UW TACOMA currently offers over 50 undergraduate degree programs and options, and 30 minors and certificates. Explore degree options in fields ranging from environmental science to computer science; from history to healthcare; and from business to psychology.

Class sizes are small and are taught by faculty who know students personally.

tacoma.uw.edu/majors

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE BS
Provides a science foundation focusing on understanding and solving environmental issues facing local communities and society at large. Learn through coursework and hands-on experience in laboratory and field classes within the areas of biology, chemistry, geosciences, physics, and mathematics. Available options:

- CONSERVATION BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY Helps students deepen their understanding of the interactions between living organisms, and provide them tools necessary for quantifying, managing, and protecting biodiversity. Students in this option will take Conservation Biology in Practice and electives focusing on biodiversity and ecology.

- GEOSCIENCE Prepares students for employment in a geotechnical field, as well as preparation for an advanced degree. All students will take environmental geology and choose from several geoscience electives including earth materials, sedimentology, oceanography, or geomorphology, depending on desired focus.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BA
Prepares students to understand, analyze, and solve environmental and sustainability challenges. Four options:

- BUSINESS/NONPROFIT ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY Focuses on the role of business and nonprofit organizations in environmental sustainability and successful organizational management for environmental sustainability.

- ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION Focuses on effective communication of environmental sustainability information for a variety of scientific and non-scientific audiences.

- ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION Focuses on preparing ethical and reflective educators for environmental sustainability, including students interested in teacher certification through the UW Tacoma School of Education.

- ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND LAW Focuses on the policies and laws shaping environmental sustainability, and how these policies and laws are created, implemented, and evaluated.

ETHNIC, GENDER AND LABOR STUDIES BA
Explores how communities form and are transformed by class, ethnicity, gender, nationality, religion, and citizenship. Analyzes historical roots of various communities and movements for social change. Three options:

- ETHNIC STUDIES Studies race and ethnicity through an interdisciplinary lens. Courses examine the contributions of people from diverse racial and ethnic groups. Topics include economics, gender studies, history, literature, politics and sociology within global and local contexts.

- GENDER STUDIES Focuses on gender roles and gender identity. Courses include women's studies, men's studies, and gay, lesbian, and transgender studies. These courses emphasize interdisciplinary scholarship.

- LABOR STUDIES Offers courses on the experience of work and workers in modern market economies. Topics include unions and the labor movement, social class and inequality, the changing nature of work, international political economy, and workplace culture.
GLOBAL STUDIES CONCENTRATION  BA
Explores artistic, cultural, political and economic patterns in an international context. Advanced language study is an integral component. Students may choose to focus their studies on one or more world regions or specific themes.

HISTORY  BA
Challenge preconceptions of the world by delving into the past. Offers a wide range of courses that examine societies around the world from the emergence of human communities to the present. Course work will develop critical, analytical, writing, and presentation skills. Four thematic options are offered:

— ARTS, CULTURE AND SOCIETY  Focuses on the interconnection between cultural production and historical causation where ideas, art, architecture, literature, film and the performing arts function as agents of social and historical change.

— GLOBAL HISTORY  Analyzes the relational forces between continents, and the historical process of globalization. Colonialism, imperialism, anticolonial independence movements, and the national and transnational effects they cause are additional areas of study.

— LABOR AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS  Explores the historical roots and processes that shape political, intellectual, economic and social developments and consequently the conditions of the working class in a global context.

— POWER, GENDER AND IDENTITY  Examines the origins of social stratification with regard to race, gender, ethnicity, and class and explores the historical context of marginalization, disenfranchisement, political and economic inequality and disempowerment.

INDIVIDUALLY-DESIGNED CONCENTRATION  BA
This concentration is for those who wish to create a program of study by combining selected UW Tacoma courses. Students design their study under the guidance and supervision of their SIAS faculty, SIAS advisor, and the concentration coordinator.

INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS AND SCIENCES  BA
Provides broad exposure to key areas of knowledge within the arts and sciences, while stressing their interconnectedness. Emphasizes interdisciplinary skills and thinking needed to function successfully in a rapidly changing society and world.

LAW AND POLICY  BA
Develops theoretical reasoning and analytical skills for assessing current topics in law and policy. Critically examines the political, social, historical and economic context of law in the U.S. and around the world.

MATHEMATICS  BS
Explores a broad range of ideas in mathematics and its applications. Students pursue deeper study of one area through their capstone project to foster mathematical maturity in a modern context. Provides a strong theoretical and practical basis for STEM-related jobs.

POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY AND ECONOMICS  BA
Provides an in-depth analytical foundation for politics, philosophy and economics, with a special emphasis on critical thinking and writing skills. The following options are offered:

— ECONOMICS  Emphasizes economic theory and reasoning providing a solid foundation for understanding how the interplay of economics and politics shape our everyday lives.

— INTERNATIONAL STUDIES  Focuses on the study of contemporary global affairs from an interdisciplinary perspective. Understand the complex links and tensions between security, human rights, international law, economic development, culture, morality and history. The curriculum also features regional specializations and study abroad programs.

— POLITICS AND PHILOSOPHY  Provides an in-depth study of political theory, political and social interactions, relations between states and capital, and the history of relationships between governments and citizens. The program also aims to develop skills needed for an informed and effective citizenship.

PSYCHOLOGY  BA
Explores the psychological, biological, and contextual determinants of human behavior. Examines philosophical, historical and cultural traditions, including feminism, existentialism, hermeneutics, psychoanalysis and critical theory.

SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURES  BA
Develops Spanish language skills, intercultural competence, and knowledge of cultural, historical, and political contexts of Latin America, Spain, and the U.S. in order to participate effectively in a diverse and increasingly complex world. All upper-level courses are taught in Spanish.

WRITING STUDIES  BA
Learn to write effectively in a range of genres, and to think critically and creatively, with a well-rounded liberal arts education in the sciences and the humanities. Two tracks: CREATIVE WRITING and TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION.

Starting at orientation, UW Tacoma’s Career Development Center works with students inside and outside of the classroom to help make career decisions and demonstrate talents, skills, and strengths to employers for success beyond graduation.
TANYA VELASQUEZ
Senior Lecturer, Sociology
UW Distinguished Teaching Award 2020

Ms. Velasquez’s teaching is recognized for using high-impact, community-engaged teaching practices and individualized, long-term mentoring. She integrates knowledge of community and diversity into teaching and learning in the classroom and beyond. Her commitment to equity and excellence is at the very heart of what she brings to the campus community.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTER ENGINEERING AND SYSTEMS BS
Blends an electrical engineering curriculum with elements of software design and hardware-software integration. Students learn to design, construct, implement and maintain both the hardware and software elements of computing systems and systems that contain embedded computers.

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND SYSTEMS BA
Interdisciplinary program that paves the way for a specialized focus beyond that of a traditional software developer. Students combine core computer science coursework with a required minor of their choosing.

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND SYSTEMS BS
Students develop a strong foundation in the theory and direct application of computer science principles through a rigorous curriculum that emphasizes software design relevant to the needs of local and regional industry.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING BS
Emphasizes the design of circuits, algorithms and devices to collect, store, transfer and display information in electronic form for applications such as telecommunications, complex power systems, signal processing, electronics, electromagnetics, controls, and embedded systems.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BS
Builds a theoretical and practical framework for analyzing, designing, integrating, and managing information systems to meet the needs of end users. Emphasizes application, deployment, configuration and development of information management technology. Students may choose to add the following option to their degree:

— INFORMATION ASSURANCE AND CYBERSECURITY
  Covers cryptographic methods, computer and network security, data protection and computer forensics. Includes hands-on labs.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING BS
Equips students with the skills and experience to apply principles of engineering, basic science and math to model, analyze, design and realize physical systems. Courses include thermal systems, mechatronics and machine design. Prepares students for careers in biomechanics, energy systems, manufacturing, aerospace, robotics or graduate study.

MILGARD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Offers the following options for the Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration BABA:

— ACCOUNTING
  Focuses on recording and reporting financial transactions and the use of that data in fiscal decision making in public and private accounting.

— FINANCE
  Studies financial markets, portfolio management, financial planning, investing, banking and how financial services function in a global economy.

— GENERAL BUSINESS
  Customizable path exploring a wide range of business disciplines, including data analytics, entrepreneurship, finance, international business, management and marketing.

— MANAGEMENT
  Enhance the ability to get work done with and through other people in a variety of organizations and learn how to manage in the 21st century.

— MARKETING
  Studies consumer behavior, product development, advertising, retailing, sales management, distribution and social media to develop competitive marketing strategies.
SCHOOL OF NURSING & HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP

HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP BA
Provides critical thinking processes and experiential learning necessary to become a leader in organizations ranging from healthcare systems to pharmaceutical companies, as well as government agencies that focus on health and policy issues.

NURSING RN TO BSN*
Takes a registered nurse, licensed in the state of Washington, to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) degree. Emphasizes communication, critical thinking, cultural sensitivity, research and scholarship, health promotion and policy. *Students must be a registered nurse (RN) licensed to practice in Washington before starting the Nursing program.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BA
Offers a multidisciplinary understanding of crime and justice, preparing students for careers in criminal justice or pursuing graduate or law school study. An innovative approach that emphasizes social justice, diversity, community partnerships, systems thinking and skill development. A focus on harm reduction, rehabilitative and restorative approaches to crime and justice are central. ONLINE OPTION AVAILABLE.

SOCIAL WELFARE BA
Prepares competent, ethical and culturally sensitive social workers committed to social justice and evidence-based practice. Emphasizes poor and underserved populations and fosters an appreciation for differences based on gender, ethnicity, race, religious creed, sexual orientation, age, class, physical and developmental disabilities. Intensive field placement prepares students for professional practice.
SCHOOL OF
URBAN STUDIES

SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT  BA
Prepares students to address the global movement for significant “greening” of urban development. Students will be prepared for careers in planning agencies, corporations adhering to sustainability practices, consulting firms, nonprofit organizations, and environmental/resource related agencies at all levels of government.

URBAN DESIGN  BS
Urban design is the art and science of creating and improving our cities. It helps make cities and suburbs more livable. Students will use their creativity and learn other skills to produce effective urban design solutions; be trained in the application of computer graphics and digital technologies for visualization, analysis, and design; and learn the art of community engagement.

URBAN STUDIES  BA
Introduces the discipline of urban studies with foundation courses on exploring cities, cities in world development, and urban studies “in practice.” Prepare for public or private-sector jobs in areas such as housing and community development, planning, transportation, government agencies, and social services. Choose from three specialized options:

– COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
  Examines the production and development of cities from different community perspectives and teaches how cities are planned and built, and the power dynamics that influence inclusion and exclusion from urban spaces and political processes. Explores new strategies for producing better cities and improving urban conditions.

– GIS & SPATIAL PLANNING
  Prepares students to solve complex social, economic, and environmental problems by combining GIS (geographic information systems) based approaches to mapping and spatial analysis with a classical and theoretically critical foundation in urban planning.

– GLOBAL URBANISM
  Teaches theories and practices of the process of global urbanism – the way people interact with the built environment and how flows of people, outcomes, and ideas cut across social, political and spatial divisions. Prepares students to be a solution-thinking global citizen who understands urban conditions and processes.

STUDY ABROAD

STUDYING ABROAD is an excellent opportunity to develop real-world skills, explore new cultures, and broaden perspectives while earning credits towards a degree. Students can choose from a diverse range of programs that vary in length, number of credits and location. UW Tacoma students are eligible for study abroad scholarships and can also participate in many study abroad programs offered by UW through the Seattle and Bothell campuses.

Explore further:
tacoma.uw.edu/global-affairs

HONORS PROGRAM

GLOBAL HONORS is UW Tacoma’s interdisciplinary honors program adding distinction to the bachelor’s degree. It offers curricular pathways in Global Leadership and Global Citizenship, and a Minor in Global Engagement. Global Honors offers a stimulating learning environment, an innovative and experientially rich curriculum, highly invested faculty, generous scholarships and awards, specialized advising, and an active community of critically engaged students. Open to qualified students of all majors, it is designed to increase the depth and breadth of student understanding of critical global issues.

For more information:
tacoma.uw.edu/global-honors
tacoma.uw.edu/ige

Some majors require an additional application in addition to a UW Tacoma application. Contact those programs for application details.
MINORS AND CERTIFICATES

UW Tacoma offers a variety of undergraduate minors and certificate programs. Minor programs require 25-35 credits. Students must have earned a minimum of 45 credits and declared a major before declaring a minor.

American Indian Studies  Human Rights
American Popular Culture  Innovation and Design
Applied Computing  Law and Policy
Asian Studies  Mathematics
Business Administration  Politics
Business Data Analytics  Religious Studies
Corporate Responsibility  Restoration Ecology
Criminal Justice  Social Science Research Methods
Economics  Sociology
Education and Community Engagement  Spanish Language and Cultures
Environmental Studies  Sports Enterprise Management
Gender and Sexuality Studies  Sustainability
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)  Sustainable Urban Development
Global Engagement  Teaching, Learning and Justice
Health and Society  Technical Communication
History  Urban Studies

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