

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies

Learn more about the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies.

The primary goal of the Liberal Studies curriculum is to assist students in developing their analytical, critical thinking, reading, writing and research skills, as they progress through a challenging curriculum that is primarily of their own design. This program is primarily designed to meet the needs of working adults who have stopped out of college, or who have difficulty finding a major in one of the other disciplines in the College of Liberal Arts that meets their scheduling needs. This program will be offered at Main, Ambler, and Temple Center City campuses. Select courses will be offered online.

The curriculum is a broad-based liberal arts degree, primarily focused on upper division coursework selected by the student in keeping with his/her professional and academic goals.

All students in the Liberal Studies major begin their studies in CLA 2096 Approaches to Liberal Studies. This writing intensive, interdisciplinary course brings students together and (re)introduces the idea of academic research, writing, and participation in the academic enterprise. Instructors will select a topic of their choice and examine it from a variety of perspectives and viewpoints in the various disciplines of the liberal arts.

Later in their program of study, all Liberal Studies majors will take AMST 2098 Reading Culture to complete the second required writing intensive course for the General Education Curriculum.

Critical Thinking (either PHIL 1055 or PSY 1004) is the foundations-level course for this major.

Students must select a track, either Humanities or Social Sciences, and follow the requirements of that track. Within their track, students select a "concentration" of five courses all taken in a single department in their chosen track, all of which are numbered 2000-4999. If a particular course requires a lower-level prerequisite, this prerequisite is taken in addition to the required upper level courses of their program. Four upper level "breadth" courses numbered 2000+ are selected from other cognate departments within their chosen track. In lieu of the CLA Distribution requirement, students in the Liberal Studies major will take four courses numbered 2000-4999 in the "other" track (Humanities or Social Sciences).

Program Restrictions

Liberal Studies is a stand-alone program and **may not be combined** with any other majors, minors, or certificate programs.

Life Experience Portfolio Review

Students in the Liberal Studies major will have the opportunity to submit a portfolio for review to earn up to 6 credits of professional "life experience." See your faculty advisor for more information.

For more information, contact Dr. Michael Szekely, Director of the Liberal Studies Program at mszekely@temple.edu.

Online-Only Program of Study

New non-traditional, transfer students will be able to take their entire degree program online. Required courses for the major will be offered online in the fall and spring semesters, and a variety of other courses to fulfill elective requirements will also be available via online instruction. For more information contact Dr. Keith Gumery at gumery@temple.edu.

Summary of Degree Requirements

University Requirements:

- MATH 0701 (4 s.h.) and/or ENG 0701 (4 s.h.), if required by placement testing.
- All Temple students must take a minimum of two writing-intensive courses as part of the major. The writing-intensive courses required for this major are CLA 2096 and AMST 2098.
- Students must complete requirements of the General Education (GenEd) Program. See the General Education section of the *Undergraduate Bulletin* for more details

College of Liberal Arts Requirements:

- Completion of a minimum of 123 credits, including:
 - 90 credits in CLA/CST courses;
 - 45 credits of which must be at the upper level (numbered 2000-4999).
 - The distribution requirement is built into this major.
 - A minimum GPA of 2.0, cumulatively, in CLA/CST coursework, and in the major.
 - Only courses in which a student receives a grade of at least C- can satisfy GenEd, major, minor, or CLA Foreign Language and Global Studies requirements.
- **Professional Development Requirement**

- All students in the College of Liberal Arts are required to take a 1 credit seminar in professional development. CLA 1002 Professional Development for Liberal Arts Majors is the appropriate course option for this major. Other courses that fulfill this requirement may be found on the CLA College Requirements page. Only one course in this category may count towards graduation.
- **Foreign Language/Global Studies Requirements:**
 - All students must complete or test out of the first and second levels of a foreign language - these courses are numbered 1001 and 1002;
 - All students must complete at least one course from the GenEd Global/World Society category; and
 - All Bachelor of Arts students must complete one of the following options:
 - Third semester of a foreign language;
 - Demonstrated proficiency beyond the third semester in a foreign language (placement exam or certification from the language department);
 - Take one Global Studies course from the list on the CLA College Requirements page;
 - Study Abroad at an approved program; or
 - Take a second General Education Global/World Society course.
- **Notes on Foreign Language Study**
 - The third level of language is numbered 1003 in French, German, Spanish, and Portuguese and numbered 2001 in all other foreign language subjects.
 - Students are strongly encouraged to take the third level of a foreign language as it is the minimum required for election to the prestigious honor society *Phi Beta Kappa*. (Taking the course does not guarantee admission but not taking it guarantees exclusion.)
 - See the College of Liberal Arts Policies section of this *Bulletin* for more information on the Foreign Language Placement, Regression in Coursework, and guidelines for students' other experiences with language.

General Electives are typically one-third of a student's program of study and can be focused on a second major, a minor, or towards some other personal enrichment or professional goals. See an academic advisor for assistance in developing an academic plan for these courses.

Major Requirements - 16 courses/48 credits, distributed as follows:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		
PSY 1004 or PHIL 1055	Critical Thinking in Psychology Critical Thinking	3
CLA 2096	Approaches to Liberal Studies	3
AMST 2098	Reading Culture	3
Concentration Courses		
Five courses from a single subject area (cannot overlap with other major courses) ¹		15
Humanities Courses		
Four Humanities courses (may not overlap with concentration area) ¹		12
Social Science Courses		
Four Social Science courses (may not overlap with concentration area) ¹		12
Total Credit Hours		48

¹ Concentration, Humanities, and Social Science courses must be taken at the upper level (2000-4999).

Suggested Academic Plans

Requirements for New Students starting in the 2022-2023 Academic Year

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies - Humanities Track

Year 1		Credit Hours
Fall		
ENG 0802, 0812, or 0902	Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	4
	GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course [GQ]	4
	Foreign Language 1001 - first level	4
	GenEd Breadth Course	3
Term Credit Hours		15
Spring		
IH 0851 or 0951	Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY]	3

Foreign Language 1002 - second level	4
GenEd Breadth Course	3
GenEd Breadth Course	3
GenEd Breadth Course	3

Term Credit Hours 16

Year 2

Fall

IH 0852 or 0952	Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ]	3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Elective in Any School or College		3
Elective in Any School or College		4
Select one of the following:		3
Foreign Language - third level		
GenEd Global/World Society Course		
Internationally Focused Course From Approved List		

Term Credit Hours 16

Spring

GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 1004	Critical Thinking in Psychology	
PHIL 1055	Critical Thinking	
Breadth - Any Social Science 2000-4999 Course		3
CLA Elective		2
CLA 1002	Professional Development for Liberal Arts Majors	1

Term Credit Hours 15

Year 3

Fall

CLA Elective		3
CLA 2096	Approaches to Liberal Studies [WI]	3
Concentration 2000-4999		3
Breadth - Any Social Science 2000-4999 Course		3
Cognate in Humanities Track 2000-4999		3

Term Credit Hours 15

Spring

CLA Elective		3
Breadth - Any Social Science 2000-4999 Course		3
Concentration 2000-4999		3
Concentration 2000-4999		3
Cognate in Humanities Track 2000-4999		3

Term Credit Hours 15

Year 4

Fall

Concentration 2000-4999		3
Concentration 2000-4999		3
AMST 2098	Reading Culture [WI]	3
Cognate in Humanities Track 2000-4999		3
Elective in any School or College		3

Term Credit Hours 15

Spring

CLA Elective		3
Cognate in Humanities Track 2000-4999		3

Breadth - Any Social Science 2000-4999 Course	3
Elective in any School or College	4
Elective in any School or College	3
Term Credit Hours	16
Total Credit Hours:	123

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies - Social Science Track

Year 1

Fall	Credit Hours
ENG 0802, 0812, or 0902 Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	4
GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course [GQ]	4
Foreign Language 1001 - first level	4
GenEd Breadth Course	3
Term Credit Hours	15
Spring	
IH 0851 or 0951 Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY]	3
Foreign Language 1002 - second level	4
GenEd Breadth Course	3
GenEd Breadth Course	3
GenEd Breadth Course	3
Term Credit Hours	16

Year 2

Fall	
IH 0852 or 0952 Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ]	3
GenEd Breadth Course	3
Elective in Any School or College	3
Elective in Any School or College	4
Select one of the following:	3
Foreign Language - third level	
GenEd Global/World Society Course	
Internationally Focused Course From Approved List	
Term Credit Hours	16
Spring	
GenEd Breadth Course	3
GenEd Breadth Course	3
Select one of the following:	3
PSY 1004 Critical Thinking in Psychology	
PHIL 1055 Critical Thinking	
Breadth - Any Humanities 2000-4999 Course	3
CLA Elective	2
CLA 1002 Professional Development for Liberal Arts Majors	1
Term Credit Hours	15

Year 3

Fall	
CLA Elective	3
CLA 2096 Approaches to Liberal Studies [WI]	3
Concentration 2000-4999	3
Breadth - Any Humanities 2000-4999 Course	3
Cognate in Social Science Track 2000-4999	3
Term Credit Hours	15
Spring	
CLA Elective	3

Breadth - Any Humanities 2000-4999 Course	3
Concentration 2000-4999	3
Concentration 2000-4999	3
Cognate in Social Science Track 2000-4999	3
Term Credit Hours	15
Year 4	
Fall	
Concentration 2000-4999	3
Concentration 2000-4999	3
AMST 2098 Reading Culture [WI]	3
Cognate in Social Science Track 2000-4999	3
Elective in any School or College	3
Term Credit Hours	15
Spring	
CLA Elective	3
Cognate in Social Science Track 2000-4999	3
Breadth - Any Humanities 2000-4999 Course	3
Elective in any School or College	4
Elective in any School or College	3
Term Credit Hours	16
Total Credit Hours:	123