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# Degree Guide

## B.A./B.S. in Liberal Studies

### Liberal Studies: Program Overview

The liberal studies major allows students to design their own plan of study organized around a theme. This theme is unique to each student and intended to support their academic interests, personal and career goals. This interdisciplinary approach provides greater breadth and flexibility than can be found in other majors. Students mix and match courses from the following OSU-Cascades departments: American studies, anthropology, art, English, communication, political science, psychology, Spanish, sociology, and writing.

To complete a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Liberal Studies students must complete the following degree requirements:

- OSU Graduation Requirements
- Baccalaureate Core
- College of Liberal Arts Core
- BA or BS Requirements
- Submit Plan of Study/Essay for College approval
- Liberal Studies Major Requirements

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### OSU Graduation Requirements:

*Students pursuing a degree at OSU must meet the following requirements in addition to program and college requirements. [catalog.oregonstate.edu/regulations/#text](https://catalog.oregonstate.edu/regulations/#text)*

- ☐ 180 minimum = total number of credits required to graduate
- ☐ 60 minimum = number of upper division credits required
- ☐ 45 of last 75 credits must be OSU credits
- ☐ Max 135 credits transferred to OSU
- ☐ Max 18 W grades (withdraw)
- ☐ Max 11 credits PAC



*\*2023-2024 Catalog Year, information is subject to change in future catalog years.*

## Baccalaureate Core Requirements (Bacc Core)

- Transfer students who have an AAOT have all Skills and Perspectives completed. Students still need to complete Synthesis requirements.
- Use Schedule of Classes to search by Bacc Core category and campus each term.
- Courses **can** double count between Bacc Core, CLA Core and Major, but not between all 3 areas.

| Requirement   | Planning | Grade/ Course |
|---|----------|---------------|
| Skills (16)   |          |               |
| Writing I (3-4cr)   |          |               |
| Writing II (3-4cr)  |          |               |
| Speech (3-4cr)  |          |               |
| Fitness (2 cr)  |          |               |
| Fitness PAC (1 cr)  |          |               |
| Math (3-4cr)  |          |               |
| Perspectives (24-32 cr) <b>**No more than two courses from any one department**</b> |          |               |
| Bio Science (4-5cr)   |          |               |
| Physical Science (4-5cr)  |          |               |
| 1 additional Bio or Phys. Sci. (4-5cr)  |          |               |
| Cultural Diversity (3-4cr)  |          |               |
| Literature & Arts (3-4cr)   |          |               |
| Social Process & Inst. (3-4cr)  |          |               |
| Western Culture (3-4cr)   |          |               |
| Difference Power & Discrimination (3-4cr)   |          |               |
| Synthesis (6cr) <b>**Synthesis course must be from 2 different departments**</b>    |          |               |
| Contemporary Global Issues (CGI)  |          |               |
| Science Tech and Society (STS)  |          |               |

## College of Liberal Arts Core (CLA Core)

Courses can double count in Bacc Core, CLA Core or Major. One course cannot count between all three.

| CLA Core Requirement               | Course options  | Course/Grade |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Fine Arts (3-4 cr)                 | ART 101, ART 115, ART 117, ART 131, ART 121, ART 263,   |              |
| Humanities (3-4 cr)                | AMS 311, ART 367, ART 366, ENG 253, ENG 254, HST 202, HST 203 ENG 317, 318, 319, ENG 386, 387, 388, ENG 416, ENG 482, PS 206                        |              |
| Non-Western Culture (3-4 cr)       | ANTH 315, ART 208, ENG 360  |              |
| Social Science (3-4 cr)            | ANTH 210, ANTH 251, COMM 318, COMM 316, COMM 322, COMM 321, ECON 201, ECON 202, PS 201, PS 206, PS 331, PSY 201, PSY 202, SOC 204, SOC 205, SOC 206 |              |
| Additional CLA Core course (3-4cr) | Additional course from any category   |              |

## BA or BS Requirements

| B.A. Requirements  | Notes                                   | Course/Grade |
|--|---|--------------|
| Language - Second year proficiency, college level with C- grade or better.     |   |              |
| <b>B.S. Requirements</b>   |   |              |
| Any computer science course approved by the student's advisor                  | ART 121, CS 391, CS 101 online          |              |
| Any course from the College of Science except math or statistics (3-4 credits) | sample: BB 332, MB 330, Z 349           |              |
| 2 Courses in MTH or ST department 200-level or higher                          | Cannot double count with bacc core math |              |

# Liberal Studies: Major Plan of Study

Students work with the Liberal Studies advisor to create a unique theme and plan of study to meet individual interests and goals once they are entering upper division coursework at OSU-Cascades.

All classes must be from disciplines within the College of Liberal Arts.

OSU-Cascades departments CLA Departments include:

|                  |            |                   |                   |
|------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Anthropology     | Art        | English           | Ethnic Studies    |
| American Studies | History    | Political Science |                   |
| Communications   | Psychology | Social Science    | Sociology Writing |

1. **Liberal Studies Degree (Plan of Study) must be approved by the College of Liberal Arts.**
  - a. **Submit Plan of Study materials by advisor identified deadline.**
  - b. **Use this document or see <https://beav.es/Udn> for more details.**
2. Maximum of 20 previously completed credits in the plan of study before approved by College of Liberal Arts.
3. A 2.3 or better cumulative GPA in Liberal Studies courses.
4. At least 2 disciplines must be represented in Plan of Study (see above list).
5. No 100-200 level second language applied in plan.
6. Maximum of 6 credits of internship, project or independent study (401-410) in major plan.
7. **45-52 credits required**
8. At least 27 credits of upper division. (no more than 18 lower division)
9. You may not S/U any of your major requirements

Plan of Study Tracking/Draft (45 – 52 Credits) THEME IDEAS:

| Prefix       | No. | Course Title | Cr. | Gr. | Term | Taken at |
|--------------|-----|--------------|-----|-----|------|----------|
| Theme Ideas: |     |              |     |     |      |          |
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Writing Intensive Course (C or better required)

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|---------------------------------|--------|
| Total Credits<br>45-52 required | TOTAL: |
|---------------------------------|--------|

**Creating your Theme:**

Do you have a career field in mind? Are there certain subject areas or ideas that you are drawn to? Start by writing those ideas down and then look for common themes across those concepts or career goals. If there is not a common theme, select the one that seems to interest you most.

**Creating your Plan:**

- ☐ Review the courses offered at OSU-Cascades through the College of Liberal Arts. Which ones stand out to you as fitting in well with your proposed theme? <https://beav.es/Udn>
- ☐ You need at least two discipline areas from the college, and as many as you would like.
- ☐ List the classes you are interested in. Narrow that down to the appropriate credits and requirements.
- ☐ Select a WIC class related to your theme and goals.
- ☐ **Complete the Plan of Study form (page 2)**

**Plan of Study Guidelines:**

- ☐ All classes from Liberal Arts Disciplines
- ☐ 45-52 credits
- ☐ At least 27 upper division credits
- ☐ At least 1 Writing Intensive Course (WIC)
- ☐ Minimum of 2.3 GPA in the Liberal Studies courses
- ☐ No S/U grading allowed in plan of study
- ☐ No 100-200 level language courses
- ☐ Max of 6 credits of special projects or internships
- ☐ Maximum of 20 previously completed credits can be applied to new LS major.
- ☐ Liberal Studies Major must go through the approval process.

**Approval:**

Deadline for submission is 3 terms before graduation or before 20 intended plan of study credits completed. See your academic advisor for help creating and reviewing your plan of study and essay.

**Students are required to submit a 3-page expository essay****Your essay should be:**

- ☐ Theme title clear on essay
- ☐ Double-spaced, with 1" margins all around
- ☐ In a standard 10 or 12-point font
- ☐ Free of grammar and spelling errors (have someone proof-read it)
- ☐ Representative of your writing skills and indicative of the academic maturity needed for self-directed, goal-oriented learning.

**Your essay should include:**

- ☐ What your interests are
- ☐ Why they interest you
- ☐ Which disciplines in CLA fall within your interests
- ☐ How CLA disciplines connect to your theme
- ☐ What you hope to do with this major in the future

**Consider your learning outcomes:**

- Possess Competency and Knowledge in Multiple Fields; demonstrate interdisciplinary connections between two or more liberal arts areas
- Demonstrate Critical Thinking; problem-solve using evidence-based reasoning to make informed decisions
- Reflect on Pluralism and Cultural Legacies; understand and appreciate human cultural, historical and social experiences, and be able to relate them to individual experiences
- Engage in active Collaboration with advisors, faculty, and fellow students; develop the ability to value multiple and differing perspectives
- Employ Written Communication; articulate to a variety of different groups the value of students' individual liberal studies plan, their education, and what they have learned
- Preparation for Global Citizenship; be self-aware, socially responsible, and cultivate a sense of life-long learning