

BGS in Applied Behavioral Science with concentration in Child Life Specialty

Admission to this program has been suspended for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Below is a sample 4-year plan for students pursuing the BGS in Applied Behavioral Science with a concentration in Child Life Specialty. To view the list of courses approved to fulfill Core 34 Goals, please visit the KU Core 34 page (<https://catalog.ku.edu/core34/>).

Freshman

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ABSC 160 (Concentration Requirement)	3 ABSC 100 or 101 (Major Requirement; Core 34: Social and Behavior Science (SGE)) ^{050**}	3
MATH 101 (Core 34: Math and Statistics (SGE)) ⁰³⁰	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3
Core 34: English (SGE) ⁰¹⁰	3 Core 34: English (SGE) ⁰¹⁰	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Core 34: Communications (SGE) ⁰²⁰	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3
15		15

Sophomore

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ABSC 304 (Major Requirement)	3 ABSC 308 (Major Requirement)	4
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 ABSC 309 (Concentration Requirement)	3
Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE) ⁰⁶⁰	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3
Core 34: US Culture (SGE) ⁰⁷⁰	3 Core 34: Natural and Physical Sciences (SGE) ⁰⁴⁰	4-5
Core 34: Social and Behavioral Science (SGE) ⁰⁵⁰	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3
15		17-18

Junior

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ABSC 529 (Concentration Requirement)	3 ABSC 509 (Major Requirement; Capstone Course)	3
Core 34: Global Culture (SGE) ⁰⁷⁰	3 ABSC 626 (Concentration Requirement)	3

Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE) ⁰⁶⁰	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3
15		15

Senior

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ABSC 683 (Practicum Requirement; Capstone Course) ³	3 ABSC 675 (Practicum Requirement; Capstone Course) ³	3-5
ABSC 300+ Concentration Elective ²	3 ABSC 300+ Concentration Elective ²	3
BGS Career Course (BGSC)	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3
Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Second Area of Study/ Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	1
15		13-15

Total Hours 120-123

¹ Hour requirements (incl. 45 jr/sr hrs) are typically met through Core 34, degree, major, second area of study and/or elective hours. Students completing the BGS with a major must choose a secondary area of study. Individual degree mapping is done in partnership with your advisor.

² 6 hours of ABSC Concentration Area elective courses are required
³ This practicum requires a two-semester commitment (three hours each semester); three of which must be ABSC 683. Space may be limited and enrollment may depend on date of indication of interest.

Please note:

All students in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences are required to complete 120 hours of which 45 hours must be at the Jr/Sr (300+) level.

*Courses with a * designate courses that are degree requirements but can also be taken to fulfill the KU Core 34 requirement. If another course is used to fulfill the Core 34 requirement, the course listed is still required as a degree requirement.

Students who wish to sit for the Child Life Specialty Certification Exam administered by the Association for Child Life Professionals (ACLP) are encouraged to consult the ACLP's eligibility requirements (<https://www.childlife.org/docs/default-source/certification/steps-to-become-certified.pdf>) webpage, and plan their electives to meet these requirements. Students may elect to take other courses (instead of those required by ACLP) to complete the concentration/major. However, doing so may render the student ineligible to sit for the Certification Exam. In addition, the ACLP requires a 600-hour internship supervised by a

Certified Child Life Specialist. The student must arrange for this internship outside of the degree requirements.

Notes:

* - This course is a Required major course and is also part of Core 34: Systemwide General Education. If this course is not taken to fulfill the Core 34:SGE requirement, it must be taken in place of elective hours.

** - This course is a Recommended Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. This specific course is not required but is recommended by the program's faculty.

*** - This course is a Required Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. This program is approved by the Kansas Board of Regents to require this specific Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. If a student did not take this course it must be taken in addition to other degree requirements.