional Studies is intended to be a first bachelor’s degree and may not be taken as a second degree program.

**Admission Requirements for the Bachelor of Professional Studies B.P.S. Program**

1. Program admission is restricted to adults 25 years and older at the time of application.

2. Minimum of five years of documented comprehensive work experience and/or military training.

3. 24 minimum earned college credits at the time of application (from a regionally accredited college or university).

4. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale in undergraduate course work.

**Retention Requirements**

A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale is required for the degree and graduation.

Bachelor of Professional Studies

CHOOSE Concentration A, B, or C below:

Course Requirements

A. Organizational Leadership

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BPS 460 | Seminar in Organizational Leadership | 4 | F, Sp |
| COMM 333 | Intercultural Communication | 4 | As needed |
| COMM 454 | Organizational Communication | 4 | Annually |
| ECON 200 | Introduction to Economics | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| MGT 201W | Foundations of Management | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| MGT 306 | Management of a Diverse Workforce | 4 | Fal |
| MGT 320 | Human Resource Management | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| MGT 322 | Organizational Behavior | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| MGT 341W | Business, Government, and Society | 4 | F, Sp, Su |

Subtotal: 36

B. Social Services

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BPS 461 | Seminar in Social Services | 4 | F, Sp |
| COMM 333 | Intercultural Communication | 4 | As needed |
| HPE 410 | Managing Stress and Mental/Emotional Health | 3 | F, Sp |
| NPST 300 | Institute in Nonprofit Studies | 4 | F |
| NPST 301 | Financial Management for Nonprofits | 3 | Sp |
| NPST 402 | Staff and Volunteer Management for Nonprofits | 3 | F |
| NPST 404 | Communications and Resource Development for Nonprofits | 3 | Sp |
| SWRK 325 | Diversity and Oppression II | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| SWRK 326W | Generalist Social Work Practice | 4 | F, Sp |
| SPED 461/SPED 561 | Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorders | 3 | F |

Subtotal: 35

C. Strategic Communication

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BPS 462 | Seminar in Strategic Communication | 4 | Sp |
| COMM 208 | Public Presentations | 4 | F, Sp |
| COMM 256 | Human Communication and New Technology | 4 | Sp |
| COMM 312W | Advanced Writing for Strategic Communication | 4 | Sp |
| COMM 328 | Case Studies in Public Relations | 4 | F |
|  |  |  |  |
| COMM 351 | Persuasion | 4 | F, Sp |
|  | -Or- |  |  |
| COMM 357 | Public Opinion and Propaganda | 4 | F, Su |
|  |  |  |  |
| COMM 352 | Conflict Resolution | 4 | Annually |
| COMM 439 | Crisis Communication | 4 | F |
| COMM 454 | Organizational Communication | 4 | Annually |

Subtotal: 36

General Education Requirements

The college has a 40-credit General Education program which is required for all undergraduate programs. The Bachelor of Professional Studies is the only degree program with an approved alternate general education program. It includes several courses BPS students may have completed in prior college work and will not need to repeat. Other courses have been selected that will satisfy General Education outcomes as well as program requirements in both concentrations.

Introduction to BPS

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BPS 100 | Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Portfolio Development | 1 | F, Sp, Su |

Subtotal: 1

Professional Writing

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FYW 100 | Introduction to Academic Writing | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
|  |   |  |  |
|  | -And- |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |
| ENGL 230W | Workplace Writing | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
|  | -Or- |  |  |
| ENGL 231W | Multimodal Writing | 4 | As needed |
|  | -Or- |  |  |
| ENGL 232W | Public and Community Writing | 4 | As needed |
|  -Or- |
| Any 200-level or higher writing course (WID) related to the specific BPS concentration |

Subtotal: 8

Quantitative Skills

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MATH 139 | Contemporary Topics in Mathematics | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| Or |

Subtotal: 4

Arts and Humanities

PHIL 206 plus one 100-level or higher course in art, dance, film, English (literature), history, modern languages, music or theatre.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PHIL 206 | Ethics | 3 | F, Sp, Su |

Subtotal: 6-7

Science/AQSR

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PSCI 250 | Topic: Science as a Way of Knowing | 4 | As needed |
| Or any science course from BIOL, CHEM, PSCI, or PHYS |

Subtotal: 4

Social & Behavioral Sciences

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SOC 208 | The Sociology of Race and Ethnicity | 4 | F, Sp, Su |
| SOC 306 | Work and Organizations | 4 | As needed |

Subtotal: 8

NOTE: For an additional course towards the remaining general education credits, students in Organizational Leadership may count ECON 200, students in Social Sciences may count SWRK 325, and students in Strategic Communication may count COMM 256. This leaves 4-5 additional credits to fulfill the BPS general education requirement. Prior earned college credit will be evaluated to determine which (if any) of the above or those additional credits 4-5 credits may be counted. If not, the student will have to take one to two additional Gen Eds prior to graduation.

***Certificate of Undergraduate Studies Section – New page to be inserted between “College and Career Attainment” CUS and “Early Childhood Birth-Three CUS”***

Conflict and crisis communication C.U.S.

Admission Requirements

The certificate in Conflict and Crisis Communication is embedded into the requirements for the Bachelor of Professional Studies degree with a concentration in strategic communication. However, it is also open to any undergraduate student at Rhode Island College.

Completion Requirement

A 2.0 GPA in the program is required.

Course Requirements

Courses

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| COMM 208 | Public Presentation | 4 | F, Sp |
|  |  |  |  |
| COMM 351 | Persuasion | 4 | F, Sp |
|  | -Or- |  |  |
| COMM 357 | Public Opinion and Propaganda | 4 | F, Su |
|  |  |  |  |
| COMM 352 | Conflict Resolution | 4 | Annually |
| COMM 439 | Crisis Communication | 4 | F |

BPS - Bachelor of Professional Studies

**BPS 100 - Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Portfolio Development (2)**

Students experience a RIC orientation and learn how to document learning and proficiencies mastered outside the classroom in order to develop a portfolio which will be evaluated for PLA credit. Online.

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Bachelor of Professional Studies program.

Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

**BPS 460 - Seminar in Organizational Leadership (4)**

Students prepare and present a final project on organizational leadership using a cross-disciplinary approach for the theoretical or practical application of a topic or issue of interest. Online.

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Bachelor of Professional Studies program in the Organizational Leadership concentration. Taken in the final semester of program.

Offered: Fall, Spring

**BPS 461 - Seminar in Social Services (4)**

Students prepare and present a final project on social services using a cross-disciplinary approach for the theoretical or practical application of a topic or issue of interest. Online.

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Bachelor of Professional Studies program in the Social Services concentration. Taken in the final semester of program.

Offered: Fall, Spring

**BPS 462 - Seminar in Strategic Communication (4)**

Students will integrate knowledge from prior courses and apply them to planning, analysis, and evaluation. Key topics will be organizational communication, organizational culture, crisis communication and organizational leadership. Online.

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Bachelor of Professional Studies program in the Strategic Communication concentration; COMM 352 or COMM 452, COMM 439, and COMM 454. Taken in the final semester of program.

Offered: Spring