

Augustana College/WIU Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Agreement

This Memorandum of Understanding affirms The Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University (WIU) and Augustana College (Augustana) desire to collaborate to foster a strategic educational partnership that will provide both institutions with an opportunity to work together.

Under this partnership WIU (Sport Management) and Augustana (Kinesiology) will deliberately seek collaborative opportunities to coordinate programs that respond to the identified educational needs within the Western Illinois region.

Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Programs

An integrated kinesiology baccalaureate and sport management master's degree program provide the opportunity for outstanding undergraduates to earn both degrees in five years. Typically, a baccalaureate degree requires four years to complete and a master's degree requires an additional two years. The integrated programs may include additional opportunities to participate in a variety of experiential educational activities such as a master's project or thesis.

The requirements for the baccalaureate and master's components of the integrated program will remain the same as for the existing baccalaureate and master's programs. Students admitted into the program will complete three Augustana courses, referred to as "bridge courses," which will fulfill part of the master's program requirements.

All policies/regulations related to undergraduate or graduate degree programs apply to the integrated degree programs except as specifically differentiated.

Admission to Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Programs

For the purposes of calculating credit equivalencies, Augustana undergraduate students may apply for admission to an integrated program after completing the equivalent of 60 semester hours of undergraduate coursework.

Academic Requirements

Students must meet one of the following admission requirements: (1) A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher or, (2) A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a minimum 3.3 GPA in the last 30 semester hours.

The work required for the integrated baccalaureate and master's degree program must be completed within six consecutive calendar years from the time of first enrollment in courses which are part of the integrated program.

Upon completion of all requirements of the baccalaureate degree, such degree will be awarded by Augustana. Subsequently, after completing the requirements of the master's degree (including the bridge courses), such degree will be awarded to the student by WIU.

Grades of A or B must be earned in courses taken with the "B" designator.

Students in this program are not eligible for assistantship positions until the baccalaureate degree has been conferred.

Students must complete three bridge courses at Augustana, at least one of which must be completed during their senior year. Students completing fewer than three bridge courses will not be able to complete their M.S. in the five-year window and must meet regular admission requirements.

Registration for Bridge ("B") Courses

Once students are accepted in the integrated degree program by WIU, they become eligible to enroll in bridge ("B") courses. WIU Sport Management program will be responsible for notifying the Augustana Registrar of the name of any student admitted to the joint program.

Implementation of the program

To implement this agreement, all trustees, administrators, and faculties of WIU and Augustana accepting this concept do declare that an Augustana graduate who has been admitted to the joint degree program, has maintained a 3.25 GPA and who has completed three bridge courses with a grade of "B" or higher, is guaranteed admission as a graduate student in the Master of Science degree program in Sport Management at WIU.

Applicants must submit the online School of Graduate Studies application, pay the application fee, submit all official transcripts and department admission documents to include a statement of professional goals, resume and three professional references to be eligible for admission consideration. Accepted students must submit a final degree transcript from Augustana College upon completion of the bachelor's degree.

This commitment is subject to review periodically as catalogs and program requirements change.

Faculty who teach bridge courses at Augustana must obtain WIU Temporary Graduate Faculty Status (http://wiu.edu/graduate_studies/faculty_and_staff_resources/forms/tempgradfac.pdf).

This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in effect following its adoption by both parties. It shall thereafter be renewed automatically for 12-months beginning every January 1 unless either party gives a 30-day written notice of termination or request to change.

This agreement is signified by the respective authorized signatures below on 5/01/2023.



President of Augustana College

Andrea Talentino



President of Western Illinois University

Guiyou Huang