

Liberal Arts and Sciences Major

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Degree Offered: Bachelor of Arts (BA) in
Liberal Arts and Sciences

The Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) Major offers a broad and challenging course of study in the humanities, sciences, arts, and social sciences. Through a multi-disciplinary but coherent approach to learning, the program meets the needs of students majoring in professional fields, as well as those desiring a general background for adaptability and mobility in employment. LAS offers USU students the training required to be competitive and to contribute effectively in the organizations, professions, and communities of the twenty-first century.

This major allows the student to develop an individualized curriculum in consultation with the program advisor (Student Center 302). This major requires a 2.3 overall GPA for admission and a 2.3 USU Cumulative GPA for graduation.

Although the emphasis of this major is in the humanities, arts, and social sciences, the student is encouraged to seek out other educational interests as part of an academic program. The following credit distribution will be typical of most students:

University Studies (30 credits). The University Studies Program (which is required for all students seeking a bachelor's degree) consists of two sets of requirements: General Education Requirements and Depth Education Requirements. Included in the General Education Requirements are Competency Requirements, including Communications Literacy, Quantitative Literacy, and Computer and Information Literacy. General Education also includes Breadth Requirements in the areas of American Institutions, Creative Arts, Humanities, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Social Sciences. To complete the Depth Education Requirements, students must complete two Communications Intensive courses, one Quantitative Intensive course, and two Depth courses. For more information about the University Studies Program, as well as lists of courses approved for meeting University Studies Requirements, see pages 42-49 in this catalog. Students should consult with the program advisor to determine which University Studies courses will best meet their learning goals.

Foreign Language (2 years). All students who receive the Bachelor of Arts degree must have completed two years' training or equivalent in a foreign language approved by the Languages, Philosophy, and Speech Communication Department. One year or equivalent in each of two foreign languages may also satisfy the foreign language requirement for the BA degree. Specifically, the BA language requirement may be completed in one of the following ways:

1. Completion of 16 credits in one foreign language.
2. Completion of 20 credits in two foreign languages.
3. In general, completion of course number 2020 in one of the foreign languages or an upper-division (3000-level or above) foreign language grammar or literature course. Conversation classes generally cannot be considered in satisfying this requirement.
4. Successful completion of the Intensive English Language Institute (IELI) program for international students.
5. TOEFL, Michigan, or IELI placement scores high enough to meet the University admission criteria.

The focus of study for the Liberal Arts and Sciences major is to help students gain a basic understanding of the development of civilization, including historical and cultural traditions, political institutions and processes, an appreciation of arts and literature, and expanded capacities for critical thought. Four learning goals are identified, each requiring a minimum of 9 credits, for a total of 36 credits.

Students plan a multi-disciplinary academic program providing a focus for study, with emphasis in primarily social sciences, humanities, and arts.

Pre-professional and Elective Credits

Depending on a student's career objectives, a student may take courses leading to further study in medicine, law, business, or other graduate programs, or continue to study in a number of different disciplines.

Course Description

Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS), page 430