Three-Year Degrees

at Arcadia University

Global Perspectives…Personal Attention…Real-World Integrative Learning Experiences

Coordinator

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Degrees

Bachelor of Arts in International Business and Culture
Bachelor of Arts in International Studies
Bachelor of Arts in Business
Bachelor of Arts in Communications
Corporate Communications
Print Communications
Video Communications
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

About the Three-Year Degree Programs

- Three years, two summers
- Study abroad
- Get there faster—grad school, job market
- Degrees in psychology, international studies, business, communications
- One summer of service learning abroad or away
- One summer internship abroad or away
- All of Arcadia's distinctive global perspective
- Faster path to grad school at less cost

The three-year degree format provides an accelerated degree program path for students who are able and willing to complete their degree programs within a shorter time. The three-year degree format lightens the financial burden on students and parents who are seeking ways to reduce college costs.

Students in this program will have high academic ability and will engage with faculty members and/or administrators in special activities and events. Students are from four different areas: Psychology, International Studies, Business, and Communications. As such, the activities and events planned are integrative in nature, cutting across areas of study. And, finally, students are expected to study away at least twice during their three years at Arcadia, most likely during the summers. In these ways, this program reflects the three facets of the Arcadia Promise: Students receive personalized attention, are presented with integrative learning experiences, and participate in cross-cultural learning experiences with global perspectives.

What's different about the three-year degree program?

Two summers of study abroad and service: The two summer experiences are distinctively Arcadia. A service project away the first year and a major-related internship away the second summer take advantage of Arcadia's status as a leader in study abroad and international education.

GPA Requirements: Once enrolled in the program, a student needs to maintain a minimum GPA of a 3.00 overall to remain in good standing within the program and be allowed to take a course overload without petitioning for an exception to academic policy.

Saving Time: Students earning a three-year degree can enter the job market or attend graduate school a year earlier.

Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Honors

Each student meets with an adviser after enrolling to review how his or her Advanced Placement credits, International Baccalaureate credits, and/or other college-level credits may apply to the program requirements.

Advanced Placement: Students who have earned scores of 3 or higher on Advanced Placement examinations of the College Board will be awarded credit toward the bachelor's degree for courses comparable to those offered at Arcadia University. Those interested in learning more about Advanced Placement courses or examinations should obtain information from their high school guidance office or by contacting the College Board by phone at 609-771-7300 or online at www.collegeboard.org.

Another means by which incoming students can earn advanced credit is through the

College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or Excelsior College Examinations (formerly known as ACT PEP and Regents Examinations). Inquiries about advanced placement and credit should be addressed to the Arcadia University Registrar at 215-572-2100.

International Baccalaureate: Arcadia University reviews and evaluates International Baccalaureate (IB) Higher Level courses on an individual basis. Normally, University course credit is granted for scores of 5 or higher in courses that are applicable to the degree program. Full IB diploma holders also are evaluated on an individual basis. No credit is given for subsidiary-level courses.

Honors Program: Incoming first-year students are evaluated for possible acceptance into the Honors Program based upon the strength of their admissions applications. To be considered for the program, incoming first-year student applicants must score 1870 or better on the SAT or 28 or better on the ACT and graduate in the top 10 percent of their class (if their high schools rank students).

Summer Experiences:

Students are expected to do two summer experiences as part of the program. Each is 8 credits and counts toward the credits required for graduation.

Summer One:

During the first summer, students participate in a service-learning project in a community different from the one in which they were reared. There is a is a vast range of possibilities including: working with an NGO (non-governmental organization) in another country that is providing medical or educational services, volunteering at a clinic or school enrichment program in a low-income neighborhood in Philadelphia, or working with an environmental group on issues of pollution and sustainability. In their reflections on their experiences, students focus on issues related to their majors. For example, a communications major volunteering in a school enrichment program in North Philadelphia would address issues relevant to the field of communications such as how could the program management let the public at large know about the good work they are doing.

Summer Two:

In the second summer, students participate in an internship experience away from the Arcadia campus. Like the first summer experience, there is a reflection component in which students are asked to examine how the work they are doing in this experience is related to their major. Possible sites include a psychology research laboratory for a psychology major, working with an NGO (non-governmental organization) in another country for international studies major, or working with a media organization in the Philadelphia.

These experiences will be set up individually by each student working with his or her departmental and three-year program advisers. They will consult with staff from The College of Global Studies and with the Director of Global Connections in order to take advantage of the numerous settings and programs already in place, both within the United States and abroad.

Given the broad range of interests and majors of the students involved, it is likely that most students will be in a unique setting. However, this does not preclude two or more students from being at the same site.

In order to continue working as a group, students and the director of the three year degree program will communicate through a social networking website such as Ning during the summer months. This will allow all involved to know what others are doing, as well as providing an opportunity for the students to reflect on what they are experiencing and to tie it back to their studies at Arcadia.

Co-curricular Activities

Given the intensity of the three-year program and the range of majors and interests of the students, a set of co-curricular activities is planned each year to both help build a community of scholars among the students and to provide some opportunities for entertainment and amusement. Topics are chosen as themes for an academic year that can be addressed from the perspective of

each of the majors involved. For example, the theme for one year might be the role of sports in society. This topic has relevance for psychology, business, communications, and international studies. Activities would include going to a Phillies baseball game, watching films that focus on these issues and inviting someone from the vast professional and university sports communities in Philadelphia to address the group. Students, faculty, and administrators join together to plan the activities for each year.

Admissions to Three-Year Degree Programs

Due to the pressure and intensity of fitting all requirements into three years, this program is intended for students with high academic ability. Admissions criteria are the same as for the Honors Program. Incoming first-year students who score 1870 or better on the SAT or 28 or better on the ACT and are ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school class (if their school ranks students) will be considered for admission into the program.

Course Requirements

Except for the two summer experiences listed above, the course requirements for each of the majors is the same as for the four-year program in that major. For specific course requirements, see the section in the catalog for the major.