UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Planning Your Academic Program

At The National Hispanic University, the academic year is organized on a semester system. Two semesters, Fall (September - December) and Spring (January - May), constitute the regular academic year followed by a Summer (June-August) session. The majority of NHU courses are equivalent to three (3) semester units of work. To accommodate the working adult, NHU has instituted a modular schedule. NHU offers five (5) modules per academic year, dividing the Fall and Spring semesters into two ten-week modules each and offering a six-week module during the Summer semester. While the modular schedule provides greater flexibility for students, it is not an accelerated program.

Although NHU continues to have registration on a semester basis, new students may enroll each module and register for classes when their application process is completed. For continuing students, registration fees are collected in September, December and May.

The requirements for a bachelor’s degree and associate degree are explained in this catalog. In scheduling their classes each semester, students should carefully follow the curricula, both for the General Education (GE) Breadth requirements and the Major requirements. It is highly recommended that students consult with their Academic Advisor and begin to note their courses in the academic planner.

The course of study towards a bachelor’s degree is as follows:

During the Freshman year, students will start to satisfy the GE Breadth requirements. These courses will expose students to a range of academic subjects before concentrating on a major field of study. It is recommended that students complete their GE’s by the end of their Sophomore year. During the Freshman and Sophomore years, students will take lower division required courses that prepare them for the major. In addition, students should plan to complete NHU Core Courses;

During the Junior and Senior years at NHU, students concentrate on the upper division requirements for the major and complete any remaining courses to fulfill the units required for graduation.

Academic Advising

The purpose of Academic Advising is to assist students to realize their educational goals through the development and implementation of a personal academic program. Academic advising encompasses both academic learning as well as personal and professional growth and development.

Students are assigned individual Faculty Advisors at the time of admission into the University. Students meet at least once a semester with their advisors throughout their academic career at NHU.

Academic Advisors contribute to students’ academic career by assisting them to:

• Understand NHU and its ideals, standards, policies, procedures and resources for students;
• Meet the challenge of being University students by establishing a clear relationship between the University’s program and students’ needs;
• Understand and appreciate their abilities, strengths and interests;
• Select and make progress toward a career by providing information about occupational choices and designing an appropriate academic program;
• Complete the “Academic Planning Form.”

Graduation Requirements

It is the students’ responsibility to comply with all regulations, and to satisfy all degree requirements.

Students are strongly encouraged to consult with the Coordinator of their major department or faculty advisor for proper advisement.

Department Coordinator will have the authority to approve substitutions for discontinued courses. Keep in mind that the University requires students declaring or changing their major to complete the Change of Major-Form.

A break in continuous attendance will make students subject to the requirements in effect at the time of re-enrollment.

“Continuous Attendance” at NHU means attendance in at least one semester each calendar year. Absence due to an approved educational leave or for attendance at another institution of higher learning shall not be considered an interruption in attendance, if the absence does not exceed one year.
All students who enter NHU are required to pass the Junior Level Writing Examination to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. Students should take the test during the first semester of their Junior year. The test may be taken as many times as needed to pass. Students who do not pass the test are strongly encouraged to sign up for a tutorial program in the Student Academic Assistance Center (SAAC). There is no administration fee.

Transfer Students

Graduation requirements for transfer students are the same as for undergraduates entering as Freshman. Exceptions to this general rule are incorporated in this catalog, or will be determined by the Department Coordinator. Prospective transfer students are urged to consult the general academic regulations for undergraduates (particularly those relating to graduation and academic residency requirements) and the section on the student’s major. Students who transfer credits from community colleges and/or universities should request an evaluation of their transcript before planning their course of study.

Bachelor Degree

In order to meet the academic requirements for graduation with a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science Degree, students must:

- Complete a minimum of 125 semester units of college credits for the Bachelor of Arts degree and 128 semester units of college credits for the Bachelor of Science degree;
- Satisfy the NHU General Education Breadth requirements as described in this catalog;
- Meet the requirements of Core Courses;
- Meet requirements for the major as described in the catalog;
- Complete a minimum of the University’s 30 semester units residency requirement;
- Complete a minimum of 45 upper division units for graduation;
- Attain an overall grade point average of “C” (2.0) or higher with a “C” (2.0) or higher in all units attempted in the major;
- Satisfy the University’s writing skills and computer proficiency requirements. Passing the university writing skills test, SAM 2000 computer proficiency test, satisfies the requirements.
- Satisfy the U.S. History and Constitution and American Ideals requirements. Taking U.S. History I (HIS 100) and History II (HIS 201) satisfy this requirement.

In addition, students must:

- File a Petition to Graduate Form at the completion of 100 units;
- Insure that all financial obligations to the University have been met, including payment of outstanding fees.