



Liberal Studies

Master of Arts

The School of Continuing and Professional Studies offers an interdisciplinary Master of Arts degree in Liberal Studies. This unique program, also known as the Adult Degree Program, is anchored on the belief that highly motivated students can benefit from taking academically challenging courses that examine a particular subject from various disciplines and viewpoints. MALS students will take four core liberal studies courses concentrating on the humanities, performing and fine arts, social sciences, and natural sciences. To complete the degree, students write a thesis or a shorter capstone project.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Official transcripts from **all** post-secondary institutions attended
 - Have attained a bachelor's degree or its foreign equivalent from an accredited college or university
 - Have attained a minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0
 - In exceptional cases, student with a cumulative undergraduate grade-point average below 3.0 may apply by special petition
- Two letters of recommendation
- Submission of autobiographical letter
- Current professional resume
- Submission of a tentative course list related to the area intended to be pursued as a concentration

CURRICULUM

The Liberal Studies program offers candidates the opportunity to design a course of study reflecting specific interest in a particular area of concentration. This individualized program is designed by the student – in conjunction with a faculty advisor – and is suited to their own interests and professional needs. Students may choose graduate courses offered by the following departments:

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| ➤ Africana Studies | ➤ Health Sciences |
| ➤ Anthropology | ➤ History |
| ➤ Art | ➤ Languages and Literatures |
| ➤ Biological Sciences | ➤ Latin American and Puerto Rican Studies |
| ➤ Computer Science | ➤ Mathematics |
| ➤ Early Childhood and Childhood Education | ➤ Middle and High School Education |
| ➤ Economics and Business | ➤ Music, Multimedia, Theatre and Dance |
| ➤ English | ➤ Philosophy |
| ➤ Earth, Environmental, and Geospatial Sciences | ➤ Political Science |
| | ➤ Sociology |

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

With the approval of the ADP/MALS Academic Coordinator, students may select any graduate course in the Liberal Arts offered by Lehman College or enroll in an independent study (MLS 795) with a supervisor.

Core Courses (12 credits)		Credits
MLS 701	Introduction to Liberal Studies	3 credits
MLS 702	The Arts and Humanities	3 credits
MLS 703	The Social Sciences	3 credits
MLS 704	The Natural Sciences	3 credits

Electives (18 – 21 credits)

Thesis or Capstone Project (3 or 6 credits)		Credits
MLS 797	Master's Thesis Preparation	6 credits
OR		
MLS 796	Capstone Project	3 credits

Transfer Credits

With appropriate permission, matriculated graduate students may apply to transfer up to 12 credits of graduate courses that have been earned within the last five years. A maximum of six credits can be transferred from courses applied toward a previously awarded Master's degree. These credits should have relevance to the concentration the student is proposing.

Credit for Life Experience

With appropriate permission, matriculated graduate students may earn up to 6 credits (to be treated as transfer credits) for Prior Learning Assessment, if they have not earned any other life-experience credits within the last five years. PLA is based on the student's ability to demonstrate learning gained through volunteer activities or employment equivalent to that which is taught within one or more of the academic disciplines of the college.

Advisement

Upon admission, each student is assigned a faculty adviser with special knowledge of the student's anticipated area of concentration. In consultation with his or her faculty adviser, the student develops a coherent course of study that must provide a balanced, interdisciplinary selection of courses in the spirit of the Liberal Studies Program.

Prerequisites

Students who lack sufficient prerequisites for the particular area of study in which they choose to concentrate (e.g., the foreign languages required for focused historical or geopolitical study) are advised to add appropriate undergraduate courses to their graduate course-load.

Time Limit

Degree candidates must complete all requirements for the degree within a period of five years following matriculation.

Questions about the program?

Timothy Alborn, Academic Coordinator
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Questions about admissions?

The Office of Graduate Admissions
<http://www.lehman.edu/admissions>