Liberal Studies

The Liberal Studies major is an interdisciplinary program in which students pursue broad interests or develop a specialized program in areas where majors are not currently offered. It encourages skills for responsible citizenship, including critical thinking, self-knowledge, and interdisciplinary understanding, and is appropriate for students who wish to participate fully in shaping their university education to their needs and interests.

Programs

- Liberal Studies, B.A. *major*

Career Directions

The Liberal Studies major by its nature does not aim at a single career path. Rather, it offers a meaningful core education to students who 1) have broad career goals, 2) already have a career and wish to advance it with a bachelor's degree, 3) seek to enrich their lives through a classic core education, 4) wish to prepare for graduate or professional study. The major could be appropriate for students interested in any of the following, for example:

Arts
Business
Communications
Education
Government
Human Services
Law
Library Science
Medicine
Nonprofit Organizations
Also: Graduate School
Professional School
Seminary

Liberal Studies, B.A. *major*

Required Credits: 45
Required GPA: 2.25

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

A letter of application submitted to the chair of the Department of Humanities is required for admission to the Liberal Studies major. Ideally it would be submitted before the student's senior year. It should contain the following:

-- A statement of understanding about the freedom of choice associated with this degree;
-- A statement of future plans to use this degree for personal growth, further study, employment, or other purposes;
-- An outline of a projected course of study and date of graduation.

The letter is reviewed by the program's advisor. When an application is approved, the student may declare the major.

The credits for the Liberal Studies major may be distributed in various ways. For example:

Broad distribution across the colleges.
Concentration in various areas of interest, including minors.
Organization in a formal program of study of one or more major themes, such as critical thinking, cultural heritage, science and technology.

No more than 23 credits for the Liberal Studies major may be applied toward a double-major or second degree in the designated disciplines.

A total of 120 semester credits are needed for the **Liberal Studies B.A.** degree and include the following:

- 40 upper division credits (level 3000/4000)
- 45 required major core credits
- Completion of Core Curriculum credits (Minnesota Transfer Curriculum [MnTC] Goal Areas 1-10) - required for all baccalaureate degrees
- Completion of BSU Focus and Nisidotaading Course Requirements

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LIBERAL STUDIES MAJOR Completion of 45 semester credits in the student's choice of courses from the following disciplines, with at least 30 of the 45 credits at the 3000-4000 level.

Anthropology
Biology
Chemistry
Communication Studies
Computer Science
Economics
English
Environmental Science
Gender and Women's Studies
Geography
Geology
History
Humanities
Indigenous Studies
Intl Studies
Mass Communication
Mathematics
Modern Lang
Music
Philosophy
Physics
Political Science
Psychology
Sociology
Technology, Art and Design - Design courses

Courses

All-University Courses

The course numbers listed below, not always included in the semester class schedule, may be registered for by consent of the advisor, instructor, or department chair, or may be assigned by the department when warranted. Individual registration requires previous arrangement by the student and the completion of any required form or planning outline as well as any prerequisites.

1910, 2910, 3910, 4910 DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY
1920, 2920, 3920, 4920 DIRECTED GROUP STUDY
1930, 2930, 3930, 4930 EXPERIMENTAL COURSE
1940, 2940, 3940, 4940 IN-SERVICE COURSE
1950, 2950, 3950, 4950 WORKSHOP, INSTITUTE, TOUR
1960, 2960, 3960, 4960 SPECIAL PURPOSE INSTRUCTION
1970, 2970, 3970, 4970 INTERNSHIP
1980, 2980, 3980, 4980 RESEARCH
1990, 2990, 3990, 4990 THESIS