

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Degrees Offered

Bennett College confers the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts and Science in Interdisciplinary Studies, Bachelor of Social Work, and the Bachelor of Fine Arts. These degrees represent the satisfactory completion of at least 124 semester hours, an overall average of at least C, and a grade of at least C in each course that the student has taken to satisfy the requirements for graduation in her major field. The College currently offers 16 majors. Bennett College participates in a dual degree engineering program with North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NC A&T), which allows Bennett College students to earn a second degree in engineering from NC A&T State University.

Majors

- Arts Management (Music & Visual Arts Tracks)
- Biology (Teaching and Non-teaching Tracks)
- Business Administration
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Elementary Education (K–6)
- English (Teaching and Non-teaching Tracks)
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Journalism & Media Studies (Formerly Mass Communications: Four Tracks)
- Mathematics (Teaching and Non-teaching Tracks)
- Middle Grades Education (6–9)
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Special Education
- Visual and Performing Arts, B.F.A degree (Three Tracks: Theatre, Music, and Visual Arts)

Dual Degree in Engineering

Students may receive a dual degree in engineering from NC A&T State University (also in Greensboro, NC) by participating in the Bennett College/NC A&T State University Dual Degree Engineering Program. At the end of the first year at Bennett College, students may apply for admission to the Dual Degree Engineering Program in the office of the Coordinator of the Dual Degree Engineering Program at Bennett College. The following engineering degrees are offered:

- Chemical Engineering (Dual Degree Program)
- Electrical Engineering (Dual Degree Program)
- Mechanical Engineering (Dual Degree Program)

General Education Degree Requirements

The General Education Program at Bennett College is designed to create and sustain an academic community whose participants develop intellectual skills and habits of mind and action that characterize a liberal education. Students are immersed in learning that emphasizes useful intellectual skills acquired across the curriculum, active self-directed and experiential learning, and the development and practice of informed values. The purpose of the General Education Program is to achieve the stated goals through: (1) integrative and experiential approaches to learning, including critical, connected, and creative thinking; (2) understanding and appreciation of interdisciplinary, multi-cultural, and international aspects of knowledge; (3) building a knowledge base across the broad range of disciplines; (4) acquiring the ability to articulate thoughts and ideas; (5) development of the whole person in the context of African American heritage; (6) formulation of a value system and willingness to act on it; and (7) self-directed, independent learning, and fostering an inquiring mind.

The General Education Program consists of 50 credit hours of required courses and 40 hours of volunteer community service. The hours for community service may be fulfilled in an equitable fashion over the four years of matriculation.

The following courses are required for all students pursuing the B.A., B.S., B.S.W., B.A.S.I.S., and B.F.A. degrees:

| <i>Courses</i> | <i>Semester Hours</i> |
|--|-----------------------|
| English, EN 102, 103 | 6 |
| Speech, SH 103 | 3 |
| Mathematics, MA 110 & 120 <i>or</i> MA 110 & 130 | 6 |
| Computer Applications | 3 |
| Foreign Language | 6 |
| Art/Music/Theatre | 3 |
| Biology, BI 100/101 | 3/4 |
| Science ¹ | 3 |
| Philosophy/Religion / Ethics, PH 201/ RH 315 / PH 313 | 3 |
| Origins of Civilization, HI 101/102 | 3 |
| American History, HI 201/202 <i>or</i> African American History, HI 301 | 3 |
| Economics/Political Science/Psychology/ Sociology | 3 |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Wellness for Life | 2 |
| Physical Education | 2 |
| Orientation | 1 |

¹*Students may select any introductory course or course for which they have met the prerequisite from the following: Physical Science, Physics, Chemistry, or Computer Science.*

Spanish Language Policy Concerning the General Education Foreign Language Requirement

The General Education Program at Bennett College includes a foreign language requirement of six (6) sequential credit hours. If a student has no previous study of Spanish, she can complete the General Education foreign language requirement in Spanish with Elementary Spanish I (SP 101) and Elementary Spanish II (SP 102).

Entering freshmen with three (3) or four (4) years of high school Spanish and transfer students who studied Spanish in their previous academic institutions who wish to continue the study of Spanish are required to take a placement test during orientation. The placement test is optional for students with one (1) or two (2) years of high school Spanish who wish to place at a higher level than Elementary Spanish I.

If the student places at a higher level than Elementary Spanish I, she must take the next two higher level Spanish courses sequentially; in all cases, the course credits of Spanish earned must total six (6) credit hours. A student may not be exempted from this requirement based on a placement test score. The purpose of the placement test is to place the student into a course at the appropriate level for her to continue her study and to earn six (6) academic credits. It is not intended for placing her out of the Spanish six (6) credit hour requirement.

Students who are seeking to place out of the Spanish six (6) credit hour requirement and to receive course credit at Bennett through examination or prior study should utilize the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or the Advanced Placement (AP) course credit procedure.

Majors, Minors, and Concentrations

Students pursuing the B.A. or the B.S. degree select a major and complete departmental requirements for that major. A student may also select a minor area of study along with her major. A total of 18 credit hours must be earned to satisfy requirements for a minor in selected disciplines.

An interdisciplinary concentration is required for the degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. A total of 24 credit hours constitutes a concentration.

Double Majors

Students who wish to pursue a double major must complete all General Education courses AND all requirements for both major areas. Double majors must be approved by department chairs from both major areas and the Vice President for Academic Affairs by completing a double major form.

Student Responsibility

Each student is responsible for the proper completion of her academic program as based on the requirements stated in the College Catalog. The assigned faculty advisor is available for consultation, but responsibility remains with the student. Additional advising assistance is available through the Bennett College Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology.

Academic Units and Departments

In keeping with its commitment, Bennett College offers a rigorous liberal arts education of excellence for its students. Faculty members are committed to the delivery of a liberal arts curriculum in an environment of open inquiry. The educational program encourages the development of the critical and analytical thinking necessary for students to continue to educate themselves in the years after college, thereby making their education constantly relevant and lifelong. Faculty, staff, and administrators consider it a fundamental principle to provide for students a unique and flexible program of instruction, supplemented by rich experiences in group participation and community involvement. This program is designed to meet the needs of an ever-changing global technological society. The standard of education provided by the College meets or surpasses the accreditation standards of the state, regional, and national accrediting agencies from which accreditation has been sought. Among these accrediting agencies are the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), and the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE).

The **Division of Academic Affairs**, which is responsible for the administration of the academic program, currently consists of three **academic administrative units**: (1) the Office of the Vice President; (2) the Office of the Associate Vice President; and (3) the Office of the Registrar. There are two **academic support units**: (1) the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology, and (2) the Holgate Library. There are three **academic divisions**: (1) the Division of Humanities, (2) the Division of Natural and Behavioral Sciences/Mathematics, and (3) the Division of Social Sciences and Education. These divisions are further subdivided into eleven departments.

Collectively and collaboratively these academic units and departments facilitate the mission of the College through its delivery of effective instruction and quality academic support services. Faculty, staff, and administrators demonstrate and promote high

academic standards and expectations through leadership, scholarship, research, and public service.

The Division of Humanities houses the following academic departments:

English and Foreign Languages
Visual and Performing Arts
History, Philosophy and Religion (Interdisciplinary Program)

Majors offered by the Division of Humanities

Arts Management
English—Teaching and Non-teaching Tracks
Interdisciplinary Studies
Visual and Performing Arts—Theatre, Music (Teaching and Non-teaching Tracks), and Visual Arts

Minors offered by the Division of Humanities

English
History
Music
Philosophy
Religion
Spanish

The Division of Social Sciences and Education houses the following academic departments:

Business and Economics
Curriculum and Instruction
Journalism and Media Studies
Political Science and Social Work/Sociology

Majors offered by the Division of Social Sciences and Education

Business Administration
Elementary Education, K–6
Middle Grades Education, 6–9
Political Science
Special Education, K–12
Social Work
Journalism and Media Studies (Four Tracks)

Minors offered by the Division of Social Sciences and Education

Political Science

Economics
Journalism and Media Studies (Broadcast/Electronic Media,
Print Journalism, Public Relations/Media Sales and Marketing,
and Media Scholars)
Special Education
International Affairs
Sociology

The Department of Natural and Behavioral Sciences/Mathematics houses the following academic departments:

Biology
Chemistry
Mathematics and Computer Science
Psychology

Majors offered by the Division of Natural and Behavioral Sciences/Mathematics

Biology – Teaching and Non-teaching Tracks
Chemistry
Computer Science
Mathematics – Teaching and Non-Teaching
Psychology

Minors offered by the Division of Natural and Behavioral Sciences/Mathematics

Biology
Chemistry
Mathematics
Computer Science
Psychology

Dual Degree Major Programs

In addition to these programs, Bennett College also offers the dual degree programs listed below:

Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Chemical, Mechanical, and Electrical) in
conjunction with North Carolina A&T State University
Pharm.D. degree in the Science/Pharmacy program at Howard University
A joint J.D. degree in law at St. John’s University School of Law

The Curriculum

In keeping with Bennett’s mission, the academic program offered by the college is a liberal arts curriculum designed to help students think critically and analytically, solve

problems, and explore new pathways to help change the world. The curriculum consists of the General Education Program and the sixteen academic major programs.

The General Education Program

The General Education Program is designed to fulfill two primary goals: (1) to create and sustain an academic community whose participants develop intellectual skills and habits of mind and action that characterize a liberal education; and (2) to immerse students in learning that emphasizes useful intellectual skills acquired across the curriculum; active, self-directed, and experiential learning as well as the development and practice of informed values. These goals are achieved through: (1) integrative and experiential approaches to learning, including critical, connected, and creative thinking; (2) the understanding and appreciation of interdisciplinary, multicultural, and international aspects of knowledge; (3) building a knowledge base across the broad range of disciplines; (4) acquiring the ability to articulate thoughts and ideas; (5) the development of the whole person in the context of African American heritage; (6) the formulation of a value system and willingness to act on it; and (7) self-directed, independent learning, and fostering an inquiring mind. The General Education Program consists of 50 credit hours of required courses and 40 hours of volunteer community service. The hours for community service may be fulfilled in an equitable fashion over the four years of matriculation.

Distinguished Faculty-At-Large

Effective fall 2003, Bennett College implemented its new Distinguished Faculty At-Large Program. This Program seeks to bring to the campus distinguished faculty members from other institutions of higher education. Renowned faculty at Harvard, Cornell, and Duke universities, as well as Spelman College are a part of this program. This program is intended to enrich the learning experiences of students and motivate them to aspire to greater heights as scholars.