

# All-College Degree Requirements

## Introduction

Principia offers academic programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. This section describes degree requirements, the programs through which these requirements are met, and the intended student learning outcomes associated with specific programs. See Summary of Degree Requirements - Bachelor of Arts (<http://catalog.principiacollege.edu/archives/2015-2016/summary-degree-requirements-ba>) or Summary of Degree Requirements - Bachelor of Science (<http://catalog.principiacollege.edu/archives/2015-2016/summary-degree-requirements-bs>) for a summary of degree requirements described here in full.

## Student Responsibility

Students have direct online access to their own academic records via BannerWeb (<http://www.principia.edu/bannerweb>) . It is the student's responsibility to check this record for accuracy each semester and to be certain that he or she is registering for the courses necessary to complete the degree requirements. Students should consult their advisors or the staff of the Registrar's Office with any questions regarding these requirements. In addition, Degree Works tracks a student's progress toward graduation and should be checked regularly for updates.

## Major

In order to insure depth of study, a student must complete one of the majors corresponding to the degree being pursued. All the majors available at Principia are listed on the Departmental Programs (<http://catalog.principiacollege.edu/archives/2015-2016/majors-minors>) page and are described on the individual program pages.

## Total Semester Hours

A student must earn a total of 120 semester hours. Transfer work, credit by examination, Advanced Placement, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), and International Baccalaureate Examination credits may be included according to the regulations governing these options found on the Academic and Non-Academic Credit Rules (<http://catalog.principiacollege.edu/archives/2015-2016/credit-rules>) page.

## Grade Point Average

At the time of graduation from Principia College a student must have an overall grade point average of 2.000 (the equivalent of a C average) or higher. Only grades earned in credit courses at Principia College are used in computing the grade point average. See also Grades and Grading (<http://catalog.principiacollege.edu/archives/2015-2016/academic-rules-procedures/grades-grading-rules>) .

## Residency

A student must be enrolled, full- or part-time, under direct supervision of Principia faculty or staff, for a total of at least three semesters, earning a minimum of 36 semester hours from Principia. Also, a student must be enrolled for two of the

three semesters immediately prior to graduation under direct supervision (including abroads, but not internships) of Principia faculty or staff.

Students pursuing two degrees must fulfill two additional semesters in residence, being enrolled for a minimum of five semesters and earning a minimum of 66 semester hours at Principia, under direct supervision of Principia faculty or staff.

### ***Purpose of the Residency Requirement***

We require a student to be enrolled for at least three semesters to ensure a full Principia experience, which includes:

1. Living and learning in a community of people applying Christian Science to personal and academic challenges;
2. Growing in response to the educational demands and standards of such a community; and
3. Benefiting from the support provided to help community members meet those demands.

We also require that a student be enrolled for two of the three semesters immediately prior to graduation under direct supervision (including abroads, but not internships) of Principia faculty or staff to ensure that:

1. A student is on campus during most of the junior and senior years. (This is prime learning time because it is the period in which most of the integration of one's education takes place. Students should be working directly with our faculty at this time.)
2. A student is on campus during this prime contribution time. (This is likely to be the time students make the greatest contribution to community life.)
3. A student is fulfilling The Principia Pledge and living by the Principia Community Commitment.

### **Moral Reasoning Seminar**

Moral reasoning is an essential element of character education. The seminar meets for a total of 30 hours over four years. During the seminar, students:

- explore the importance of morality and moral reasoning to Christian Science;
- deepen insight into how their motives and acts impact themselves, others, their relationships, community, and society;
- articulate their reasoning on several moral dilemmas and hear the reasoning of others;
- learn of the most common ethical values and resolution principles shared by people around the world;
- develop their own model for making moral decisions that incorporates their purpose, values, and principles;
- consider both the usefulness and the limits of moral reasoning in decision making.

The 30-hour requirement is divided accordingly:

*Freshman Year:*

- 4 hours of introduction to core moral reasoning concepts

*Sophomore and/or Junior Year:*

- 20 hours of in-depth study and discussion of moral reasoning concepts

*Senior Year:*

- 6 hours of moral reasoning concepts applied to postgraduate decision-making