The Bachelor of University Studies (B.U.S.) degree is designed to provide a unique, nontraditional program for students whose goals and objectives cannot be met via a traditionally established academic major or minor. Courses taken include those that fulfill general education requirements, as well as others chosen for their appropriateness in achieving the goals of the individual student.

The Program
Each student meets with an academic advisor to design a program of study that will be reviewed and approved by a committee. Many nontraditional students are able to combine current and prior traditional course work with college-level experience from nontraditional areas such as military schools, business or trade schools, and/or work experience. The evaluation of such nontraditional learning is made in relation to the individual’s future plans, previous formal education and total degree plan.

A student desiring to pursue such a degree must work closely with an academic advisor. A degree plan must be submitted to the Academic Policies/Program Review Committee through the Associate Dean of the College of University Studies by guideline due dates: October 1 for spring or summer graduation; February 1 for fall graduation. No fewer than 15 credits must be proposed (remain to be taken after the proposal is approved) and included in the proposal. Students who submit proposals after the due date will not be considered for graduation the following semester.

For students interested in meeting the challenge of creating a degree program, the College of University Studies will provide advice, support, and guidance during all phases of its implementation.

Career Opportunities
Employers have expressed enthusiasm for this degree program. It encourages students to think about the future long before graduation and helps them prepare for the kind of life they hope to lead following graduation. Students completing the BUS degree may plan careers in a wide variety of fields. Graduates work in health care, government, business, banking, sales, social work, publishing, and the military. Others have used their course work to prepare for further education and have attended medical school, law school and seminary, in addition to graduate school. If one can identify a career, one can make plans to achieve that goal.