

Inverted Majors/Applied Science Majors ***Bachelor of Applied Science Degree and Associate of Applied Science Degree***

The Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) and the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) are career-oriented degree programs structured on the "inverted major" concept, which builds an individually designed academic degree program around the approved technical, allied health, public safety, or occupational "major" the student already has completed. In most cases, students receive no additional training in the major from Siena Heights University; instead, they complete their Siena Heights University degree by completing liberal arts courses and other course work appropriate to their prior learning and future goals.

Traditional and non-traditional credit options are possible for the inverted major. A major may be established and/or credit may be awarded for course work completed at accredited colleges and universities as well as approved technical, trade and allied health schools, and/or for professional experience, licensure, or college-equivalent prior learning. Options for earning prior learning credit include CLEP (College-Level Examination Program), Excelsior College Exams, Michigan Occupational Competency Assessment Exams (MOCAC), ACE-PONSI (American Council on Education Program on Non-Collegiate Sponsored Instruction), military and police academy certification, among other testing programs. Transfer credit is determined individually; interested students should contact the transfer coordinator in the Admissions Office on the Adrian campus, or an academic advisor at one of Siena Heights University's degree completion centers.

B.A.S. and A.A.S. Degrees are appropriate for applied science majors in many areas. Several examples of qualifying applied science majors are highlighted below.

Health Care Professions

For persons trained in Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Therapy, Dental Hygiene, Surgical Technology, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Health Information Technology, Massage Therapy, Nuclear Medicine Technology, Medical Assisting, Medical Laboratory Technology, Nuclear Medicine Technology, Neurodiagnostic Technology, Occupational Therapy Assisting, Physical Therapy Assisting, or Health Studies (Contract Major: Please consult with advisor).

Public Safety Professions

For persons trained in Law Enforcement, Fire Technology, Paramedic Technology, Hazardous Materials Technology, or Public Safety Studies (Contract Major: Please consult with advisor).

Technical/Trade and Occupational Professions

For persons trained in Aviation, Automotive Technology, Climate Control Technology, Drafting and Design Technology, Electronics Technology, Industrial Technology, Nuclear Technology, Air Frame & Power Plant Technology, Power Technology, Skilled Trades, or General Technology (Contract Major: Please consult with advisor).

Specialized Occupational Professions

For persons trained in Sign Language Interpreting, Administrative Office Systems, CIS Technology, Culinary Arts, Legal Assisting, Veterinary Technology, or Occupational Studies (Contract Major: Please consult with advisor).

Inverted Majors/Applied Science Major Requirements

To earn a Bachelor of Applied Science degree from Siena Heights University, a student must complete a total of 120 semester hours of college credit, at least thirty (30) of which must be completed with Siena Heights.

Within the 120 hours, a student must:

1. Present a qualifying BAS major.
2. Complete a minimum of thirty (30) semester hours at the 300/400 level, including at least 15 hours of upper-level course work earned at Siena Heights.
3. Complete all applicable liberal arts requirements.

4. Maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average in coursework from Siena Heights and demonstrate proficiency in writing and mathematics.

Associate of Applied Science degree seekers must complete sixty (60) semester hours of college credit, at least 18 of which must be from Siena Heights University. There is no upper-level requirement. All other requirements are the same.

Learning Outcomes

The qualifying BAS/AAS major presented by the student is the basis for establishing learning outcomes/competence in the student's field of study and our BAS Program. Completed accredited technical programs, registry, national certification, licensure, completion of nationally recognized exams, and successful professional work experience and other training all are central to insuring competence and that the BAS/AAS student has achieved appropriate/required learning outcomes in his/her field of study. This is a central and unique feature of the BAS/AAS major at Siena Heights University.

Value Added

The Siena Heights Liberal Arts Program with its learning outcomes is an additional way the University enhances value/additional competences to the BAS/AAS student's personal learning history. Many students add minors, even 2nd majors, and other sequences of study to achieve additional skills, competencies, depending on their own personal, unique life circumstances. BAS/AAS students also often have completed much new, specialized training beyond the learning experiences which comprise their BAS/AAS major. Wherever appropriate evaluative means exist Siena Heights awards additional credit for such college-level learning.