

Liberal Studies

College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters



The Program

Students looking for some flexibility in customizing a degree program that fits their own interests and aspirations may want to consider Liberal Studies. Liberal Studies is an interdisciplinary Bachelor of Arts (A.B.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree.

Students in this major follow the same distribution (general education) requirements as students completing traditional A.B./B.S. programs. However, instead of completing a traditional major requiring 24 or more credit hours in one subject, these students complete three areas of focus.

These areas of focus are similar to minors, each of which requires 12 or 15 credit hours of upper level coursework. The entire degree requires a minimum of 120 credit hours. At least 48 hours must be at the upper level (300 or higher).

Aside from giving students the opportunity to build an individualized program suited to their own personal and/or career goals, Liberal Studies can also provide an excellent foundation for graduate and professional education in many areas including law, business, public administration, counseling and social work.

Areas of Focus

The areas of focus are divided into three groups. Group I consists of single-disciplinary areas within the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters (CASL). Group II includes multi-disciplinary areas within CASL. Group III includes areas of focus outside of CASL.

Liberal Studies majors are required to complete a minimum of 30 upper level hours in CASL. As a result, at least two areas of focus must be from the CASL groups (I & II).

Following is a list of the areas of focus. Some areas are highly structured, some have one or more lower level prerequisites. Specific requirements are not included here. Please see a CASL advisor for details.

Group I — CASL Single-disciplinary Areas

(12 hours at the upper level required in each area chosen. You may choose one, two, or all three areas of focus from Group I.)

Anthropology
Applied Statistics
Art History
Astronomy
Biochemistry
Biological Sciences
Chemistry
Comparative Literature
Computer and Computational Math
Economics
English
Environmental Science
French Studies
Geology
German
Hispanic Studies
History
Humanities
Linguistics
Mathematics
Microbiology
Music
Philosophy
Physics
Political Science
Psychology (some courses available online)
Sociology

Group II — CASL Multi-Disciplinary Areas

(15 hours required at the upper level in each area chosen. You may choose one, two, or all three areas of focus from Group II.)

African and African American Studies
Communications
Criminal Justice Studies
Earth Science
Environmental Studies
Film Studies
Health Policy Studies
Law and Society
Leadership & Communication in Organizations
Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Organizational Change in a Global Environment
(courses available on line)
Religious Studies
Science and Technology Studies
Social Science Research Methodology
Society and Technological Change
(courses available on line)
Urban and Regional Studies
Women's and Gender Studies

Continued >

Group III — Areas Outside of CASL

(You may choose only one area of focus from Group III. Each area requires 12 or 15 hours at the upper level, however, some also require numerous lower level prerequisites. See a CASL advisor for details.)

Accounting
Computer and Information Science
Finance
Information Technology Management
Management
Marketing

Opportunities for Experiential Education

CASL students have the opportunity to gain valuable real-world on-the-job training through paid Cooperative Education placements, or by doing unpaid internships. Co-op placements and internships help students make informed decisions about their future careers, provide students with a means of acquiring valuable work-related skills, and give students a way of improving their marketability. Students also have the opportunity to do independent study/independent research in most disciplines. See a CASL advisor for more information about these opportunities.

For More Information

For more information about the Liberal Studies program:
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To request an application or obtain more information about admission to the University:

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