

### Entry requirements

Candidates must be out of high school for a minimum of seven years. Applications include a resumé and official records of all post-secondary education; high school records are not usually required. The admission process also includes a personal goal statement and admissions interview with the BIS Co-ordinator.

### Degree requirements

*The BIS degree plan includes the following:*

- 24 credits (8 courses) in a chosen area of concentration, 2 at the senior (300 & 400) level
- 30 credits (10 courses) at the senior (300 & 400) level
- a grade of 65 per cent in at least 7 of the 10 courses completed at the senior level
- not more than 36 credits (12 courses) at the preparatory (100) level
- 6 credits in English, including English 101 and one other English course, OR Global Issues 151, and one other writing-intensive course
- University 193: Creating a Career and Learning Portfolio
- University Studies 493: a graduation project
- a number of strongly recommended and recommended courses as outlined on the website

[upei.ca/lifelonglearning](http://upei.ca/lifelonglearning)

Beyond the official documentation, learners should identify—with help from the BIS Co-ordinator—the lifestyle adjustments that will contribute to a great university experience.

### Learning plans

At an early stage in the program, learners develop their own learning plans. The plans describe goals and identify a list of courses that help each student achieve success. The BIS Co-ordinator makes referrals to faculty, the Registrar, and Student Services staff to assist students in obtaining answers to counselling-related questions. In this way, BIS students are able to build important support networks on campus.

**UPEI**  
UNIVERSITY  
*of Prince Edward*  
**ISLAND**

#### Contact us:

BIS Co-ordinator  
Centre for Life-Long Learning  
University of Prince Edward Island  
550 University Avenue  
Charlottetown, PE C1A 4P3  
Tel.: (902) 566-0336  
Fax: (902) 566-0451  
E-mail: [lifelong@upei.ca](mailto:lifelong@upei.ca)

#### Submit applications to:

Office of the Registrar  
University of Prince Edward Island  
550 University Avenue  
Charlottetown, PE, C1A 4P3  
Tel.: (902) 566-0634  
Fax: (902) 566-0795  
E-mail: [registrar@upei.ca](mailto:registrar@upei.ca)

[upei.ca/bis](http://upei.ca/bis)

# BIS

## Bachelor of Integrated Studies



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*It's all about flexibility and valuing your previous learning—a workable way to earn your degree*

### Program overview

The Bachelor of Integrated Studies (BIS) degree is referred to as a three-year degree because this is the average time it takes a full-time student to complete it. However, the BIS is expected to serve mainly adult students in full-time paid and unpaid work who need a flexible program of self-paced part-time study. Completion times will vary.

There are many reasons why former students may have left university before completing their degrees. The BIS welcomes them back by recognizing transfer credits and learning from life and work. The BIS also accommodates adults who want to begin a degree today. With guidance, learners are able to design a plan of academic study that matches career and personal interests, choosing a main focus from a wide selection of arts, science, or business courses.

Learners may start their studies at the beginning of any term. UPEI schedules numerous late-afternoon and evening courses, intensive summer-session credits, and some web-based courses.

*I was excited to learn UPEI would be offering the new Bachelor of Integrated Studies degree. It appeared to be tailor-made for me. As a shift worker, I could work at my own pace and receive credit for prior learning. Professors, staff, and classmates have been helpful and supportive. My time at UPEI has been challenging and fulfilling. I would recommend the Bachelor of Integrated Studies program to everyone seeking to further their education.*

— **Michael Conway**  
Telecommunications Section  
Charlottetown Police Services

### An adult-focused degree

While traditional university students attend university to develop broad capacities in independent thinking, and in-depth knowledge in specific areas, mature-age students have reversed this process. They have already acquired a depth of applied knowledge and skills through life and work. Adults attend university to complement their experiential learning with more formal study. Adults juggle multiple roles with a myriad of factors competing for their attention. They are self-disciplined, organized, and focused. The BIS was created with adult learners in mind.

### Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Adults do not stop learning when they leave school. This is exactly where Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) fits. The PLAR process involves a detailed and systematic assessment of learning acquired through life and work to determine how it matches with what students are expected to learn through enrolment in a course or program. PLAR reduces degree completion time by allowing credit for what learners already know and can demonstrate. The BIS Co-ordinator can provide more information about how PLAR applies to you.

In short, the Bachelor of Integrated Studies is flexible, individualized to your personal and career interests, and designed to give you credit for your prior learning. It is supported by an accessible Co-ordinator and many learner services, and can be completed in 30 courses.

*The BIS program is my second chance to finish my degree, started more than 10 years ago. This program fits my life and will be good for my career. The best part is that I am enjoying my classes, and it feels good to be a student again!*

— **Ken Williams**  
End User Support  
Province of Prince Edward Island



*I had always considered returning to UPEI to obtain my degree. However, attending class on a regular basis as a full-time student was just not feasible. The Bachelor of Integrated Studies program allows me to continue working full-time and to pursue my goal of completing my university education. In undertaking this program, my career opportunities will be significantly enhanced.*

— **Jaime Bell**  
Planning Analyst, “L” Division  
Corporate Planning and Client Services  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police