



# GUIDED STUDIES MAJOR



The Guided Studies major *is designed for students who are undecided about a major* and want to explore possible majors while completing courses that meet requirements of an Associate degree at Bucks and/or earning credits that transfer as requirements or electives at another institution.

## THE GUIDED STUDIES CURRICULUM

- COLL101 College Success Seminar AND GUID101 Introduction to Guided Studies (1 credit each)—In the new GUID101 course, students develop self-awareness and planning skills, identify their interests, explore relevant educational and career opportunities, and plan their next steps.
- 2 Concentrations, including 4 Concentration Electives each, representing at least 8 non-overlapping courses (at least 12 credits in each Concentration, 24 credits in all). *See page 2 for the list of the 10 Guided Studies Concentrations*
- the General Education program
- COMP110 English Composition I
- an introductory computer information course (CISC100 or CISC110)
- a 2nd writing course (COMP111 English Composition II, COMP114 Technical Writing, JOUR175 New Reporting and Writing, or MGMT135 Business Communication)
- GUID250 Guided Studies Seminar (1 credit)—Taken in the second half of the program, students reflect on their concentrations and plan the completion of the degree and their first steps after graduation.
- electives to complete total credit requirements
- LOTS of support from educational planners, GUID101 faculty, faculty advisors, transfer advisors, and career services advising (some incorporated into GUID101 and GUID250)

## **BENEFITS OF GUIDED STUDIES**

- Based on research showing students do best when they begin studying fields that interest them right away (rather than taking all general education courses while waiting to decide).
- Concentration courses can be leveraged into Certificates (stackable credentials).
- A flexible program for students who desire an Associate degree, but are not limited in their topic choices by job or transfer plans.
- Can be used as a degree completion program.

## **INTERESTED?**

- *Contact the Department of Language and Literature for details: 215-968-8150*
- *Tell your Educational Planner you're considering a Guided Studies Major!*

## ***10 GUIDED STUDIES CONCENTRATIONS: CHOOSE 2***

**Creativity and Aesthetics:** This concentration includes subjects and disciplines related to studying and/or creating art, including but not limited to literature and other verbal arts, visual and decorative arts, music, performing arts, culinary arts, and architecture.

**Culture and Society:** This concentration includes both qualitative and quantitative social sciences (e.g. geography, sociology, anthropology, psychology, political science, economics), as well as humanistic fields and disciplines that analyze human culture (e.g. religion, gender studies, cultural studies, history).

**Helping Professions and Public Service:** This concentration includes study related to what are commonly called the "helping professions," as well as other fields involving service in the public interest: education, psychology, social work, various therapies, fire science, and emergency management.

**Humanities:** This concentration includes subjects and disciplines related to communications, speech, rhetoric, travel, philosophy, religion, history, architecture, cultural studies, gender studies, and languages.

**Management, Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Business:** This concentration includes subject areas related to leadership, government, for-profit and not-for-profit businesses, finance, and administration.

**Media and Technology:** This concentration includes telecommunications, electronic, and digital technologies, as well as the subject material commonly employing such technologies (e.g. social media, journalism, advertising, and cinema).

**Numbers, Engineering, and Computer Technology:** This concentration includes disciplines and fields related to mathematics, accounting, computer software and hardware, and engineering.

*Please note:* because of the extended math sequencing in many of the areas within this Concentration, some students might need to begin this Concentration after taking one or more preliminary math courses.

**Science, Nature, and Health:** This concentration includes disciplines and fields related to physical, natural, health, and environmental sciences; as well as professions anchored in such study, such as nursing, wellness, health information technology, and kinesiology. *Please note:* This concentration is related to several majors containing "fork courses" (similar but not interchangeable requirements that send one down a particular path), so students should be aware of requirements and prerequisites in potential programs of study.

**Service Industries:** This concentration includes study related to what are commonly called the "service industries": e.g. food, hospitality, travel, finance, accounting, sports, information technology, wellness, and retail.

**Words, Texts, and Communication:** This concentration includes disciplines and fields related to producing communicative informative texts, including speaking, writing, theater, office communication, research, and digital communication.