

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (BS) DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A student's degree requirements, including the major and minor sequence requirements, are those stated in the catalog in the year in which a student is admitted to Mills. To be eligible for graduation with a BS degree, students must complete all of the requirements listed below:

## 1. Total Semester Course Credits (120 semester credits)

Each student must complete a minimum of 120 semester course credits including transfer credits and/or Advanced Placement (AP) credits.

## 2. Core Curriculum (CC) Requirement (10 courses; 31 semester credits)

The 10-course (31 semester credit) CC requirement can be fulfilled through numerous courses throughout the curriculum which reflect our general education outcomes; students can also gain CC credit through AP credit or prior college-level course work. Courses required for the major or natural science and mathematics core, or courses taken to fulfill the liberal arts requirement, may also count toward the CC requirement. A single course may count for up to two requirements. COLL 005 (0 credit) is required of all entering undergraduates and must be taken during the student's first semester at Mills. ENG 001 is required of all entering undergraduates unless they have equivalent transfer credit. ENG 001 must be taken the first year of the student's attendance.

**NOTE:** The core curriculum requirements listed here are applicable to all students entering during academic year 2016-2017 or later. Students who entered during an earlier academic year should view the General Education Requirements in their entering year catalog in the catalog archives (<https://inside.mills.edu/catalog-courses-calendars/catalog-archives/>).

## 3. Natural Science and Mathematics Core (33 semester credits)

To be eligible for graduation with a BS degree, students must complete a natural science and mathematics core which includes:

| Code                | Title  | Credits |
|---------------------|--|---------|
| BIO 001             | General Biology I with Lab                   | 4       |
| CHEM 017 & CHEM 018 | General Chemistry I and General Chemistry II | 8       |
| CS 063              | Introduction to Programming                  | 4       |
| MATH 047 & MATH 048 | Calculus I and Calculus II                   | 6       |
| PHYS 061 & PHYS 062 | General Physics I and General Physics II     | 8       |

Select one of the following (majors may recommend or require specific courses):

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| CS 064   | Computer Concepts and Intermediate Programming |
| ECON 081 | Introduction to Statistics                     |
| MATH 004 | Discrete Mathematics I                         |
| MATH 049 | Multivariable Calculus                         |
| MATH 050 | Linear Algebra                                 |

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| MATH 102 | Probability and Statistics             |
| MATH 104 | Differential Equations                 |
| MATH 141 | Real Analysis I                        |
| PSYC 146 | Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences |

## 4. Major

Students may major in no more than two fields, with 30 unduplicated semester course credits required in each field. BS degrees are offered in biology, chemistry, biochemistry and molecular biology, biopsychology, environmental science, mathematics, and public health and health equity. These majors offer both a BA and BS track; to be eligible for the BS degree, students must complete the requirements for the BS major. Refer to the Departments and Programs section of the catalog for specific major requirements. (See Declaring a Major (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/academic-regulations/declaring-major-minor/>)).

## 5. Independent Experience (3 semester credits)

Students must complete 3 semester credits of independent work related to the major, which can be in the form of directed research or an academic internship, as agreed upon by the student and her advisor. The credit requirement can be waived if a student has completed at least 100 hours of non-credit bearing research, either on or off campus. (Note: Students must still achieve a minimum of 120 credits for the BS). This is not part of the major sequence.

## 6. Minor (Optional)

Students are encouraged to consider a minor in a humanities, social science, or fine arts field. A minor consists of 15 to 20 semester course credits, and is not required for the BS degree. Students may minor in no more than two fields. No courses in the minor may be counted in the major or in a second minor, but courses counted in the liberal arts and natural science and mathematics core may also count toward a minor. Refer to the Departments and Programs section of the catalog for specific minor requirements. (See Declaring a Minor (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/academic-regulations/declaring-major-minor/>)).

## 7. Letter Grades in the Major, Minor, and Core

All courses completed in the major and minor sequences and in the natural science and mathematics core must be completed with letter grades. "Pass/No Pass" ("P/NP") grades are not permitted in these areas.

## 8. Upper-Division Credits (30 semester credits)

Each student must complete a minimum of 30 100-level semester course credits.

## 9. Residency Requirement (40 semester credits)

Students must be in attendance at Mills during the last two semesters immediately prior to graduation and must complete a minimum of 40 semester course credits at Mills, which requires a minimum of three semesters of study. Courses taken through study abroad, domestic exchange/visit, cross-registration, or concurrent enrollment do not count toward the residency requirement. Students approved for study abroad within their last two semesters are exempt from the semester residency requirement, but are still required to complete 40 semester course credits at Mills.

## 10. Minimum 2.0 Cumulative GPA

No student may graduate with a cumulative Mills GPA of lower than 2.0.

## 11. Credit Restrictions

**Physical Education (PE) Courses**

A maximum of 4 semester course credits in physical education activities, including competitive sports, is allowed toward the degree. Students wishing to enroll in additional PE courses must register for these courses as "Audit" ("AU") and will receive no credit for them. A student may receive credit for no more than two 1-credit activity or competitive sport participation classes in any one semester. (Activity courses are numbered PE 001-PE 099; competitive sports courses begin at PE 100.)

***Dance Technique Courses***

Students who do not major in dance may apply no more than 10 semester course credits of dance technique toward the degree.

***Music Performance Courses***

Students who do not major in music may apply no more than 10 semester course credits individual instrument instruction, individual voice instruction, or performance and composition toward the degree.