

Information for prospective students of BPS - Online

[Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies \(BSPS\)](#)

Overview of BSPS

The Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies can be completed totally online. Students must complete a concentration in either Information Technology or Organizational Leadership. The Information Technology concentration provides students with knowledge of the management information systems field and prepares them to work in information systems departments in business, industry, education, or government. The Organizational Leadership concentration provides students with the opportunity to develop management and communication skills applicable to work in management areas.

The BSPS program is offered through a partnership between ETSU and TN eCampus; the degree is conferred by ETSU. The BSPS may also be completed with a combination of online and on-ground courses at ETSU. Students completing the BSPS degree entirely online will take the majority of their courses via TN eCampus. These courses can be taught by faculty members from any Tennessee public institution of higher education and are completely online with the exception of proctored exams, which can be required in any course at the instructor's discretion. ETSU Online also offers online courses taught by ETSU faculty members. You will work with your advisor to determine which courses are appropriate for you.

BSPS Program Requirements

All Bachelor's degrees from ETSU require a minimum of **120 earned credits**. All students must have an ETSU GPA of 2.0 **and** (if applicable) a **transfer GPA of 2.0** to graduate with any degree from ETSU. All students within the Division of Cross Disciplinary Studies must take **a minimum of 12 credit hours as a declared BSPS major** in order to receive a degree from the Division of Cross Disciplinary Studies. All students earning a degree from ETSU are required to earn a minimum of 30 credits at ETSU (or online as an ETSU student) and a minimum of 50 credits at a 4-year institution. A student cannot graduate without having met all degree program requirements.

<p>ETSU General Education Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students complete a general education core that provides a liberal foundation of knowledge across different disciplines. 	41-42 credits
<p>Professional Core</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Professional Core consists of Six Areas that students choose courses from. See the section below for further information. 	21 credits
<p>Concentration & Senior Capstone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students must choose one concentration from two options. See the section below for additional information. <p>Senior Capstone Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Senior Capstone section below. This is built into the Concentration. 	23 credits
<p>Guided Electives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These are credits that do not satisfy any other requirement described within this section. 	varies by student

Contact Information:

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Professional Core	
Course	ETSU Online Alternative Course
Area One: Administration & Supervision – 3 credits: Choose one course	
TECH 4381- Principles of Supervision (3 cr.)	N/A
PADM 3601- Public Administration (3 cr.)	N/A
MGMT 3610 - Principles of Management (3 cr.)	MGMT 3000 (900 section #)
LIST 4093 - Special Topics in Leadership	N/A
Area Two: Organizational System– 3 credits: Choose one course	
PADM 4226 - Introduction to Non-profit Organizations (3 cr.)	N/A
PM 4120 - Organizational Theory and Behavior (3 cr.)	N/A
Area Three: Teamwork & Organizational Relationships – 3 credits: Choose one course	
COMM 2075 - Organizational Communication (3 cr.)	N/A
COMM 3010 - Integrated Corporate Communication (3 cr.)	N/A
Area Four: Statistical Methods – 3 credits: Choose one course	
SOAA 3350 - Social Statistics (3 cr.)	N/A
SOCI 4510 - Intro to Social Research (3 cr.)	N/A
PBRL 4410 - Public Relations Research (3 cr.)	N/A
Area Five: International Contexts – 3 credits: Choose one course	
POLS 4508 - Theories/Concepts of International Relations (3 cr.)	N/A
SPAN 3550 - Latin America: The Countries and the Peoples (3 cr.)	N/A
POLI 4350 - International Law (3 cr.)	N/A
COBH 4707 - International Health (3 cr.)	N/A
JOUR 4712 - Mass Media and Cultures (3 cr.)	N/A
Area Six: Written Communications – 6 credits: Choose two courses (ENTC 3030 REQUIRED)	
ENTC 3030 - Technical Communications (3 cr.)(Writing & Oral Intensive)**	ENTC 3030 (900 section #)
ENGL 3134 - Computers, Writing, Literature (3 cr.) (Technology Intensive)	N/A
ENGL 3250 - Professional Communication (3 cr.)	N/A
ENGL 4100 - Writing for Internet and Electronic Media (3 cr.) (Writing & Technology Intensive)	N/A
PBRL 3421 - Public Relations Writing (3 cr.)	N/A
Total Credits	21

Concentrations for BSPS students

Students must choose one concentration from the two options below:

Students must meet any course pre-requisite that is required. Some ETSU departments may not count certain TN eCampus courses as appropriate pre-requisites. If in doubt, you must check with the appropriate department. TN eCampus courses are subject to cancellation due to low enrollment. The ETSU TN eCampus Campus Coordinator will notify you and your advisor when a class is cancelled. There is no way of knowing this ahead of time, so it is best for students to have a backup class, or two, ready.

Information Technology Concentration	
TN eCampus Course	ETSU Online Course
Programming Language – 3 credits: Choose one	
CISP 1610 - Programming in C++ (3 cr)	N/A – On Campus only for ETSU computing majors
CITC 1310 - Programming I (3 cr.)	N/A – On Campus only for ETSU computing majors
MIS Overview – 3 credits Choose one	
PTMA 3020 - Managing Info. Technology (3 cr)	N/A
MGMT 3220 - Management Info. Systems (3 cr.)	N/A – On campus class only for ETSU computing majors
Files/Operating Systems – 3 credits	
INFS 3700 - Intro. to Systems Analysis & Design (3 cr.)	N/A – On campus class only for ETSU computing majors
Database Management – 3 credits	
CSCI 3222 - Database Management Systems	N/A
Network Design & Management – 3 credits	
INFS 4900 - Seminar in Data Communication	N/A
Software Analysis & Design – 3 credits	
UNIV 4706 - Managing Software Development	N/A
Senior Capstone – 5 credits	
CDST 4210 - Professional Field Experience – 3 credits	Only ETSU Online
CDST 4110 - Research Invention – 2 credits	Pre-requisite to CDST 4210 Only ETSU Online
Total Credits	23

Organizational Leadership Concentration

TN eCampus Course	ETSU Online Course
BMGT 3630 - Human Resources Management (3 cr.)	MGMT 4510 - Human Resources Mgmt. (prereqs: MGMT 3000)
SW 3200 - Cultural Diversity (3 cr.)	HDAL 4666 - ETSU Online (prereqs: PSYC 1310 or HDAL 2320)
JOUR 3400 - Intro. to Public Relations (3 cr.)	N/A – On Campus Only
MGMT 4800 - Corporate Etiquette (3 cr.)	MGMT 4800 - Corporate Etiquette (no pre-reqs.)
PSY 3590 - Psychology of Personality (3 cr.)	PSYC 4100 - Intro. to Personality (pre-req: PSYC 1310)
PSYC 3210 - Abnormal Psychology (3 cr.)	PSYC 4320 - Abnormal Psychology (Winter Session Only online; pre-req: PSYC 1310)
CDST 4210 - Professional Field Experience – 3 credits	Only ETSU Online
CDST 4110 - Research Invention – 2 credits	Pre-requisite to CDST 4210 Only ETSU Online
Total Credits	23

What is the Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies?

The online Bachelor of Science with a major in Professional Studies is especially designed to meet the needs of those with limited access to higher education: typically, adult students whose work, place of residence, family obligations, or other responsibilities have made attendance difficult in traditional on-campus courses.

What is the Program of Study?

Your Program of Study is the written summary developed by you and your advisor. Together, you will chart the courses needed to meet ETSU graduation requirements and the BSPS degree program requirements. Overall, you will earn 120 hours of total coursework. The plan includes your previous college credit. Your advisor will give you a copy of this written summary for future reference.

Who is the typical BSPS student?

This program is most suitable for adults who have completed an Associate degree, or, at minimum, some college credit. Many students in this degree are already in a career and looking for opportunities to advance in their fields. Professional Studies is ideal for those students looking to move into information management or leadership positions within their organizations.

How can the BSPS help working adult students?

Because of its pre-determined concentrations, students wanting to change career paths or move up within an industry often find that this degree is desirable to management. For many BSPS students, the degree program offers the opportunity to hone skills already in existence. The BSPS degree program provides students with the opportunity to examine content and learn theory in the fields of their choice. It also encourages a high level of critical thinking and flexibility. Students will learn how to apply critical thinking in every facet of their degree program.

What is required to get started in the BSPS?

You must first apply and be accepted into ETSU. Once admitted, you will schedule an appointment with an advisor to create your specific Program of Study.

Can I go on to graduate school?

Students interested in graduate school should check the prerequisites of the program to which they are interested in applying to determine alignment between their undergraduate program of study and graduate program admission requirements.

Senior Capstone Program for ETSU BSPS Students

CDST 4110-4210: Senior Capstone

(5 credits)

The Senior Capstone experience for students in the BSPS degree program is designed to enable students to design, research, and implement interdisciplinary projects that showcase the knowledge and skills they have developed in the course of their studies. The senior capstone is an independent research project that has at its core a senior thesis, a research paper developed using scholarly and professional secondary sources. CDST 4110-4210 is a two-semester sequence of courses in which students formulate, research, and write their senior theses.

In both courses students complete much of the research independently, with guidance from a faculty member, and seek insight from multiple fields and disciplines as they analyze and interpret a specific problem, issue, or concept related to their previous coursework and to their personal, professional, and intellectual interests. Course requirements include a written proposal and other assignments preparatory to the composition of the senior thesis. The senior capstone culminates with an oral presentation of the project to an audience of peers and professors.

Students also have the option to enroll in an internship that ties their individual research to practical application in order to form a cooperative education experience.

[TN eCampus main website](#)

[ETSU's TN eCampus information website](#)