

BETTY FOY SANDERS DEPARTMENT OF ART
Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
BACHELOR OF ARTS in ART HISTORY, a BACHELOR OF
FINE ARTS in STUDIO ART, and a MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Vision

Cultures prosper and exist in perpetuity through the creation of visual objects that convey and confirm the human experience. Visual artists, art historians and art educators are essential in expressing the collaboration between the human existence and human experience known as life. The studio, art history and art education courses offered by the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art (BFSDoA) provide a solid foundation for the next generation of artists and art historians who will shape and record our civilization.

Mission

The BFSDoA is committed to offering quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs that prepare students to become professional artists, designers, art educators and art historians. An accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD), the unit strives to continuously maintain the rigorous and thorough standards representative of a NASAD institution.

Faculty provide effective classroom instruction and extracurricular experiences that enhance student learning, which fully support the University's mission to be *Student-Centered*. The BFSDoA provides safe, healthy and comfortable laboratories of learning for students with the ideal student/faculty ratio of 15-20 students per studio faculty as the standard enrollment recommended by NASAD and the College Art Association. Attention to safety issues and providing state of the art equipment and technologies housed in appropriate facilities is an ongoing concern of all faculty. We strive to ensure our teaching classrooms and studios remain current with *Technological Advances* in our fields to ensure our graduates are competitive in their field, if not a cut above the rest. In this regard, we strive for *Academic Distinction* in all curriculum offerings. We also support the University's mission to provide a liberal arts education to all its students by offering a general art appreciation course, Art in Life, to over 350 students annually. The BFSDoA is committed to reinforcing and extending student understanding of the *Transcultural* nature of the visual arts by providing ample access to international travel opportunities.

Individual faculty comprise a group of highly regarded professionals well known in their respective fields as exhibiting artists, as well as research-oriented art historians and art educators. Their accolades and accomplishments, which range from holding governing board positions from president to archivist of a national organizations; receiving numerous awards for distinction in service, creativity, and teaching –including being named Art Educator of the Year by peer jurors of the National Art Education Association; exhibiting internationally in competitive venues as award winning artists; and their authorship of multiple textbooks are reasons the BFSDoA Faculty are a faculty of *Academic Distinction*. Their modeling of scholarly practice not only

provides a comprehensive and philosophically sound curriculum, it creates a highly respected faculty, known as leaders in their field. Support of faculty research is paramount in our mission, as we highly regard the principle of model scholar as exemplary teacher.

The BFSDoA is committed to community outreach efforts and we extend our resources as *private/public partnerships* by offering quality outreach programs, such as monthly gallery exhibitions, the annual Youth Arts Festival, the Grassroots Arts Project and numerous other community programs such as faculty symposia and teacher outreach programming. These service efforts are an essential component to our programs, student development, and outreach to the local and professional community.

In all that it does, the BFSDoA is committed to its role in building and extending the intellectual community in the visual arts, fully recognizing its role in training not only artists and designers, but the next generation of the art professoriate and art teachers. Broadly, our goal is to provide our students with the ability to think critically, communicate effectively, work cooperatively, be comfortable with technology, and be committed to sharing their many talents with an increasingly global community.

Desired Attributes

Graduates of the BFSDoA will possess the following qualities and characteristics:

1. A sense of aesthetic appreciation.
2. Visual literacy.
3. A capacity for lateral thinking.
4. Respect for divergent thinking.
5. Critical thinking abilities.
6. Eye-hand coordination.
7. An ability to present spatial and sequential imagery.
8. Conceptual thinking that introduces unique solutions to creative assignments.
9. Self-motivated work habits.
10. An understanding of time management.
11. A desire for task completion.
12. Personal responsibility for success.
13. The ability to embrace new challenges and to solve problems.
14. A passion for discipline.
15. An ability to advocate for the arts as an essential component of civilization.
16. Self-respect.
17. Finally, the graduate will have developed an appreciation for the arts and respect for the role the fine arts play in a global culture.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION ARTS

Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BROADCASTING, a BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
JOURNALISM, a BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS,
COMMUNICATION STUDIES, a BACHELOR OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION ARTS,
or a BACHELOR OF ARTS IN THEATER**

Mission

Communication Arts is an interdisciplinary department that encourages quality teaching and collaboration among its fields of study. The department stresses critical thinking and audience analysis applied to communication processes. The department promotes aesthetic and technical mastery of progressive technologies and an understanding of their ramifications in society. Our goal is to prepare graduates who possess a high regard for professionalism, creativity and research in communication-related careers.

Profile of Graduates

All majors with the department of Communication Arts should graduate with an entry-level degree of professionalism whether for a professional career or a continued academic career seeking an M.A., M.S. or M.F.A. This professionalism will be characterized by **confidence in communication and/or performance**.

Our graduates will be able to apply a variety of communication and/or performance skills in both personal and career settings. These skills include the following: **critical thinking** in the forms of both **creative problem solving** and **rhetorical sensitivity**. Graduates should be able to evaluate communicative and performative contexts, incorporate a variety of relevant **research methodologies**, and offer creative solutions within **ethical parameters**. Such an evaluation necessarily involves **audience analysis**, especially in terms of entertaining other points of view. Our graduates also recognize the **collaborative nature** of communication practices and problem solving.

Our graduates should also embrace **new technologies** in communication and performance, and recognize their ramifications. Underlying all of this is a working **knowledge of traditional and contemporary theory** in communication and/or performance, and the application of that theory within their chosen degree programs.

Knowledge Base

The following outlines the core body of knowledge and the resulting application within the distinct majors in our six degree programs. Graduates in the B.A. Communication Arts program will be expected to have the broader, core components as part of their knowledge base. Generally, then, our graduates should all be able to:

1. Research and propose a cogent solution to a program, incorporating research methodologies and/or technological applications.
 - Broadcasting: graduates should be able to employ the tools of fact finding, teamwork, equipment dexterity and aesthetic analysis to compose a product that listeners or viewers will evaluate for quality.
 - Communication Studies: majors will be able to complete a research project employing appropriate methodologies to answer a specified research question and/or hypothesis.
 - Journalism: graduates will be able to identify news values; research topics, issues and/or problems; and report and write informative, compelling and engaging stories, with the proper application of journalistic methods and styles as well as technological tools.
 - Public Relations: majors will be able to assess organizational problems, research solutions (using primary and secondary methodologies), and offer creative solutions using appropriate interpersonal and mass media channels.
 - Theatre: graduates will be able to analyze a character or play, and use that analysis to prepare a performance, communicate with designers and actors to direct a play for performance, and/or design the sets, lights, and/or costumes for the performance of that play.

2. Demonstrate application of communication concepts in critical thinking and problem solving as evidenced in performative contexts, including written, oral and/or mediated.
 - Broadcasting graduates will be able to apply an economical style of writing, interview newsmakers, gather and organize facts into a cogent story on deadline, utilize audio and/or video equipment to package the story for airing, and announce the story over the airwaves.
 - Communication Studies graduates will be able to participate in small group problem solving by researching a contemporary problem and using Dewey's reflective thinking method to reach a rationale solution to the problem, and effectively use various rhetorical criticism models to analyze speeches and rhetorical movements.
 - Journalism graduates will be able to demonstrate application of journalistic concepts and values in critical thinking and problem solving as evidenced in sourcing, reporting, organizing, and writing under deadlines.
 - Public Relations graduates will know how to work as team members in an experiential setting to produce public relations plans and collaterals based on

public relations principles (e.g. RACE – research, action, communication and evaluation) and theories (e.g. dialogic, persuasion, mass communication, etc.).

- Theatre graduates will be able to direct a play using appropriate communication skills with designers, technicians, and actors to develop the production.

3. Have an understanding of current events and/or trends as well as the history of their respective field.

- Broadcasting graduates will have an understanding of the electronic media industry, including media economics, history, federal regulation, trends, social implications and future projections for the industry.
- Communication Studies graduates will be well versed in the historical underpinnings of the field of communication and understand how historical developments have influenced the current study of communication, and will use current events as data for public speaking assignments and for analysis of arguments in persuasive communication.
- Journalism graduates will have an understanding of current events as well as the ability and skills to dig into the background of the topics, issues, problems and people that make news.
- Public Relations graduates will understand the evolution of public relations, especially as it relates to the development of contemporary practices involving two-way symmetrical communication.
- Theatre graduates will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the development of theatre through the ages, and be knowledgeable about the varieties of theatre that are current in the world today.

4. Be familiar with legal and/or ethical implications of communication and/or performance.

- Broadcasting graduates will be able to evaluate the legal and ethical implications of communication.
- Communication Studies graduates will be familiar with ethical standards as related to original research and the ethical implications of persuasive communication.
- Journalism graduates will be familiar with legal and/or ethical implications of journalistic communication
- Public Relations graduates will be familiar with key legal concepts and ethical implications related to public relations communication.

- Theatre graduates will possess an understanding of the rights of the authors and artists who are producing work for the theatre today, as well as of the concept of “public domain” when applied to work done in historical eras.

5. Display familiarity with audience analysis, including versatility in adapting to various audiences and understanding diverse points of view.

- Broadcasting graduates will be able to research and create a composite picture of the demographics and psychographics of the audience that will consume completed productions.
- Communication Studies graduates will have studied the importance of culture and its impact on the reception of communication messages and will have participated in a variety of oral performances where their ability to adjust and adapt to the audience will have been evaluated and not found lacking.
- Journalism graduates will display familiarity with audience analysis, including versatility in adapting to various audiences and understanding diverse points of view.
- Public Relations graduates will be able to create an audience delineation for organizational problems, and will be able to suggest and adapt messages designed for a variety of audiences and media.
- Theatre graduates should have an understanding of the effect that the audience has on performance and the ways in which an analysis of the audience can impact the success of the performance and of the Theatre itself.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES
Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SPANISH,
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN FRENCH, BACHELOR OF ARTS IN GERMAN, or
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Vision

The Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages will be nationally recognized for its well-rounded and innovative curriculum and its dedicated faculty who are committed to educating graduates in all areas of Spanish (speaking, listening, reading, writing, and cultural appreciation) within a vibrant intellectual atmosphere.

Mission

The Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages at Georgia Southern University aims to prepare graduates for successful careers and, toward this end, it emphasizes all components of the language experience and provides in-depth analysis of the literature, culture, and linguistics. The program is committed to the development of all language skills so that graduates will be able to compete with confidence in a global society.

Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages Attributes

1. Our graduates will be desirable candidates for graduate programs. The experience earned from the intensive course offerings, including opportunities to study abroad and to participate in the Department of Foreign Languages' annual language and literatures conference, will prepare our graduates for success in graduate school.
2. Our graduates will be employable. Their competency in the language areas will enhance their desirability to prospective employers who are seeking persons who are able to communicate effectively in a foreign language.
3. Our graduates will be solidly grounded in their discipline. Their conversational skills will be at a high level, and they will possess an appreciation for and understanding of the cultural component of the curriculum. In addition, they will be knowledgeable about the sound system as well as the historical development of the language.
4. Our graduates will possess problem-solving skills and be familiar with a variety of research procedures.
5. Our graduates will be able to think analytically and to present opposing view-points and alternative hypotheses in the target language or in English.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES
Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES
or a **MASTER OF ARTS IN SPANISH**

Vision

The Master of Arts in Spanish will be nationally recognized for its well-rounded and innovative curriculum and its dedicated faculty, who are committed to educating graduates in all areas of Spanish (speaking, listening, reading, writing, and cultural appreciation) within a vibrant intellectual atmosphere.

Mission

The Master of Arts in Spanish at Georgia Southern University aims to prepare graduates for successful careers and, towards this end, it emphasizes all components of the language experience and provides in-depth analysis of the literature, culture, and linguistics. The program is committed to development of all language skills so that graduates will be able to compete in a global society with confidence.

Master of Arts in Spanish Graduate Attributes

1. Our graduates will be candidates for doctoral programs. The experience earned from the intensive course offerings and the thesis will make our graduates competitive and competent for success at the doctoral level.
2. Our candidates will be employable. Their expertise in the language areas will enhance their desirability to prospective employers who are seeking persons with native or near-native proficiency in Spanish.
3. Our graduates will be solidly grounded in all areas of expertise. Their conversational skills will be at a high level and their appreciation for and understanding of the cultural component will be second to none. In addition, they will have linguistics appreciation for the sound system as well as the historical development of the language.
4. Our graduates will possess problem-solving skills and be familiar with a variety of research procedures.
5. Our graduates will be able to think analytically and to present opposing viewpoints and alternative hypotheses in the target language or in English.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HISTORY

Mission

The Department of History strives, through its roles in the core curriculum and in the History major, to develop Georgia Southern graduates who possess the attributes and abilities that will make them engaged and well-informed citizens, thoughtful and responsible members of a global society, and respected members of their communities and professions. The study of History contributes to the nurturing of the overall attributes desirable in Georgia Southern graduates and to the development of some specific attributes related to History.

In general, the university experience should nurture the development of *maturity, self-reliance, and self-discipline*, as students learn to work and study on their own instead of relying on external authority to remind them of their obligations. It should produce greater *self-confidence*, as students master more sophisticated concepts and levels of knowledge. It should enhance *leadership skills*, which can be developed to the individual's fullest potential, as students gain experience in campus organizations of all kinds. It should enhance the development of *inter-personal skills* as students interact in ever-widening circles with a greater variety of people in a broader range of settings. Above all, a university education should promote *intellectual curiosity* that lasts a lifetime. University graduates should be passionate "lifelong learners" and seekers of knowledge, both for their own enjoyment and the public good.

The Georgia Southern graduate should possess the civic virtues, including *civility, respect for and tolerance of different social, political, and religious views, lifestyles, ethnicities, and cultures*. Graduates should appreciate both the importance of community and the need to work actively and continually to improve it. This commitment requires cultivating a *strong sense of respect for oneself and others, knowledge and understanding of the world, a keen awareness of oneself as a citizen of the world, and acceptance of personal responsibility for one's actions*. While it is important to develop the ability to work as a team member, graduates must also nurture *a sense of ethical responsibility* that recognizes claims beyond one's own group.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY

The study of History, like the other liberal arts disciplines, develops the skills, attributes, and habits of thinking that will prepare students to succeed in a wide range of careers. Some History majors may decide to go on to graduate study in History; others may pursue careers in teaching, law, business, public history, or other fields. Some may travel paths entirely unrelated to History. Whatever their choice, History offers excellent preparation for a satisfying career. The study of History instills in students the following attributes:

1. A deeper knowledge and understanding of the world and its peoples, and an appreciation of the significance of the past to understanding the present.
2. The ability to think critically, to employ independent and objective reasoning as well as the ability to organize and synthesize information.
3. The ability to do research – from devising a question or thesis to explore, to finding and assessing sources and analyzing and presenting evidence.
4. The ability to communicate effectively, developed through intensive reading, discussion, and writing.
5. An understanding of the complexity of human existence: that most situations or events have multiple causes and no easy answers or solution.
6. A sober realization that while change is inevitable, it is not always for the best, and that the history of humankind is not a relentless story of progress.

Desired Attributes of Graduates Receiving the Master of Arts in History

The study of History, like the other liberal arts disciplines, develops the skills, attributes, and habits of thinking that will prepare students to succeed in a wide range of careers. At the graduate level, the Master of Arts in History at Georgia Southern University is designed to serve the diverse needs of graduate students by providing solid, proven grounding for entry into doctoral programs; professional development, especially in public and private education; pursuing careers in law, museum administration, government, or historical archaeology; work as public historians, archivists, or librarians; and personal development and enrichment.

There are common expectations consistent with the general mission of the History Department, and at the graduate level we strive to develop the following attributes:

1. An understanding of the past in all of its complexities and an appreciation of the value and interconnectedness of knowledge.

2. A higher level of analytical and intuitive skills so they may move beyond conventional assumptions to search and test solutions to historical problems that are often applicable to current situations as well.
3. A sense of intellectual curiosity which will benefit them as they continue to be life-long learners.
4. A command of the methods, theories, and practices of historical research commensurate with their graduate level.
5. The ability to think critically, to employ independent and objective reasoning as well as the ability to organize and synthesize information.
6. The ability to communicate effectively, developed through intensive reading, discussion, and writing.

DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY
Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
BACHELOR OF ARTS in ENGLISH

Mission

The Department of Literature and Philosophy strives to develop in its students in the core classes and in its major classes a love of reading and of the great literature of the world, the development of the capacity for reading with a critical eye, analysis of prose and poetry and research and writing skills.

Graduates graduating with a B.A. degree in English will **possess** the following attributes:

1. General knowledge of the major periods and authors of British and American literature. Such knowledge comes primarily, but not exclusively, from our survey courses in British and American literature.
2. General knowledge of world literature, especially of Western literature. Such knowledge comes from the two World Literature courses required of all majors.
3. More detailed knowledge of certain authors and periods, depending upon which additional courses the student has taken. The “major author” requirement is designed to assure in-depth knowledge of the work of a writer of great stature, such as Chaucer, Shakespeare, Conrad, or Joyce.
4. Knowledge of literary terms as well as an acquaintance with the principles of textual explication and literary criticism. Such knowledge is gained from our required course “Introduction to Literary Studies,” and is reviewed and reinforced in all other courses.

Graduates graduating with a B.A. degree in English will also be able to **do** the following:

1. Read with understanding and a certain degree of sophistication a text and be able to discuss how its author employs elements such as structure, tone, point of view, symbolism, and metaphor for the accomplishment of her or his artistic purposes.
2. Write a paper explicating a work of literature, using correct MLA format for handling direct quotations, paraphrases, and summaries, as well as for citing primary sources.
3. Do basic literary research that includes locating and evaluating materials in books, journals, and electronic sources. Be able to incorporate such secondary sources into their own writing in order to support and clarify their ideas. Avoid unintentional plagiarism by correctly citing their sources within the body of their paper and composing a correctly formatted Works Cited Page.

4. Be able to write clearly, correctly, and persuasively regardless of the kind of assignment given them. Show mastery of written English, including correct grammar and punctuation, as well as correct construction of sentences, paragraphs, and essays.
5. Demonstrate in writing and orally their ability to think and read critically.

Graduates graduating with a B.A. in English will, ideally, have nurtured a **mindset** that values the following:

1. The give and take of ideas and points of view expressed in literature, the other arts, and in the public arena of ideas.
2. Works of literature as aesthetic objects beautiful for their own sake and able to give intellectual and emotional pleasure to their readers.
3. The exercise of human imagination and creativity that lies at the heart of all literary endeavor.
4. The ability of oneself and of others to express ideas clearly and elegantly in writing and orally.

DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY
Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
BACHELOR OF ARTS in PHILOSOPHY

Graduates of this program will:

1. Be able to demonstrate an engagement and familiarity with the seminal authors and ideas in the western philosophical tradition.
2. Possess the resources for critically evaluating one's life and the social institutions that comprise one's community.
3. Have developed his or her own informed position on basic ethical, metaphysical, and epistemological issues.
4. Have experience in writing philosophically within the purview of accepted professional philosophical criteria.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a BACHELOR OF MUSIC IN COMPOSITION, A BACHELOR OF MUSIC IN MUSIC EDUCATION, or BACHELOR OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE, and MASTER OF MUSIC

Mission

The mission of the Department of Music is to provide a comprehensive undergraduate and graduate education that will produce skilled, knowledgeable, creative and articulate musicians.

Vision

The Department of Music at Georgia Southern University will be recognized as a regional center for music through distinctive and innovative programs which prepare students for careers in music and enhance the quality of life for all.

The Department of Music expects graduates to acquire the knowledge, skills, and perspectives described in the ten General Education Outcomes set forth by the university. In addition, the department seeks to produce graduates with skills, attitudes and understandings in music that allow them to succeed in their chosen profession. A graduate in music should have broad-based musical skills and the ability to transfer their knowledge in a variety of settings. They should have knowledge of historical context and performance practice. They should have in-depth knowledge in their chosen specialization and requisite skills to conduct research and be able to promote themselves as an independent musician.

Attributes

Graduates will have developed an attitude of professionalism, the ability to communicate effectively with musicians and non-musicians about the importance of the arts in society, and be able to communicate musical concepts effectively. They will exhibit a commitment to excellence in the performance of music, respect for diversity within music and society, a passion for music, and a strong work ethic.

Our graduates will understand the interconnectedness and relevance of music and the world in which they live. They will understand how to teach themselves and how to inspire curiosity in others about music. Additionally, they will understand the demands of the music profession and the importance of their individual contributions to the lives of others. They will be aware of and prepared to avail themselves of various opportunities to further their education through graduate programs, international experiences, and performance-based internship programs.

Upon completion of our program, our graduates will be able to market themselves effectively as an artists or music educator. They will understand the types of jobs available to them and be aware of the resources for finding them. They will be able to present a positive image to

prospective employers and be able to apply their knowledge to a wide variety of musical experiences.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE,
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN JUSTICE STUDIES, and
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Mission

In all programs, we seek to help graduates develop the ability to think critically and analytically as well as develop a working knowledge of the substantive issues in the various fields. Regardless of their future career, all graduates need to understand how political phenomena impact their lives as citizens of the state of Georgia and the United States.

These goals are linked to the University and College missions: in trying to bridge theory and practice; in preparing citizens of the region, the nation, and the world; in encouraging graduates to be critical and investigate; to think globally as well as locally; and to foster the core values identified in the mission statement of CLASS and the University.

All graduates of all programs need to demonstrate improved reading, writing, and verbal skills.

All of our graduates need to understand the history of the relevant discipline and its major theoretical and methodological approaches.

We expect all our graduates to demonstrate respect for and appreciation of cultural diversity.

Political Science Attributes

Graduates will understand and be able to effectively characterize the boundaries of the discipline. Graduates will be able to identify the various fields of political science and understand the important questions that animate the discipline and the methods of approaches of addressing those questions.

Graduates will have developed a substantive understanding of the context of their particular field as an academic discipline and as social and political foci.

Graduates will be able to recognize and appreciate that there are several valid approaches to the study of the social sciences and understand and accept there is no single orthodoxy or ultimate truth or any absolutes.

Graduates will be able to understand and identify the processes that yield governmental policy and understand that processes often shape the outcomes.

Graduates will understand the process and methods of examining political phenomena.

Graduates will be able to demonstrate research competency in the use of secondary sources and the ability to utilize the technology available to practitioners and scholars in the field.

Justice Studies Attributes

Graduates will understand and be able to effectively characterize the boundaries of the discipline. As Justice Studies represents a multidimensional approach, graduates should be able to identify the various fields that comprise criminal justice research and understand the important questions that animate the discipline and the methods of approaches of addressing those questions.

Graduates will understand the processes behind the legal system and the impact of the legal system. They will understand the formal processes and what occurs within the shadow of the law.

Graduates will understand the approaches and methods for evaluating and examining criminal justice phenomena.

Graduates will be prepared to continue their studies in graduate or professional school or to assume a position in criminal justice administration.

Graduates will be able to demonstrate research competency in the use of secondary sources and the will be able to demonstrate the ability to utilize the technology available to practitioners and scholars in the field.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
Desired Attributes of a Georgia Southern University Graduate with a
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Masters of Public Administration Mission

The Master of Public Administration Program prepares graduates for careers in public service and non-profit organizations by providing outstanding academic and practical instruction in public administration. Preparing a corps of technically proficient, ethical and service-oriented public administrators will improve the quality of life and governance for all the region's citizens and this is our primary mission.

Attributes

Graduates will understand the classical distinctions between politics and administration. They will understand the interaction between politics and administration.

Graduates will understand the classics of public administration as well as the newest research. At the same time, graduates will to understand the practical realities of current administration. They will be able to combine theoretical and practical perspectives.

Graduates will understand the ethical dimensions of administration.

Graduates will be able to use policy research techniques and methodologies to address policy and administration questions. The mission statement emphasizes the technical training through the methods course, the skills courses, and internships and the ethical responsibilities, through an individual course and parts of many other courses incumbent upon public administrators.

Graduates will possess and continue to refine problem solving skills.

We expect our graduates to be employable. Graduates are expected to assume positions of leadership upon graduation.

We expect our graduates to be able to contribute to the quality of life and the governance of the region and its citizens.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
Desired Attributes of Georgia Southern University Graduates with a
**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
PSYCHOLOGY**

Mission

The primary mission of the Department of Psychology is to provide to the students of Georgia Southern University an appropriate representation of the discipline of psychology in the core curriculum, as a service component to other majors, and as a curriculum for a major course of study. The mission also includes graduate-level training for students wishing to pursue a professional career in psychology. A third aspect of the Department's mission is to provide benefit, wherever possible, to the discipline and to the people of the region through the instructional, research, and service activities of the faculty. In its attempts to fulfill this mission, the Department of Psychology strives to augment the abilities of its students for critical thinking and written and oral expression.

Vision

The Department of Psychology will offer a challenging yet satisfying undergraduate academic experience founded on excellent teaching and a well-planned curriculum. The teaching will incorporate a true concern for the students' learning and effective use of available technology. The curriculum will include coursework designed to produce a sound understanding of the scientific basis of psychology and elective courses in fundamental areas and applications that exploit the strengths of the faculty. It will present options for a broad liberal arts education as preparation for a successful career and fulfilling life regardless of career choice and options that maximize preparation for graduate study in psychology.

The Department will maintain a high-quality graduate program at a level and size to fit available resources. This program will offer intensive training in clinical skills in one track and extensive research training and activities in another track. The graduate program will continue its success in preparing its graduates for successful careers and/or for more advanced graduate study in psychology.

The Department will provide a very positive work environment for an award-winning faculty based on mutual professional respect and social support. This environment coupled with a flexible reward system will enable the faculty to make substantial contributions to the scholarships of discovery, integration, application, and teaching. This environment and system will also permit the faculty to exercise good citizenship in their various professional communities by furnishing service activities to their department, college, university, and external professional organizations.

Attributes for BA/BS degrees in Psychology

1. Knowledge Base: Graduates will have a strong knowledge base in the science of psychology.

2. Information-gathering, Synthesis, Experimental, and Statistics Skills: Graduates will be able to systematically review scientific literature, form hypotheses, design and conduct experiments as well as perform statistical tests in order to test hypotheses.

3. Ethics / Personal Growth: Graduates will be sensitive to individuals with mental illness as well as an enhanced sense of their own personal growth.

4. Student Satisfaction: Graduates will be pleased with their major in psychology and the major advising they receive.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY and ANTHROPOLOGY
Desired Attributes of Georgia Southern University Graduates with a
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIOLOGY and
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY

Mission

The graduate of this program should be good candidates for admission to and successful completion of graduate school in any number of programs, including sociology, social sciences, social work, counselor education, or some closely related field.

Second, candidates should be employable (actually, 'employed'). They should be qualified and able to find a job. They should have a completed resumé, some knowledge of the interview process, and some idea about how to 'sell themselves'.

Third, graduates should have some understanding of a specialization area they would like to actively pursue. For example, if they take a position with Hospice, they should know how to expand their knowledge base in this area, how to think critically about the problems and issues that are important for this population of clients and this area of study. Graduates should clearly understand that they must continue to educate themselves in their chosen career field long after they leave the university.

Fourth, they should have some knowledge and understanding of ethics and the role of ethical thinking and behavior in their interactions with clients.

Fifth, they should have developed viable problem-solving skills which certainly will be useful wherever they are employed.

Sixth, they should be able to think critically, as evidenced by an ability to present opposing viewpoints and alternative hypotheses on various issues, and an ability to engage in teamwork where many different viewpoints may be presented.

B.S. Sociology graduates should have accumulated a knowledge base sufficient for the following activities:

- Assume a position directly in a social service field upon graduation. This may involve working with individuals, groups, couples, or families, in an applied/clinical setting.
- Apply the sociological imagination to her/his own life.
- Define sociological theory and describe its role in building sociological knowledge.
- Design a research study or program evaluation in an area of choice, and explain why various decisions were made.
- Conduct an analysis of a social welfare policy that either directly or indirectly affects the quality of their client's life.

- Critically assess a published article from the professional literature on research or program evaluation, and explain how the study could have been improved.
- Discuss and summarize principles of ethical practice.
- Differentiate basic concepts of sociology.
- Know the steps in problem-solving, and understand how to apply this process in working with clients/client systems.
- Explain in depth at least two substantive specialty areas within sociology. This includes summarizing basic questions and issues in these areas, detailing current research in the areas, naming the prominent theorists in these areas, and accurately using the relevant terminology which is specific to these areas of study.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY and ANTHROPOLOGY
Desired Attribute of Georgia Southern University Graduates with a
MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE

Mission

The Master of Arts in Social Science program will be nationally recognized for its unique multidisciplinary approach to understanding and investigating social and cultural forces that shape the human experience.

The Master of Arts in Social Science program at Georgia Southern University offers a multidisciplinary curriculum for understanding and investigating the social aspects of human behavior, social structure and culture in a global context. The program emphasizes the wide range of skills and perspectives that graduates need in order to analyze the historical, cultural, individual, and institutional conditions that shape our lives. We are committed to helping graduates become informed, responsible, active citizens and ethical workers in diverse communities.

MA Social Science Graduate Attributes

First, our graduates should be good candidates for a doctoral program. In a recent survey of 12 alumni from our M.A. Sociology and M.A. in Social Science programs, eight former graduates were currently enrolled in doctoral programs, two others had been accepted into terminal degree programs and one other had earned her M.S.W.

Second, our graduates should be employable. They should be qualified, dependable, well-organized and motivated workers. They should have a resumé or vita and know how to search for positions within their chosen fields. Of the 12 alumni recently surveyed all were employed either full or part-time.

Third, our graduates should have a firm understanding of their chosen specialization area (e.g., anthropology, history, political science, psychology, or sociology). They should know how to expand their knowledge base in their specialization area and how to think critically about the problems and issues that are important in their field of study. They should clearly understand that they must continue to educate themselves in their chosen career field long after they leave the university.

Fourth, our graduates should possess problem-solving skills and be familiar with the research process.

Fifth, our graduates should be able to think critically as evidenced by an ability to present opposing viewpoints and alternative hypotheses on various issues, and an ability to engage in teamwork where many different viewpoints may be presented.

Sixth, our graduates should be tolerant of differences in culture, social class, and race.

DEPARTMENT OF WRITING AND LINGUISTICS
Desired Attributes of Georgia Southern University Graduates with a
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN WRITING AND LINGUISTICS

Mission

The Department of Writing and Linguistics at Georgia Southern University is one of only a handful of free-standing writing departments across the country. Established in July, 1997, we are also the unique academic department in Georgia's system that provides all undergraduates with a solid foundation in critical thinking, effective writing, and familiarity with current writing technologies — word processing, desktop publishing, email, web page design, and computer-mediated communication. Staffed with sixty knowledgeable faculty members whose careers are dedicated to helping students develop as writers and encouraging excellence in writing, the Department of Writing and Linguistics is committed to its role in the education of all of Georgia Southern University's 16,000 students. As supported by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, the two semesters of First-Year Composition offered by the Department allow in-depth instruction in writing, which is recognized as crucial in the post-secondary education of all GSU students.

Graduates of the B.A. program in Writing and Linguistics, regardless of concentration, will be able to:

- Demonstrate competence in using and acquiring new and emerging technologies for research and data access.
- Apply the professional skills and disciplinary knowledge of written communication theory needed to be effective communicators in the 21st century workplace.
- Develop a critical and experiential understanding of the ways in which writing functions in the world – in relation to education, communication, power, cultural differences, social justice, art, health and wellness, politics, and commerce.
- Develop a sophisticated awareness of the complex textual interrelationships among audience, genre, discourse community, purpose, and rhetorical strategy.
- Develop an awareness of the cognitive, social, and affective factors which shape writing tasks and writing processes.
- Understand language in its social and cultural context.
- Develop the ability to speak, write, and think with clarity, logical precision, and analytical rigor.
- Develop the ability to research carefully and systematically using current computer technology and modern information resources.
- Employ elements of the craft of writing for various purposes and audiences.
- Apply critical reading skills.
- Apply skills in the preparation of manuscripts for publication, readings, workshops, conferences, and other literary events.
- Articulate, thoughtful, creative citizens who are socially responsible and aware.
- Evidence-based thinkers able to spot a false argument in any context.
- Enthusiastic advocates for writing, literacy, and linguistic acuity.

- Aware of the power of language and its central place in being human.
- Aware of the inner workings of English and other languages.
- Creators of texts that follow conventions of professional genres.
- Professionals with the ability to combine theoretical knowledge of language structure and usage with practical writing skills in multiple forms.