

END OF THE YEAR REPORT 2015-2016  
BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE  
13 April 2016

Profile of Students  
(As of 2/23/2016)

***Currently enrolled students, admitted to BGS***

Current BGS student enrollment: 46

- 15 Traditional students, 31 non-traditional students
- Average GPA: 2.90

Fall 2016 Graduates: 16

Anticipated Spring 2016 Graduates: 24

Anticipated Summer 2016 Graduates: 1

***Applicant information***

Average credits completed upon admission to BGS: 117

75-90 credits completed: 10

91-105 credits completed: 14

105-120 credits completed: 16

120+ credits completed: 22

Average GPA upon admission: 2.86

Students declared Pre-BGS: 27 (at varying stages of application for admission process)

Students denied admission: 4 (3 will re-apply, 1 will not)

Students admitted into BGS, but not currently enrolled: 3

Students that met with a BGS advisor, but decided to pursue another program: 23

Students that met with a BGS advisor, have not applied, and are not currently enrolled: 31

Changes to the BGS Recommended by the Committee

The Admissions Committee recommends an amendment to the catalog description of the program ([http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/catalog/prog\\_generalstudies.htm](http://www.missouristate.edu/registrar/catalog/prog_generalstudies.htm)), adding the following sentence: "Students who have completed between 75 and 90 hours must work with a faculty member or department or college advisor in one of their areas of emphasis." This would be added to the second paragraph under the heading "Procedure for Seeking Candidacy," so that the whole paragraph would read (with the addition underlined):

Both former and current students who wish to pursue this degree must identify a faculty or professional staff advocate who is willing to endorse their entrance into the degree program. In most instances, this advocate should come from one of the departments that will be a part of the degree plan. This advocate may also serve as an advising resource for the student. Students who have completed between 75 and 90 hours must work with a faculty member or

department or college advisor in one of their areas of emphasis. Additional advising resources will be available through the Associate Provost for Student Development and Public Affairs.

Other changes in the process of admission to the BGS will be: (1) Advisors will work with departments on whether they will allow courses that have transferred in as general electives (ABC000) to count toward one of the areas of interest in students' BGS degree plans. (2) The advising staff will work on preparing a checklist for the students' applications, especially their written essays, so that applicants will be more likely to address the criteria that they must meet to be admitted. (3) Faculty advocates who work with BGS students can be given the status of being "secondary advisors."

## Faculty Senate Action on Mixed Credit

WHEREAS, mixed credit is defined as a course taken by an undergraduate student who then earns both undergraduate and graduate credit upon completion of the course;

WHEREAS, mixed credit is currently only allowed for students who are admitted to an accelerated master's program at Missouri State University;

WHEREAS, internal assessment has revealed that students have expressed the desire to complete graduate courses in departments that do not offer accelerated master's degree options;

WHEREAS, internal assessment has revealed that some students enter accelerated masters programs primarily to obtain mixed credit and therefore have no intention of completing the program thus negatively impacting program completion rates;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following language, as perfected and passed by the Faculty Senate, be incorporated into the policy library (Policy OP.3.04-4), the Office of the Registrar's web page on mixed credit, appropriately within the graduate catalog, and appropriately within the undergraduate catalog:

Students who meet all admission requirements to a graduate program (certificate, masters, accelerated masters) other than completion of a baccalaureate degree, who have completed 90+ credit hours and have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA (or the admission GPA required of that graduate program, if higher), may be granted permission by the Graduate Program Director in the department in which the graduate course is taken, the Department Head of the undergraduate major to which the mixed credit will be applied, and the Dean of the Graduate College, to take up to six hours of mixed credit without first being admitted to that graduate program. Permission of the Graduate Director of one program does not guarantee that those approved mixed credit courses can be used in another graduate program.