

# Professional Studies

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Dean: Dr. Karen M. Clanton, Ed.D.

## Mission

The mission of the College of Professional and Continuing Studies is to increase student access, external partnerships, community outreach, and extended learning that leverage the University's areas of expertise for the mutual benefit of the community and the institution.

## Degree

Bachelor of Arts in Professional Studies

Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies

The Bachelor of Arts or Science in Professional Studies (BPS) is designed for adults who have prior college and/or work experience, but have yet to obtain a four-year degree. Students may transfer up to 75% of previously completed coursework, including up to 34 hours of technical credits. The program offers a well-rounded education through an interdisciplinary curriculum with established concentrations areas that provide an alternative pathway for adults to complete a bachelor's degree. Concentration areas include Leadership Strategies and Dynamics; Organizational Studies; and Technology, Science and Society.

The College of Professional and Continuing Studies provides adult learners the opportunity to expand their knowledge base across an array of academic disciplines to meet professional and personal goals. Graduates will learn how to communicate effectively, make informed decisions, and use analytical and critical thinking.

## Accreditation

The University of Alabama in Huntsville has institutional accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral degrees.

## Organizational Studies

Prepare for careers that involve finding solutions to human problems in organizations and communities. Coursework will focus on business (emphasis on management and information systems) and humanities/social sciences (emphasis on communications, philosophy, political science, psychology, education, and/or sociology). The curriculum will include organizational theory and behavior, professional ethics, management, information systems, individual and group dynamics, and communication skills. Students will acquire an understanding of human behavior in groups, organizations, and larger systems.

## Leadership Strategies and Dynamics

Develop an understanding of foundational leadership theory in your chosen context. Focus on the nature of leadership in a variety of settings and prepare for leadership responsibility in the community and in your selected profession. Coursework will focus on business (emphasis on leadership and management) and social sciences/humanities (emphasis on communications, history, philosophy, political science, psychology, and/or sociology). Courses will provide an educational experience in theories of motivation, leadership styles, organizational and group behavior, professional ethics, communication, theories of cultural difference and multicultural communication, human resources, and/or budgeting.

## Technology, Science and Society

Integrate the study of science, engineering, and/or technology with its social and cultural impact on humanity. Focus on developing a broad understanding of the technical, historical and social dimensions of science and technology. Curriculum options include engineering, the natural sciences, computer science, information sciences, business, the social sciences, and/or humanities. The curriculum provides an interdisciplinary approach to explore the significance, challenges, and effects that science and technology present to society. Courses allow students to incorporate technical scientific knowledge with analytical thinking from a social perspective.

## B.A. or B.S. in Professional Studies Courses

### PRO 301 - THRY & PRAC ADULT LEARNING

Semester Hours: 3

This course presents an overview of five foundational learning theories and related research in adult education and development. The conceptual framework is centered on discovering what motivates the adult learner and the impact social perspectives have on adult learning through analysis and discussion. Students will define competencies needed for success in academic study and professional leadership, in setting educational goals, and in planning a learning experience to achieve them. Emphasis is placed on issues unique to adult re-entry students and the university services available to support nontraditional students.

### PRO 310 - ACADEMIC WRITING PROFESS STUDI

Semester Hours: 3

Students will learn academic writing skills by engaging in the process of academic inquiry and argument. The course will cover a broad perspective of writing by exploring various writing and research styles used through different academic professions. Prerequisites: EH 102 or EH 105.

### PRO 320 - INDS PERSPECT & CRITICAL THNKG

Semester Hours: 3

Interdisciplinary studies fosters foundational knowledge acquisition by which individuals draw on multiple disciplinary perspectives and integrate their insights and modes of thinking to advance the studies and the fundamental development of critical and analytical thinking skills. Complex issues are addressed from multi-facted perspectives that stimulate problem solving, problem defining and problem posing. Emphasis is placed on how to synthesize evidence drawn from multiple sources as a basis for informed decision-making.

### PRO 325 - INDS RESEARCH & APPLICATIONS

Semester Hours: 3

Interdisciplinary research is a contemporary decision-making process for transcending the scope of a single discipline or program to develop insights that offer bold advances in knowledge, solutions to urgent societal problems, an edge in technological innovations, and a more integrative knowledge of multidisciplinary theories and concepts. This course introduces the primary drivers for interdisciplinary research and examines the interdisciplinary research process. Students will apply an integrated model for conducting research that draws on multiple disciplines. Prerequisites: PRO 310 and PRO 320.

### PRO 498 - INQUIRY AND LEARNING

Semester Hours: 3

Inquiry-based learning accelerates understanding, fosters critical thinking skills, and facilitates self-direction and discovery. Using this method, students will identify an interdisciplinary problem related to their approved concentration area, perform the foundational research, and formulate a research proposal. This is the first of a two-semester progression to complete a Capstone research thesis/project in PRO 499. Prerequisite: PRO 325.

### PRO 499 - CAPSTONE EXP: RSCH THESIS/PROJ

Semester Hours: 3

Students majoring in Professional Studies are required to complete a senior research thesis in their approved interdisciplinary concentration. This Capstone course requires the student to demonstrate his/her ability to integrate the core knowledge and skills gained in their interdisciplinary areas of study using inquiry-based learning methods. Research is conducted and a thesis-style paper is written and orally presented. Prerequisite: PRO 498 with minimum grade of C-.

## Specialized Credit Courses

UAH offers specialized credit courses that support various educational partnerships. The following courses have distinct admission and registration requirements. For details, email [CPCS.Programs@uah.edu](mailto:CPCS.Programs@uah.edu), phone 256-824-2808, or visit [www.PCS.uah.edu/USSRC](http://www.PCS.uah.edu/USSRC).

### ESS 100 - INTRODUCTION TO SPACE SCIENCE

Semester Hour: 1

Covers physiology in space, computer systems, and materials in space, robotics, thermodynamics, astrophysics, and solar physics. Laboratory experiments and simulated missions. Offered in cooperation with the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Prerequisite: Available only to high school students with U.S. citizenship enrolled in Advanced Space Academy.

### ENG 105 - INTRODUCTION TO AERONAUTICS

Semester Hour: 1

Introduction to a variety of aviation subjects, including flight physiology, computer systems, aerodynamics, aeronautics, jet propulsion, thermodynamics, navigation, and survival skills. Lectures and simulated missions. Offered in cooperation with U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Prerequisite: Available only to high-school students with U.S. citizenship enrolled in Aviation Challenge Mach III.

### SCI 199 - INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND RESEARCH METHODS

Semester Hours: 3

Understand the segmentation of research through concepts such as heat transfer, Newtonian mechanics, chemical propulsion, computer modeling and simulation, biology in space, research ethics, technical writing, and data analysis. Students will be equipped with skills critical to contributing to scientific research projects. Prerequisite: Available online to high school students that have previously participated in the U.S. Space & Rocket Center - Aviation Challenge Mach III or Advanced Space Academy.

### **Graduate Level Course:**

ED/SPA 532 - SPACE ORIENTATION FOR EDUCATORS

Semester Hours: 3

An online course for pre-service and in-service teachers that builds on the knowledge and experience gained for participation in Space Academy for Educators at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center (USSRC). The USSRC week-long program provide inquiry based workshops designed around the theme of space exploration and hands-on activities across various curriculum. Course activities are correlated with STEM related curricula. Topics include moon, Mars, rocketry, propulsion, hydroponics, math, biology, history, and literature. This follow-on course provides a formal framework for reflection, weekly discussions, and the development of lesson plans to adapt educators' new expertise in space science into effective and exciting methods for classroom implementation and discovery. Prerequisite: Previous participation in Space Academy for Educators.

### **Non-Credit Programs**

UAH College of Professional and Continuing Studies (CPCS) provides access to quality education and training for individuals; partners with businesses and government for workforce development; enhances public awareness of the instructional and research strengths of the University; promotes lifelong learning fostering continued growth, human fulfillment, and positive social change; and supports economic development throughout North Alabama. These objectives are carried out through the following programming departments: Professional Development Solutions, Conferences and Special Programs, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, and Testing and Certification Services. For more information about any of the CPCS programs please visit [www.uah.edu/pcs](http://www.uah.edu/pcs).

### **PCS Registration Services**

103 Wilson Hall

Telephone: (256) 824-6010 or 800-448-4031

FAX: (256) 824-6760

Email: [Kathy.Hosch@uah.edu](mailto:Kathy.Hosch@uah.edu) (Rita.Campbell@uah.edu)

Kathy Hosch, Senior Associate Director

UAH College of Professional and Continuing Studies (CPCS) Registration Office provides registration services for non-credit programs and select credit courses. Registration options include online, phone, fax, or in person. There is no formal application process for non-credit courses and enrollments are taken throughout the year. Transcripts for continuing education units (CEUs) are available upon written request for a \$5 fee per transcript. Visit [www.uah.edu/pcs](http://www.uah.edu/pcs) for registration information and related policies.

### **Professional Development Solutions**

139 Wilson Hall

Telephone: (256) 824-4430

Email: [Lane.Fabby@uah.edu](mailto:Lane.Fabby@uah.edu)

Lane Fabby, Director

### **Mission**

Professional Development Solutions develops and presents professional training and educational activities in areas including leadership, management, engineering, cybersecurity, information technology, and certification exam preps. Programs are designed to allow a participant the choice of attending individual courses of interest or completing a more structured certificate program leading to a Certificate of Professional Achievement. Programs are offered in an atmosphere conducive for meeting professional training needs, and available in various classroom and online formats. CPCS maintains state-of-the-art computer labs and classrooms, and its instructors are known and respected industry practitioners and researchers in their respective fields.

Visit [uah.edu/PDSolutions](http://uah.edu/PDSolutions) for the most up-to-date schedule of course offerings.

### **Exam Preps**

- A+ Exam Prep
- Certified Authorization Professional (CAP®) Exam Prep
- Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH™) Exam Prep
- Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP®) Exam Prep
- Certified Network Defender (CND) Exam Prep
- Cloud+ Exam Prep
- Certified Systems Engineering Professional (CSEP) Exam Bootcamp

- Network+ Exam Prep
- PMP® Certification or Platinum Bootcamp
- Security+ Exam Prep

## Certificate Programs

### LEADERSHIP

- Executive Leadership
- Leadership Essentials

### MANAGEMENT

- Earned Value Management
- Federal Contract Management Essentials
- Federal Contract Management Specialization
- Management of Engineering and Technology
- Project Management
- Integrated Supply Chain Management
- Interior Design

### ENGINEERING

- Aegis Combat System
- Applied Systems Engineering
- Modeling and Simulation
- Rocket Propulsion
- Systems Test and Evaluation

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Android™ Mobile Developer
- C++ Developer
- Java Developer
- Master Programmer
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft Project
- Microsoft Word
- Oracle Applications Developer

## Customized Training & Facilitation

UAH's customized training solutions offer organizations ways to seize new opportunities and systematically address key problems. Professional Development specialists work directly with corporate, government, and professional organizations to develop high quality certificate programs and short courses that meet specific training goals. These programs can be offered on site, on campus, or via distance learning. Through targeted learning experiences, the individual or team can bring new tools and competencies back into the organization, providing an immediate on-the-job impact.

## Conferences and Special Programs

149 Wilson Hall  
Telephone: (256) 824-2808  
Email: Fathia.Hardy@uah.edu  
Fathia Hardy, Assistant Director of Outreach and Event Management

The Outreach and Event Management unit embodies collaborative projects and mutually beneficial partnerships among The University of Alabama in Huntsville and external groups that enrich both our academic and research missions and the communities we serve. Our management team hosts and co-hosts various conferences, training sessions, symposiums, continuing education, special events, meetings, and workshops. Visit [www.PCS.uah.edu/conferences-special-programs](http://www.PCS.uah.edu/conferences-special-programs) for the most up-to-date information.

## Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)

113 Wilson Hall  
Telephone: (256) 824-6183  
Email: Rebecca.Duke@uah.edu (rebecca.duke@uah.edu)

Rebecca Duke, OLLI Director

## Mission

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) and the College of Professional and Continuing Studies partner to provide lifelong learning courses and enrichment activities designed to fulfill the educational needs of adults 50 and above. OLLI at UAH is a member-led, non-profit, volunteer-based organization that advances the educational, cultural, and social interests of its members by sponsoring short courses, socials, speaker series, industrial tours, and travelogues designed to fit the interests and needs of its members. CPCS supports OLLI's efforts by providing support services and a safe, comfortable, and intellectually stimulating on-campus environment that supports adult lifelong learning and enhances community outreach.

## Curriculum

Curriculum includes a wide range of courses:

- Arts and Crafts
- Computers
- Current Events
- Finance and Economics
- Foreign Languages
- Genealogy
- Health and Fitness
- History, Civics, and Religion
- Literature and Writing
- Science and Math

Courses are offered during fall, winter, spring, and summer. Most meet 1.5 hours per class, once a week, for six to eight weeks. We also offer courses in our popular "OLLI After Five" format. OLLI courses are taught by qualified volunteer instructors. Courses are not graded, and no tests are administered.

## Testing and Certification Services

214 Wilson Hall

Telephone: (256) 824-6373

Email: [TestingAndCertificationServices@uah.edu](mailto:TestingAndCertificationServices@uah.edu)

Maria Bricker, Assistant Director

## Mission

The University of Alabama in Huntsville Testing and Certification Services (TaCS) unit is committed to providing exceptional, accessible, and comprehensive testing services for students, graduates, professionals, and individuals from our surrounding communities. We are dedicated to upholding high standards of security and academic integrity by maintaining and adhering to all standards set forth by the National College Testing Association (NCTA).

## Tests

The TaCS office offers numerous testing opportunities to include:

- ACT
- Residual ACT
- CLEP/DANTES
- SAT
- MAT
- GRE
- HESI
- Alabama State Dept of Insurance Exam
- National Center for Competency Testing
- Pearson VUE Testing
- Castle Worldwide
- Proctored Exams

Visit [www.uah.edu/pcs/testing-certification-services](http://www.uah.edu/pcs/testing-certification-services) for a full list of available tests, test schedule, policy and guidelines, and ways to register.