

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts (4 Years, 240 ECTS)

An interdisciplinary, writing-intensive program spanning the humanities, social sciences, arts, and quantitative reasoning. Emphasizes critical inquiry, ethical reasoning, global citizenship, creativity, and research. Structured across 8 semesters (30 ECTS each) with distribution requirements, concentrations, experiential learning, and a senior thesis/capstone.

Program Overview

- **Award:** B.A. in Liberal Arts
- **Duration:** 8 Semesters (4 academic years)
- **Total Credits:** 240 ECTS
- **Delivery:** Seminars (S), Lectures (L), Workshops/Studios (W), Labs (P), Tutorials (T), Fieldwork (F)
- **Workload:** ≈ 25–30 hours/ECTS
- **Signature Features:** Writing across the curriculum, great books & big questions, data literacy for citizens, languages & cultures, civic engagement, digital fluency, portfolio development, study-abroad option.

Program Learning Outcomes

- Graduates will be able to:
1. **Read & interpret** complex texts and cultural artifacts across traditions and contexts.
 2. **Argue persuasively** in writing and speech with evidence, clarity, and ethical awareness.
 3. **Use methods** from history, literature, philosophy, social sciences, and the arts to pose and answer research questions.
 4. **Analyze data** and quantitative information to support reasoning and decision-making.
 5. **Engage globally** with languages, cultures, and comparative perspectives.
 6. **Create** original work—essays, performances, visual/digital media, or community projects.
 7. **Collaborate** effectively; manage projects; reflect on learning through a curated portfolio.
 8. **Practice** citizenship and leadership with attention to diversity, equity, inclusion, and sustainability.
-

Degree Structure

- **Core Curriculum (Common Experience):** 90 ECTS
- **Concentration (choose one):** 60 ECTS
- **Open Electives (any faculty):** 42 ECTS
- **Language & Global Requirement:** 24 ECTS
- **Methods & Research Requirement:** 12 ECTS
- **Capstone (Thesis/Project + Colloquium):** 12 ECTS

Totals include double-counted courses where allowed; institutions may adjust.

Concentration Options (examples)

- Literature & Culture
 - History, Memory & Archives
 - Philosophy, Ethics & Law
 - Politics, Economy & Society
 - Psychology & Human Development
 - Media, Film & Digital Culture
 - Art, Design & Performance
 - Environmental Humanities & Sustainability
 - Global Studies & International Relations
 - Digital Humanities & Data Studies
-

Curriculum Map by Semester (30 ECTS each)

Each course lists **ECTS**, **Format**, **Assessment**, **Brief & Topics**, and when relevant **Tools** or **Fieldwork**.

Semester 1 — Foundations (30 ECTS)

- 1. LA101 Writing Seminar I: Inquiry & Argument** (6 ECTS, S 3h)
Assessment: Essays (3) 60%, Portfolio 20%, Participation 20%
Brief: Rhetoric, argument, revision, evidence, citation, style; intensive feedback.
Topics: Claims/reasons, genre, audience, logical fallacies, peer review.
 - 2. LA102 Great Books I: Ancient Worlds** (6 ECTS, S/L 3h)
Brief: Epic, tragedy, philosophy, sacred texts from Mediterranean, South Asian, East Asian traditions.
Assessment: Reading journals, midterm essay, final comparative paper.
 - 3. LA103 Quantitative Reasoning for the Liberal Arts** (6 ECTS, L/T 3h + P)
Brief: Numeracy, descriptive statistics, probability, data visualization, spreadsheets & Python/R basics.
Assessment: Problem sets, data project, reflections.
Tools: Excel/Sheets, Jupyter (Python) or RStudio.
 - 4. LA104 Language & Culture I** (6 ECTS, S 3h)
Brief: Start or continue a modern language (CEFR A1→A2 progression).
Assessment: Oral exam, written tests, portfolio.
 - 5. LA105 First-Year Experience & Civic Engagement** (6 ECTS, W/F 3h)
Brief: University transition, research skills, academic integrity, well-being, community service project (20–30 hours).
Assessment: Reflection dossier, group presentation, plan of study.
-

Semester 2 — Traditions & Methods (30 ECTS)

1. LA106 Writing Seminar II: Research & Publics (6 ECTS, S 3h)

Pre: LA101

Brief: Research question design, literature review, source evaluation, public-facing writing (op-ed, brief).

Assessment: Research paper, public essay, annotated bibliography.

2. LA107 Great Books II: Medieval to Early Modern (6 ECTS)

Brief: Cross-cultural encounters, reformations, science & reason, early modern drama/poetry.

3. LA108 Social Science Foundations (6 ECTS, L/S 3h)

Brief: Core theories & methods in anthropology, sociology, political science, economics, psychology.

Assessment: Short memos, method mini-labs, midterm, final essay.

4. LA109 Language & Culture II (6 ECTS)

Brief: CEFR A2→B1 progression; cultural competence tasks.

5. LA110 Art & Aesthetics: Seeing, Making, Critiquing (6 ECTS, W/S 3h + Studio)

Brief: Studio practice + critical theory; visual analysis; exhibition visit logs.

Assessment: Studio portfolio, critique participation, artist statement.

Semester 3 — Global Encounters & Sciences (30 ECTS)

1. LA201 Sciences for Citizens I (Scientific Literacy) (6 ECTS, L/P 3h)

Brief: Scientific method, energy & environment, health & risk, experimental design; lab demonstrations.

Assessment: Lab reflections, case study, exam.

2. LA202 Global Histories: Empire, Nation, World (6 ECTS, S 3h)

Brief: Comparative perspectives from 1500–present; archives, maps, oral histories.

Fieldwork: Local archive/museum project.

3. LA203 Philosophy: Ethics & the Good Life (6 ECTS, S 3h)

Brief: Moral theories, applied ethics (bio/tech/media), argument mapping.

4. LA204 Data & Society (Coding the Social) (6 ECTS, L/P 3h)

Brief: Data structures, basic coding, data ethics, privacy, algorithmic bias, visualization narratives.

Tools: Python/R, basic SQL; visualization libraries.

Assessment: Data story project with public brief.

5. LA2E1 Open Elective I (6 ECTS)

Semester 4 — Arts, Identities & Publics (30 ECTS)

1. **LA205 Literature & the Modern** (6 ECTS)

Brief: Novels, poetry, drama, and global modernisms; form, voice, and identity.

2. **LA206 Social Inquiry Methods** (6 ECTS, L/P 3h)

Brief: Qualitative (ethnography, interviews), quantitative (survey design, regression), mixed methods; IRB/ethics.

Assessment: Methods portfolio + pilot study.

3. **LA207 Media, Technology & Culture** (6 ECTS)

Brief: Media theory, platforms, attention economy, digital publics; podcast/video essay lab.

4. **LA208 Language & Culture III** (6 ECTS)

Brief: CEFR B1→B2 progression; content-based learning (history/film).

5. **LA2E2 Open Elective II** (6 ECTS)

Semester 5 — Concentration Deepening (30 ECTS)

1. **LA301 Theories & Methods in [Chosen Concentration]** (6 ECTS)

Brief: Disciplinary frameworks, historiography, schools of thought; research design.

Assessment: State-of-the-field review + prospectus.

2. **LA302 Research Seminar I** (6 ECTS, S 3h)

Brief: Close mentorship; annotated bibliography, methodology refinement, IRB if needed.

Output: 15–20 page paper or creative project proposal.

3. **LA3C1 Concentration Elective I** (6 ECTS)

4. **LA3C2 Concentration Elective II** (6 ECTS)

5. **LA3E3 Open Elective III / Internship Prep** (6 ECTS)

Workshop: CV/portfolio; placements in NGOs, cultural institutions, media, education, or policy.

Semester 6 — Practice, Fieldwork & Global (30 ECTS)

1. **LA303 Internship / Community-Engaged Learning** (6–12 ECTS, F)

Brief: 6–10 weeks placement; reflective journals; supervisor evaluation.

Variants: Study-abroad field course can substitute 6 ECTS.

2. **LA304 Research Seminar II / Creative Studio** (6 ECTS)

Brief: Data collection/production; workshop-style critique; revision cycles.

3. **LA3C3 Concentration Elective III** (6 ECTS)

4. **LA3C4 Concentration Elective IV** (6 ECTS)
 5. **LA3E4 Open Elective IV** (0–6 ECTS depending on internship load)
-

Semester 7 — Synthesis & Leadership (30 ECTS)

1. **LA401 Senior Thesis/Capstone I (Design & Proposal)** (6 ECTS)
Brief: Question refinement, methods, ethics, timeline, bibliography; oral proposal defense.
 2. **LA402 Leadership, Citizenship & Public Humanities** (6 ECTS)
Brief: Policy writing, facilitation, advocacy, public scholarship; project with community partner.
 3. **LA4C5 Concentration Elective V (Advanced Topics)** (6 ECTS)
 4. **LA4M1 Methods Elective (Advanced)** (6 ECTS) — choose one: archival methods, digital humanities, ethnography studio, statistical modeling, textual criticism, performance research.
 5. **LA4E5 Open Elective V** (6 ECTS)
-

Semester 8 — Capstone & Futures (30 ECTS)

1. **LA403 Senior Thesis/Capstone II (Completion & Colloquium)** (12 ECTS)
Deliverables: 40–60 page thesis or equivalently scoped creative/digital project + critical essay; public presentation; archived in institutional repository; reflective portfolio.
 2. **LA404 Ethics of Technology, Environment & Society** (6 ECTS)
Brief: Intersections of AI, climate, bioethics, inequality; case-based reasoning; policy memos.
 3. **LA4C6 Concentration Elective VI / Special Topics** (6 ECTS)
 4. **LA405 Career Design & Graduate Study Prep** (6 ECTS)
Brief: Capstone to career; networking, fellowships, grad applications, entrepreneurship; capstone translation to public portfolio.
-

Concentration Menus (Sample Detailed Lists)

A. Literature & Culture

- **LA511 World Literature in Translation** (6 ECTS) — Comparative genres & movements; translation theory basics.
- **LA512 Poetics & Form** (6 ECTS) — Prosody, narrative structures, experimental forms.
- **LA513 Postcolonial & Decolonial Literatures** (6 ECTS) — Empire, language, identity; theory & case studies.
- **LA514 Literature & the Environment** (6 ECTS) — Ecocriticism, climate fiction, environmental justice.

- **LA515 Creative Writing Workshop** (6 ECTS) — Fiction/poetry/creative nonfiction; peer critique; portfolio.

B. History, Memory & Archives

- **LA521 Historical Methods & Historiography** (6 ECTS) — Archives, oral history, microhistory, digital curation.
- **LA522 Europe & the World** (6 ECTS) — Modernities, revolutions, integration.
- **LA523 Global South Perspectives** (6 ECTS) — Africa, Latin America, South/Southeast Asia.
- **LA524 Public History & Museum Studies** (6 ECTS) — Exhibitions, audiences, ethics.

C. Philosophy, Ethics & Law

- **LA531 Logic & Argumentation** (6 ECTS) — Deductive/inductive logic, informal fallacies, argument maps.
- **LA532 Philosophy of Mind & Language** (6 ECTS) — Consciousness, meaning, AI.
- **LA533 Political Philosophy & Justice** (6 ECTS) — Liberty, equality, rights; contemporary debates.
- **LA534 Comparative Legal Traditions** (6 ECTS) — Civil/common/Religious law; human rights.

D. Politics, Economy & Society

- **LA541 Comparative Politics** (6 ECTS) — Institutions, regimes, parties, democratization.
- **LA542 International Political Economy** (6 ECTS) — Trade, finance, development, inequality.
- **LA543 Social Policy & Welfare States** (6 ECTS) — Health, education, pensions; evaluation.
- **LA544 Gender, Race & Power** (6 ECTS) — Intersectionality, movements, policy.

E. Psychology & Human Development

- **LA551 Cognitive Psychology** (6 ECTS) — Perception, attention, memory, language.
- **LA552 Social & Cultural Psychology** (6 ECTS) — Self, groups, culture, norms.
- **LA553 Lifespan Development** (6 ECTS) — Childhood to aging; education & wellbeing.
- **LA554 Mental Health & Society** (6 ECTS) — Stigma, policy, community practice.

F. Media, Film & Digital Culture

- **LA561 Film Theory & Analysis** (6 ECTS) — Genre, auteur, national cinema; screening labs.
- **LA562 Platform Studies** (6 ECTS) — Algorithms, governance, creator economies.
- **LA563 Digital Storytelling** (6 ECTS) — Podcast/video/interactive; scripting, editing; public release.
- **LA564 Game Studies** (6 ECTS) — Play, mechanics, narrative, communities.

G. Art, Design & Performance

- **LA571 Studio Art I (Drawing/Design)** (6 ECTS) — Foundations, composition, critique.
- **LA572 Performance Workshop** (6 ECTS) — Acting, movement, directing; devised work.
- **LA573 Art History & Visual Culture** (6 ECTS) — Periods/movements; methods of seeing.
- **LA574 Design for Social Impact** (6 ECTS) — Human-centered design; community partners.

H. Environmental Humanities & Sustainability

- **LA581 Climate, Culture & Society** (6 ECTS) — Narratives of climate; justice; policy.
- **LA582 Food, Land & Power** (6 ECTS) — Agriculture, migration, rights.
- **LA583 Environmental Ethics & Law** (6 ECTS) — Rights of nature, conservation, governance.
- **LA584 Energy, Technology & Futures** (6 ECTS) — Scenarios, systems thinking, transitions.

I. Global Studies & International Relations

- **LA591 World Orders** (6 ECTS) — Diplomatic history, institutions, power.
- **LA592 Migration & Diaspora** (6 ECTS) — Borders, belonging, policy.
- **LA593 Human Rights in Practice** (6 ECTS) — NGOs, advocacy, litigation.
- **LA594 Conflict, Peace & Security** (6 ECTS) — War, peacebuilding, mediation.

J. Digital Humanities & Data Studies

- **LA595 Texts as Data** (6 ECTS) — NLP basics, text mining, ethics.
- **LA596 Mapping & Spatial Humanities** (6 ECTS) — GIS, story maps, critical cartography.
- **LA597 Archives, Code & Curation** (6 ECTS) — Data models, metadata, repositories.
- **LA598 Public Digital Projects** (6 ECTS) — Collaborative web exhibits; accessibility.

Methods & Research Requirement (12 ECTS)

Choose **two** advanced methods courses across qualitative, quantitative, creative, or digital approaches. Examples: Archival Research; Ethnography Studio; Statistical Modeling with R; Survey & Causal Inference; Practice-Based Research in the Arts; Digital Editions & TEI; Data Visualization & Storytelling.

Language & Global Requirement (24 ECTS)

- **Language:** 18 ECTS continuous study to at least **CEFR B2** (or equivalent proficiency testing).
 - **Global Experience:** 6 ECTS via study abroad, global virtual exchange, or globally focused field course.
-

Experiential & Co-Curricular Learning

- **Internships/Practicums (6–12 ECTS):** NGOs, museums, media, schools, start-ups, public sector.
 - **Community-Engaged Projects:** Course-embedded service learning.
 - **Undergraduate Research:** Assistantships with faculty projects (credit or stipend).
 - **Portfolio:** Cumulative, assessed at end of Years 2, 3, and 4.
-

Assessment & Quality Assurance

- **Writing-Intensive Rubrics:** Thesis/claim clarity, evidence use, analysis, organization, style, revision.
 - **Research Integrity:** Source evaluation, citation, data ethics, IRB where applicable.
 - **Feedback Loops:** Draft workshops, peer review, office hours, writing center.
 - **Program Review:** Annual board including external advisors; graduate outcomes tracking.
-

Suggested Texts & Resources (Illustrative)

- **Writing:** They Say / I Say (Graff & Birkenstein); The Craft of Research (Booth).
 - **Critical Theory:** Literary Theory: An Anthology (Rivkin & Ryan).
 - **Philosophy/Ethics:** The Elements of Moral Philosophy (Rachels); Justice (Sandel).
 - **History/Methods:** From Sources to History (Howell & Prevenier).
 - **Data & Society:** Weapons of Math Destruction (O'Neil); Data Feminism (D'Ignazio & Klein).
 - **Global:** The Penguin History of the World (Roberts); contemporary journals & databases.
-

Weekly Syllabi Snapshots (Examples)

LA101 Writing Seminar I (Weeks 1–14):

- W1: Rhetoric & argument; W2: Summaries & paraphrase; W3: Claims & evidence; W4: Structure & outlines; W5: Style & clarity; W6: Counterarguments; W7: Midterm conference; W8: Research basics; W9: Revising; W10: Visual rhetoric; W11: Oral presentations; W12: Peer editing; W13: Portfolio curation; W14: Final reflections.

Assessments: Three essays with revisions; final portfolio.

LA206 Social Inquiry Methods (Weeks 1–14):

- W1: Research questions; W2: Ethics/IRB; W3: Qualitative sampling; W4: Interviews; W5: Ethnography/fieldnotes; W6: Survey design; W7: Measurement/validity; W8: Experiments/causality; W9: Regression intro; W10: Mixed methods; W11: Visualization; W12: Replication; W13: Project clinic; W14: Presentations.

LA403 Senior Thesis II (Weeks 1–14):

- W1: Writing plan; W2–4: Draft chapters; W5: Methods chapter; W6: Data/analysis; W7: Argument consolidation; W8: Design of figures/appendices; W9: Revision; W10: Professional editing; W11: Pre-defense; W12: Public talk; W13: Submission; W14: Reflection & archiving.

Capstone Options (12 ECTS total)

- **Thesis Track:** Research thesis under faculty supervision; defense & public colloquium.
- **Creative/Digital Track:** Exhibition, performance, film, or digital project + 8–12k word critical commentary.

- **Civic Impact Track:** Policy, education, or community partnership project with evaluation report & public dissemination.
- All tracks include a reflective portfolio mapping outcomes to evidence.
-

Advising & Progression

- **Advising:** Assigned faculty mentor; plan-of-study check each semester.
 - **Progression:** Minimum 45 ECTS/year; completion of Writing I/II and Quantitative Reasoning by end of Year 2.
 - **Study Abroad:** Recommended Year 3; credits mapped to concentration with pre-approval.
 - **Honors Option:** Extended thesis (+6 ECTS) and research methods seminar.
-

Customization & Localization Notes

- Adapt concentration menus to local strengths (e.g., Regional Studies, Philosophy of Technology, Film Production).
 - Align language instruction with institutional offerings and CEFR testing.
 - Integrate national civics/constitutional law modules where appropriate.
 - Provide inclusive pedagogy, accessibility services, and academic accommodations.
-

Appendix A — Rubrics (Abbreviated)

- **Research Paper:** Question significance (15), Literature engagement (20), Method & evidence (25), Argument structure (20), Style & citation (10), Revision & reflection (10).
 - **Creative Project:** Concept & intent (15), Craft & technique (25), Research/context (20), Impact & audience (15), Documentation (15), Reflection (10).
 - **Civic Project:** Needs analysis (15), Partnership & ethics (20), Implementation (25), Evaluation & evidence (20), Communication (10), Reflection (10).
-

This syllabus is a comprehensive template. Institutions should tailor distribution requirements, concentration menus, language offerings, and assessment practices to local contexts while preserving writing intensity, methodological breadth, and capstone depth.