

# Individualized Professional Studies

## AWARDS

Individualized Professional Studies A.S. Degree . . . . . 60 cr

Individualized Professional Studies A.A.S. Degree . . . . . 60 cr

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Individualized Professional Studies (IPS) degree programs were developed in consultation with leadership from corporate, non-profit, and educational organizations. These leaders helped shape the programs and are in agreement that these type of programs are needed in all facets of the world of work. Their direction validated the programs' credibility.

## PROGRAM FEATURES

- > Save time and money by earning credit for prior learning
- > Faster degree completion
- > Maximum use of previously earned credits
- > Seamless Transferability to four year college of choice
- > Educational degree planning with personal attention and support
- > Be with other adult learners like yourself. The average age of the students in this program is 41.
- > Military/Veterans—learn how to utilize Military College Credits in your degree plan
- > Become a member of ASAP (Adult Success through Accelerated Programs)

## REASONS TO CHOOSE AN IPS DEGREE

- > Job Validation: Have your focus area of your plan mimic what you truly do in your job/career.
- > Promotion: If you cannot move forward without an achieved degree, this is for you.
- > Career Attainment: Use your current skills in combination with new courses that lead you to a change in your career.
- > Personal Reasons: Did you always want to complete your degree, but life got in the way? Do you want to be a role model for your children to prove how important education is at any age? Are you inspired to accomplish a life goal? This is for you.
- > Transferability: Build your degree plan to prepare for transfer.

## COMMON TRANSFER OPTIONS

The A.S. in Individualized Professional Studies is intended for transfer to all four year colleges with accelerated adult degree completion programs for earning a bachelor's degree. These include, but are not limited to:

Saint Mary's University of Minnesota  
 Concordia University – St. Paul  
 Augsburg College  
 Metropolitan State University

## INDIVIDUALIZED PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

### A.S., 60 CREDITS

Individualized Professional Studies . . . . . 30 cr

General Education Curriculum . . . . . 30 cr

## PURPOSE

This degree program was designed for you, the adult learner. If you have five or more years of work/life experience past high school and are working toward career advancement, this is for you. The Associate of Science program is intended to provide you with the opportunity to develop a specific focus in an area that is related to your world of work.

In addition, the degree option allows you to use previously earned credits along with the ability to earn college credit for the knowledge and skills you have gained through your work and life experiences. These options allow you, the adult learner to earn your degree in a more cost effective and expedient manner.

### Individualized Professional Studies **30 credits**

All courses must support stated degree objectives, but may come from any discipline including liberal arts.

Planning courses - highly recommended . . . . . 0-4 cr

INTS 1010 Educational Planning and Assessment AND/OR . . . . . 3

INTS 1011 Prior Learning Assessment Development . . . . . 1

### General Education Curriculum **30 credits**

ENG 1108 Writing and Research Skills . . . . . 4

COMM 1100 Interpersonal Communication OR  
 COMM 1110 Public Speaking OR  
 COMM 2230 Small Group Communication . . . . . 3

MnTC Goal 3 (with lab) OR MnTC Goal 4 course . . . . . 3

MnTC Goal 5 course . . . . . 3

MnTC Goal 6 course . . . . . 3

MnTC Goal 7-10 course . . . . . 3

Liberal Arts electives (MnTC courses only) . . . . . 11

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**TOTAL CREDITS 60**

# INDIVIDUALIZED PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

## A.A.S., 60 CREDITS

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Individualized Professional Studies . . . . .	44 cr
General Education Curriculum . . . . .	16 cr

### PURPOSE

The A.A.S.-IPS is a personalized, cost-effective, accelerated degree that is designed for the adult learner to obtain a career goal that cannot be met through the completion of any other program offered at the college. Using a structured process with faculty and advisors, students create a college-approved emphasis in an area that is related to the student's field of work. The A.A.S.-IPS allows students to build upon their vocational credits, technical credits and/or work experience. The A.A.S.-IPS degree is intended for students to go right into the work force; students intending to transfer to earn a bachelor's degree should pursue the A.S. in Individualized Professional Studies.

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### Individualized Professional Studies **44 credits**

All courses must support stated degree objectives, but may come from any discipline including liberal arts.

Planning courses - highly recommended . . . . . 0-4 cr

<input type="checkbox"/> INTS 1010 Educational Planning and Assessment AND/OR . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> INTS 1011 Prior Learning Assessment Development . . . . .	1

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### General Education Curriculum **16 credits**

<input type="checkbox"/> ENG 1108 Writing and Research Skills . . . . .	4
<input type="checkbox"/> COMM 1100 Interpersonal Communication OR COMM 1110 Public Speaking OR COMM 2230 Small Group Communication . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MnTC Goal 3 (with lab) course OR MnTC Goal 4 course . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MnTC Goal 5 course . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MnTC Goal 6 course . . . . .	3

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**TOTAL CREDITS 60**

### WHAT YOU WILL DO IN INTS 1010 AND INTS 1011

- > Learn how to be an educated consumer of higher education. Research careers, two year and four year degree options as well as what knowledge and skills you have that can translate into college credits.
- > Make sense of your prior college credits, national certifications, military experience, and other training you have received for creating your educational plan.
- > Develop your individual two and/or four year degree plan with strategic course selection to validate your current career, prepare for a new career, and ensure easy transfer to a four year college.
- > Your program area courses in the IPS degree are created with an area of focus/concentration. Specific student examples include:
  - Human Resource Management
  - Sales and Marketing
  - Youth Advocacy
  - IT Communication
- > Learn how to translate your knowledge and skills to earn college credits through Prior Learning Assessment.

### PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA) PROGRAM

It's real college learning that you have accomplished on your own. Combine your practical application and bridge that knowledge with new learning on concepts and theory in the subject area. Whether your knowledge was learned through work, volunteer or personal experiences, they are valuable and should be validated. You can do this via the PLA program and this will save you time and money towards achieving your academic and professional goals. PLAs are commonly completed in (but not limited to) Business, Communication, Computers, Human Services, Sociology and Interdisciplinary Studies.

### PLA BENEFITS

- > PLAs can be utilized in your liberal arts curriculum, major and core curriculum, and/or additional credits for transfer purposes.
- > You will save money and time by earning college credit for your knowledge. You can cut your time for degree completion (two and four year) compared to students who do not take advantage of this opportunity developed especially for adult learners.
- > There is no limit to the number of credits you can earn through prior learning. It all depends on your knowledge and skill base.
- > Prior learning credits are transferable to four year colleges

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT OR VISIT:

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