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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



*\*2024-2025 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.
- Courses **can** double count between Bacc Core, CLA Core and Major, but not between all 3 areas.

Requirement	Course	Term/Grade
Skills		
Fitness Lecture (2cr)		
Fitness PAC (1 cr)		
Math (3-4cr)		
Writing I (4cr)	WR 121Z	
Writing II (4cr)		
Speech (4cr)		
Perspectives	**No more than two courses from any one department**	
Cultural Diversity (3-4cr)		
Literature & Arts (3-4cr)		
Social Process & Inst. (3-4cr)		
Western Culture (3-4cr)		
Physical Science (4-5cr)		
Bio Science (4-5cr)		
1 additional Bio or Phys. Sci. (4-5cr)		
Difference Power & Discrimination- DPD (3-4cr)		
Synthesis	**Synthesis course must be from 2 different departments**	
Contemporary Global Issues- CGI (3-4 cr)		
Science Tech and Society- STS (3-4cr)		

## 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. More courses may be approved by advisor.

CLA Core Requirement	Course options	Term/Grade
Fine Arts (3-4 cr)	ART 101, ART 115, ART 117, ART 131, WR 224	
Humanities (3-4 cr)	ART 204, ART 205, ART 206, ENG 253, ENG 254, HST 106, HST 201, HST 202, HST 203, PS 206	
Non-Western Culture (3-4 cr)	ANTH 315, ENG 212, ENG 213, ENG 360	
Social Science (3-4 cr)	COMM 316, COMM 326, COMM 321, ECON 201, ECON 202, PS 201, PS 206, PS 331, PS 383, PSY 201z, PSY 202z, SOC 204, SOC 205	
Additional CLA Core (3-4cr)	An additional class from any category above	

## BA or BS Requirements

B.A. Requirements	Notes	Course/Grade
Second year proficiency in a second language at the college level with C- grade or better.	sample SPAN 111 – 213 (24 credits)	
B.S. Requirements Courses used to satisfy the B.S. <b>cannot</b> double count to satisfy baccalaureate core requirements.		
Any computer science (CS) course approved by the student's advisor	CS 391, or CS 101 online	
Any course from the College of Science except mth/st (3-4 credits)	samples: BB 332, MB 330, Z 349	
Two Courses: Math or Statistics 200-Level or higher	Popular course selection: ST 243z, ST 202	

# 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.**
2. A 2.3 or better cumulative GPA in Liberal Studies courses.
3. At least 2 disciplines must be represented in Plan of Study (see above list).
4. No 100-200 level second language applied in plan.
5. Maximum of 6 credits of internship, project or independent study (401-410) in major plan.
6. At least 27 credits of upper division. (no more than 18 lower division)
7. Courses may be S/U graded.
8. **45-52 credits required.**

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

Plan	Course	Course Title	Cr.	Gr.	Term	Taken at

Writing Intensive Course (WIC) C grade or better:

Total Credits:

## 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**

### 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.

## Plan of study expository essay/justification

### 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:

- State your Plan of Study Theme
- What your interests are and why they interest you
- 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.