

# WRITING, BAAS

The Concentration in Writing integrates professional and creative writing into a unified course of study that emphasizes clarity, creativity, and strategic communication. Students develop advanced skills in business writing, brand storytelling, and audience engagement while exploring literary forms such as fiction, poetry, nonfiction, and screenwriting.

Coursework combines scenario-based writing exercises with workshop-style feedback to support both individual and collaborative learning. The program prepares students to write effectively across professional, academic, and artistic contexts, with applications in communications, marketing, content development, and the arts.

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2026 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.

## Curriculum

The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) recognizes the power of an applied liberal arts education to provide students with strong communication skills, understanding of different cultures and perspectives, and the ability to apply their knowledge to nuanced, complex scenarios with insight, perspective, and empathy.

**In addition to course requirements, BAAS students must complete the BAAS 4000: The Art of Work course.**

### Overview of degree requirements

30 course units are required for the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree.

Code	Title	Course Units
<b>Requirements</b>		
Foundational Requirements		8
Concentrations		12
Electives		8
Penn Elective (Must be a Penn course)		1
BAAS 4000	The Art of Work (Senior Portfolio Requirement)	1
<b>Total Course Units</b>		<b>30</b>

### Foundational requirements

The foundational requirements of the BAAS degree reflect the core competencies and values of Penn LPS Online: the skills and knowledge needed to understand and solve complex problems, the ability to communicate effectively with a wide variety of audiences and an appreciation for diverse cultures and traditions. Students can transfer a maximum of 4 course units of foundational courses from a regionally accredited institution. Our program team can also give a preliminary evaluation of transfer credits before students officially apply. Visit the Transfer Preparation & Policies (<https://lpsonline.sas.upenn.edu/>

admissions/baas-admissions/transfer-preparation-policies/) page for more details.

Code	Title	Course Units
<b>Foundational Requirements</b>		
<i>Ethical Reasoning</i>		
Select 1 Ethical Reasoning course		1
DIGC 3600	Applications of Digital Culture	
ETHC 2000	Ethics & Society	
<i>Qualitative Analysis</i>		
Select 2 Qualitative Analysis courses		2
CRWR 1600	Modern and Contemporary US Poetry	
DIGC 1200	Digital Literacy & Cultural Change	
CLSC 1000	Greek and Roman Mythology	
	or DIGC 160(A History of Digital Culture	
	or RELC 200(Gods, Ghosts, Monsters	
<i>Quantitative Analysis</i>		
Select 2 Quantitative Analysis courses		2
MTHS 1000	Mathematical Foundations for Data Analytics	
	or MTHS 2000(Mathematics All Around You	
DATA 1010	Introduction to Data Analytics	
	or MTHS 2200(Introduction to Applied Statistics	
<i>Scientific Process</i>		
Select 1 Scientific Process course		1
CLCH 1600	Oceans and Climate	
NEUR 1000	Introduction to Neuroscience	
PHYL 1200	Foundations of Life Sciences	
	or PHYL 1600(Foundations of Physical & Chemical Sciences	
SPRO 1000	Scientific Reasoning	
<i>Writing</i>		
Select 1 Writing course *		1
PROW 1000	Fundamentals of Professional Writing	
PROW 1030	Introduction to College Writing	
<i>Cross-Cultural Interactions</i>		
Select 1 Cross-Cultural Interactions course		1
ICOM 1000	Intercultural Communication	
<b>Total Course Units</b>		<b>8</b>

### Concentrations

Just as a college major serves to focus your studies during a four-year degree, the BAAS concentrations enable students to tailor their undergraduate education to specific personal and professional goals. Concentrations progress from introductory-level courses to higher-level courses so that students develop skills and knowledge with greater complexity as they move through the curriculum. Many concentrations are interdisciplinary, to provide students with opportunities to explore their areas of interest from multiple perspectives and develop a flexible approach to solving complex problems in professional as well as academic contexts.

Code	Title	Course Units
<b>Writing Concentration</b>		
<i>Creative Writing (Select 4 Course Units)</i>		4
CRWR 1010	The Craft of Creative Writing	
CRWR 1600	Modern and Contemporary US Poetry	
CRWR 2010	Poetry Workshop	
CRWR 2400	The Art of Editing	
CRWR 2500	Writing and Meditation	
CRWR 2600	Fiction Workshop	
CRWR 2700	The Craft of Fiction	
CRWR 2800	Narrative Collage	
CRWR 3000	Writing About Place	
CRWR 3200	Screenwriting	
CRWR 3600	Advanced Nonfiction	
CRWR 3700	Journalism Workshop	
<i>Professional Writing (Select 4 Course Units)</i>		4
PROW 1000	Fundamentals of Professional Writing	
PROW 1020	The Elements of Style	
PROW 1030	Introduction to College Writing	
PROW 2000	Writing with Data	
PROW 2010	Designing Effective Presentations	
PROW 2030	Writing for Public Audiences: The Op-Ed and White Paper	
PROW 2050	The Elements of Style	
PROW 3010	The Power of Storytelling	
PROW 3020	Professional Persuasion: Writing Strategies for Fundraising and Beyond	
PROW 3030	Publishing Your Research: Writing Journal Articles and Book Chapters	
PROW 4000	Writing for Social Media	
PROW 4010	Composing a Professional Identity	
<i>Advisor Approved Electives (Select 4 Course Units)</i>		4
Students may choose to use the 4 CU's to pursue advanced certificates by completing 2 additional CU's in one or both CRWR or PROW.		
Any CRWR or PROW Courses *		
CLCH 3000	Communicating Science (See pre-requisites)	
Select up to 3 advisor approved transfer courses		
<b>Total Course Units</b>		<b>12</b>

\* Creative Writing Courses: <https://lponline.sas.upenn.edu/academics/bachelors-degree/baas-course-blocks/creative-writing> (<https://lponline.sas.upenn.edu/academics/bachelors-degree/baas-course-blocks/creative-writing/>)

Professional Writing Courses: <https://lponline.sas.upenn.edu/academics/bachelors-degree/baas-course-blocks/professional-writing> (<https://lponline.sas.upenn.edu/academics/bachelors-degree/baas-course-blocks/professional-writing/>)

## Electives (8 CUs + 1 Penn CU)

Electives are courses that do not apply toward your foundational or degree concentration requirements. You may choose to deepen your field of study by taking additional classes within your concentration, develop

a new skill by completing all of the courses within a course block outside of your degree concentration, or discover new interests and abilities by taking individual courses that appeal to your interests. Students choose 8 electives from any of Penn LPS Online's areas of study. Students are required to complete 1 CU of Penn elective that must be a Penn course. Transfer students can apply a maximum of 8 course units from a regionally accredited institution toward this requirement.

## BAAS 4000: The Art of Work (Senior Portfolio Requirement) (1CU)

This course is designed to expose students to a scholarly understanding of the modern world of work, examining the many ways that work shapes our identities, communities, and society. BAAS students should plan to take BAAS 4000: The Art of Work during one of their final two terms in the program. The course will be offered in spring and fall annually. Students must submit a request via Path@Penn to register for the course to ensure eligibility. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation. Email [lpsonline@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:lpsonline@sas.upenn.edu) if you have any questions.

## Plan of Study for Less Than Full-Time Attendance

This is only a sample plan of less than full-time study. This plan will take approximately six years with no transfer credits with each year looking like the plan below. Students with transfer credits will reduce their time to degree completion. Students who are seeking financial aid should contact Student Financial Services regarding the enrollment requirements for federal aid eligibility. This example plan of study is based on course availability. Note that some requirements are only offered in Fall, Spring, Summer and registration should be planned accordingly. Visit the Penn LPS Online course guide (<https://lponline.sas.upenn.edu/academics/course-guide/>) for the latest course offerings.

Fall	Course Units
Fall Semester	2
Fall 1 - 1 C.U.	
Fall 2 - 1 C.U.	
	<b>Course Units 2.00</b>
<b>Spring</b>	
Spring Semester	2
Spring 1 - 1 C.U.	
Spring 2 - 1 C.U.	
	<b>Course Units 2.00</b>
<b>Summer</b>	
Summer Semester	1
Summer - 1 C.U.	
	<b>Course Units 1.00</b>
	<b>Total Course Units 5.00</b>

## Plan of Study for Full-Time Attendance

This is only a sample plan of full-time study. Students who are seeking financial aid should contact Student Financial Services regarding the enrollment requirements for full-time federal aid. This plan will take approximately three years with each year looking like the plan below. This example plan of study is based on course availability. Note that some requirements are only offered in Fall, Spring, Summer and registration

should be planned accordingly. Visit the Penn LPS Online course guide (<https://lpsonline.sas.upenn.edu/academics/course-guide/>) for the latest course offerings.

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Course Units</b>
Fall Semester	4
Fall 1 - 2 C.U.	
Fall 2 - 2 C.U.	
	<b>Course Units 4.00</b>
<b>Spring</b>	
Spring Semester	4
Spring 1 - 2 C.U.	
Spring 2 - 2 C.U.	
	<b>Course Units 4.00</b>
<b>Summer</b>	
Summer Semester	2
Summer - 2 C.U.	
	<b>Course Units 2.00</b>
	<b>Total Course Units 10.00</b>