

Academic Programs and Supports: **BEAR POWER**



Structure

What is the overall course structure?

- Bear POWER is a 2-year program across five academic semesters that is housed at Missouri State University (MSU).
- Bear POWER students take a minimum of six credit hours of traditional courses (classes from the course catalog) and one Bear POWER course per semester.

Courses

What types of courses are required of Bear POWER students?

- Bear POWER students take an introduction to college course, called a General Education Program (GEP) course.
- Bear POWER students take one academic support class per semester. This class is specifically developed for students in the Bear POWER program. Topics for the academic support class include:
 - Reading and writing comprehension
 - Time and money management
 - Communication and relationships
 - Community engagement
 - Transition to employment

What other courses from the university catalog can Bear POWER students take?

- Bear POWER students can take courses that are available to all MSU students.
- Students will receive a grade for every course they take (both courses taken for credit and for audit).
- Midway through the semester, students can change from taking a class for audit to credit or visa versa.

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Completion

What type of credential, certificate, or degree do students earn upon completing the program?

- Students earn a certificate of completion after attending five semesters and earning 30 credit hours of class.
- Students who take the required courses for credit (and not audit) can earn an Undergraduate Certificate.

Supports

What supports do Bear POWER students receive related to their academic coursework?

- Bear POWER students are assigned a traditional academic advisor to help them pick classes.
- Bear POWER staff support students with homework or assessments.
- Graduate assistants provide between 1-3 hours of one-on-one support each week.
- Bear POWER students can also attend the tutoring center, called the Bear CLAW.
- Students who take courses for credit can also receive supports through the Disability Resource Center.

Key Contact

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[Bear POWER Program Website](#)

