Regents Bachelor of Arts

Degree Offered

- Regents Bachelor of Arts (R.B.A.)

Nature of the Program

West Virginia University offers the Regents Bachelor of Arts (Regents BA) Degree Program through the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences. Regents BA is an innovative degree program designed to meet the unique needs of adult learners and non-traditional students. Specifically, Regents BA provides a comprehensive general education and individualized curriculum designed to align with the needs of each student. The Regents BA program is designed to be flexible and can be tailored toward goals/aspirations such as pursuing a graduate/professional degree, transitioning into a new career, increasing one's marketability within an established career, and/or fulfilling a life-long goal of completing a bachelor's degree.

The Regents BA program can be completed either on campus or online at one's own pace. Additionally, Regents BA students may pursue any Minors (http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/#minorsofferedtext) offered through West Virginia University or Areas of Emphasis unique to the Regents BA program.

Moreover, Regents BA offers unique opportunities not available through traditional degree programs. The Regents BA program offers F-Forgiveness (https://rba.wvu.edu/degree-info/f-forgiveness-policy/) to students if the failing grades are obtained four years or more prior to admission/readmission to the program. Additionally, eligible students may acquire college credit for professional, volunteer, and military experiences in select areas via the many credit for prior learning options (https://rba.wvu.edu/credit-for-prior-learning/) available through the Regents BA program. Pursuing the Regents BA program and utilizing the unique opportunities available through the program provides many students with a time efficient and cost effective avenue to obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Program Contact Information

Regents BA Degree Program
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West Virginia University
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Website: https://rba.wvu.edu/

FACULTY
DIRECTOR
- Renée Nicholson - M.F.A. Creative Writing (West Virginia University)
  Certification of Professional Achievement in Narrative Medicine (Columbia University)

Admissions

The Regents BA program is designed for adult learners/non-traditional students. All students must have graduated from high school at least four years prior to admission to the program.

- First-Time Freshmen are admitted directly in the Regents BA program.
- Students admitted from another major within the West Virginia University system are admitted directly into the Regents BA program.
- Transfer students from another institution are admitted directly into the Regents BA program.
- Students earning the Regents BA may not earn a second major or a second degree at the same time.
- Students who have completed a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution are not eligible for admission into the Regents BA program.

Students who are new to the Regents BA program should speak with their academic advisor to see if they can benefit from the Regents BA F-Forgiveness (https://rba.wvu.edu/degree-info/f-forgiveness-policy/). They should also inquire about the possibility of applying credit hours from institutions which are recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE) but are not regionally accredited.

Due to Covid-19 – Admission requirements may differ from what is listed on this page. Please review the most up-to-date program admission requirements for the Regents Bachelor of Arts major.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS 2022-2023

The Admission Requirements above will be the same for the 2022-2023 Academic Year.

Major Code: 14C8

Degree Requirements

• **General Education:**
  - **Communication Skills (6 hours)** Outcome: Courses in this area must provide the student with skills and knowledge to be able to communicate effectively in a variety of formats.
  - **Humanities (6 hours)** Outcome: Courses in this area must demonstrate knowledge in the interdisciplinary study and philosophy of diverse cultures.
  - **Social Science (6 hours)** Outcome: Courses will demonstrate understanding of the development, diversity, and complexity of human behavior and institutions.
  - **Natural or Physical Science (3 hours)** Outcome: Courses in this area must provide an understanding of the physical world through the scientific method (understanding of the basic facts, principles, theories and methods of science)
  - **Mathematics, Statistics, or Computer Science (3 hours)**

• **Upper Division:** A maximum 12 teaching practicum hours will be accepted toward graduation requirements if teaching practicum hours have been completed at the upper-division level. Teaching practicum hours are not a requirement for graduation. (Minimum of 27 hours)

• **Residency:** Students must complete a residency requirement of 24 hours of coursework taken at one or more institutions within West Virginia’s public higher education system. Six of the 24 hours must be taken at WVU.

• **Portfolios:** Students may earn credit through academic portfolios for prior learning and experiences to reach 120 hours.

• **Grade Point Average:** Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.00 to be eligible for graduation.

Curriculum Requirements

**GENERAL EDUCATION:**

- **Communication Skills**
  - Select courses fulfilling GEF 1 or courses fulfilling this outcome and approved by an advisor. 6 hours

- **Humanities**
  - Select courses fulfilling GEF 5 or 6, or courses fulfilling this outcome and approved by an advisor. 6 hours

- **Social Science**
  - Select courses fulfilling GEF 4 or 7, or courses fulfilling this outcome and approved by an advisor. 6 hours

- **Natural or Physical Science**
  - Select courses fulfilling GEF 2, or courses fulfilling this outcome and approved by an advisor. 3 hours

- **Mathematics, Statistics, or Computer Science**
  - Select courses fulfilling GEF 3, or courses fulfilling this outcome and approved by an advisor. 3 hours

**UPPER-DIVISION COURSES**

- Select any courses at the 300 or 400 level 27 hours

**ELECTIVES**

- Select any courses at any level 69 hours

**Total Hours** 120 hours

Areas of Emphasis

Regents BA students may pursue any Minors offered through WVU (http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/#minorofferedtext) as well as any Area of Emphasis (AoE) offered through the Regents BA program. Coursework required for an AoE is determined by faculty within the specified academic area.

All coursework required for an AoE must be graded and completed with C- or higher. Credit for WVU coursework earned via credit for prior learning is not assigned a letter grade and will not apply toward the requirements of an AoE. An AoE will appear on the transcript as a concentration within the Regents BA degree program.

Regents BA students may pursue more than one AoE and/or Minor as long as the coursework does not overlap. Additionally, an AoE and a Minor cannot be declared in the same discipline. The RBA AoE offerings are outlined, below.
Areas of Emphasis Offered:

• Child Development (p. 3)
• Communication Studies (p. 3)
• Energy Land Management (p. 3)
• History (p. 3)
• Sociology (p. 4)

Child Development Requirements

Must have a C- grade or better in all CDFS designated courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisite</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 110</td>
<td>Families Across the Life Span</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Two of the following courses/pre requisites depending on upper level options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course/Prerequisite</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 112</td>
<td>Introduction to Marriage and Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 210</td>
<td>Introduction to Parenting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 211</td>
<td>Infant Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 212</td>
<td>Development in Early and Middle Childhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 250</td>
<td>Research Methods (writing course recommended for prior support for CDFS 400 level courses)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Three Courses-upper level:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course/Prerequisite</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 316</td>
<td>Child Development Practicum (need 212 prior)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 412</td>
<td>Adolescent Development (need 212)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 413</td>
<td>Stress in Families (need 212)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 414</td>
<td>Adolescent Problems and Disorders (need 212)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 415</td>
<td>Family Interaction and Communication (need 212)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 430</td>
<td>Best Practices in Pre-K Movement (need 211 or 212)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 431</td>
<td>Infant Toddler Language and Literacy (need 211 prior)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDFS 432</td>
<td>Early Soc-Emotional Development (Need 211 prior)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 18

Communication Studies Requirements

Select any COMM 300-400 level courses with a grade of ‘C-‘ or higher (Excluding COMM 490 and 491) 15

Energy Land Management Requirements

Must complete all of the courses below with a C- or higher

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENLM 300</td>
<td>Ethics and Negotiations for Energy Land Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENLM 400</td>
<td>Energy Land Management Contracts 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENLM 420</td>
<td>Energy Land Management Contracts 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENLM 442</td>
<td>GIS Skills for Energy Land Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENLM 450</td>
<td>Energy Land Management Strategic Planning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 15

History Requirements

Minimum grade of C required in all courses.

Select 5 courses from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 304</td>
<td>History of Sacred Places</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 350</td>
<td>The Aztec, Maya, and Inca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 353</td>
<td>1920s America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 412</td>
<td>Introduction to Public History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 421</td>
<td>Hitler and the Third Reich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 422</td>
<td>Twentieth-Century Germany from Weimar to Bonn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sociology Requirements

Minimum grade of C required in all classes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select 15 credits of Upper-division hours excluding SOC</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Degree Progress

- Regents BA students are expected to maintain satisfactory progress toward degree completion as determined in consultation with their advisor.
- Regents BA students are expected to enroll in coursework which applies toward completing the degree requirements of the program.
- Regents BA students are expected to complete all coursework with a D- or higher and maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA each term. These expectations are in place to ensure students remain in, or are working toward, good academic standing (http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/coursecredittermsclassification/#probationsuspensiontext) and remain on track for graduation.

### Policies

#### F-FORGIVENESS

The R.B.A. offers unique opportunities not available through traditional degree programs. The Regents BA program offers F-forgiveness to students if the failing grades were obtained four years or more prior to admission/readmission to the program. This policy applies to both grades earned at WVU or that have been transferred from another institution.

"F" Forgiveness is unique and only benefits students while in the RBA program. Thus, should students join the RBA program and benefit from the F-Forgiveness policy but later elect to transfer to another program, then all F's that were forgiven will be re-instituted.

#### CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

Eligible students may acquire college credit for professional, volunteer, and military experiences in select areas via the many credit for prior learning options (https://rba.wvu.edu/credit-for-prior-learning/) available through the R.B.A. majors. These opportunities provide many students with a time efficient and cost effective avenue to obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree.

R.B.A. program allows adult learners to earn College Equivalent Credits (CECs) for work/career, life, and other academic experiences. The program recognizes the fact that many students have accumulated a wealth of work and life experiences that may be compatible with some of the courses that WVU and other state institutions offer. Thus we encourage our students to take advantage of this unique opportunity to petition for CECs if they have already acquired similar or equivalent learning experiences due to their work experiences. If successful, awarded credits could help meet graduation requirements while reducing the overall costs of their college experience.

However, it is important that students understand that they are not being given credits for the years of service in their respective fields. Rather, they are being given credits based on their ability to articulate how their varied career experiences may have helped them to acquire equivalent or similar knowledge that they would have otherwise acquired in the classroom.

For instructions on how to submit a portfolio to petition for CECs, please visit the Portfolio Submission Guidelines (https://rba.wvu.edu/credit-for-prior-learning/) page.

### Major Learning Outcomes

#### REGENTS BACHELOR OF ARTS

Due to the unique nature of the Regents BA program, the only consistent curriculum requirement for all Regents BA students is the general education requirement. Therefore the learning outcomes for Regents BA students are those outlined by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU) Liberal Education and American Promise (LEAP). All general education courses will incorporate at least one of the LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes (https://registrar.wvu.edu/curriculum-catalog/general-education-foundations-gef/gef-transition/leap-essential-learning-outcomes/) listed below. The Regents BA program assesses and measures LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes through completion of the general education requirement.
1. **Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World** - Measured by completion of Regents BA Natural/Physical Science, Mathematics, Social Science, and Humanities general education requirements

2. **Intellectual and Practical Skills** - Measured by completion of Regents BA Communication Skills, Natural/Physical Science, and Mathematics general education requirements

3. **Personal and Social Responsibility** - Measured by completion of Regents BA Social Science and Humanities general education requirements

4. **Integrative and Applied Learning** - Measured by completion of Regents BA Communication Skills, Natural/Physical Science, and Mathematics general education requirements