College of Liberal Studies (CLS)

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The College of Liberal Studies (CLS) includes departments and programs in the humanities, social sciences, and interdisciplinary studies, as well as the School of Arts and Communication (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/arts). CLS continues the established liberal studies tradition of providing many curricula leading to the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Science degree.

CLS is dedicated to providing quality instruction and learning experiences which prepare students for careers, future education, and meaningful, responsible lives by fostering a climate of intellectual curiosity and creativity. Graduates of the college will have developed the skills for professional and personal success, including the ability to communicate effectively, think critically, conduct sound research, understand global issues, use knowledge in all aspects of life, participate meaningfully as citizens, and discover and apply worthwhile values.

CLS faculty and staff are committed to maintaining academic integrity and high ethical standards. The CLS, through its faculty, students, and curricula, is also dedicated to advancing diversity and inclusion. Furthermore, by developing partnerships outside the university and by encouraging professional connections, the college establishes its membership in the broader community.

The academic community within the College of Liberal Studies supports a strong general education program, nurtures exceptional disciplinary programs, and creates innovative interdisciplinary and international programs, which together promote lifelong personal and professional learning.

Programs in the humanities, social sciences, and interdisciplinary studies

At the heart of the College of Liberal Studies are the departments which teach the humanities and social sciences. These departments have traditionally represented the cornerstone disciplines of a university. They offer essential experiences that prepare students for lifelong learning. Courses in the humanities and social sciences introduce students to cultural, ethnic, and racial diversity; international dimensions of politics, economics, language, and culture; social institutions and social interactions; theories and applications of human behavior; and the great writing that develops and explores these realms of knowledge.

All students at UWL take courses in the humanities and social sciences even though they may not major in one of these programs. Many of the skills courses and liberal studies courses of the general education program are offered by departments in the humanities and social sciences. The skills that are built are those that enable students to proceed with effective and efficient learning.

Courses in the humanities and social sciences provide individuals with solid reading and writing abilities, an understanding of cultural diversity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, the ability to integrate and synthesize ideas, and a sense of personal responsibility. Courses in these disciplines help individuals learn from the past, explore the present, and adapt to the future. The liberal studies program is designed to be an enriching experience that produces a well-rounded individual.

The humanities are taught in the Departments of English, Global Cultures and Languages, History, and Philosophy. The social sciences are taught in the Departments of Archaeology/Anthropology, Political Science and Public Administration, Psychology, and Sociology and Criminal Justice. The College of Liberal Studies also offers interdisciplinary opportunities in the Departments of Ethnic and Racial Studies, Military Science (ROTC), and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, as well as in child youth care, criminal justice, digital media and design, environmental studies, international studies, and leadership development. Interdisciplinary studies combine courses from various humanities, social science, and arts and communication disciplines.

Departments/units

Archaeology and Anthropology
Art
Communication Studies
English
Ethnic and Racial Studies
Global Cultures and Languages
History
Military Science
Music
Philosophy
Political Science and Public Administration
Psychology
Sociology and Criminal Justice
Student Affairs Administration (graduate only)
Theatre Arts
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Degrees offered

Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Science
Master of Science in Education (see graduate catalog)
Education Specialist (see graduate catalog)
Doctor of Education (see graduate catalog)

 Majors and minors

(See the School of Arts and Communication (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/arts) for majors, minors, and emphases in art, communication studies, music, theatre arts, and the teacher education programs in these areas.)

B.A. = Bachelor of Arts  B.S. = Bachelor of Science  m = minor
Anthropology (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/archaeology) (m)
Archaeological Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/archaeology) (B.A., B.S., m)
Archaeological Studies w/Cultural Anthropology Emphasis (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/archaeology) (B.A., B.S.)
At-Risk Child & Youth Care (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/childyouthcare) (m)
Chinese Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (m)
Creative Writing (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/english) (m)
Criminal Justice (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/sociology) (m)
Economics (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/economicsclaa) (B.A., B.S., m)
Economics Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/economicsclaa) (B.A., B.S., m)
English Literature (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/english) (m)
English w/Literature Emphasis (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/english) (B.A.)
English w/Writing and Rhetoric Emphasis (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/english) (B.A.)
English Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/english) (B.S., m)
Environmental Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/environmentalstudies) (m)
Ethics (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/philosophy/ethicsminor) (m)
Ethnic and Racial Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/ethnicandracialstudies) (m)
French (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (B.A., m)
French w/Business Concentration (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (B.A.)
French Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (B.S., m)
German Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (B.A., m)
German Studies w/Business Concentration (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (B.A.)
German Studies Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (B.S., m)
History w/World History Emphasis (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/history) (B.A., B.S.)
History (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/history) (m)
History w/Regional Emphasis (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/history) (B.A., B.S.)
History w/Topical Emphasis (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/history) (B.A., B.S.)
History Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/history) (B.S., m)
International Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/internationalstudies) (m)
  • African Emphasis (m)
  • Asian Emphasis (m)
  • European Emphasis (m)
  • Latin American Emphasis (m)
  • Middle Eastern Emphasis (m)
Legal Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/politicalscience) (m)
Linguistics (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/english) (m)
Military Science (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/militaryscience) (m)
Neuroscience (interdisciplinary) (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/psychology/minor-neuroscience) (m)
Philosophy (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/philosophy) (B.A., B.S., m)
Political Science (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/politicalscience) (B.A., B.S., m)
Political Science Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/politicalscience) (B.S., m)
Professional and Technical Writing (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/english) (m)
Psychology (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/psychology) (B.A., B.S., m)
Psychology Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/psychology) (m)
Public Administration (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/politicalscience) (B.A., B.S., m)
Social Justice (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/womensgenderandsexualitystudies/social-justice-minor) (m)
Social Studies Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/social-studies-education) (B.S.) (Broad Field Option A or Option B; open to Early Adolescence-Adolescence teacher certification program only)
Sociology (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/sociology) (B.A., B.S., m)
Sociology Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/sociology) (B.S., m)
Spanish (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (B.A., m)
Spanish w/Business Concentration (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (B.A.)
Spanish Education (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages) (B.S., m)
Women's Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/womensgenderandsexualitystudies) (B.A., B.S., m)

Emphases/Programs

Gerontology (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/gerontology)

Certificate Programs

French Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages)
Hmong and Hmong-American Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/ethnicandracialstudies/hmong-studies-certificate)
Russian Studies (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/globalcultureslanguages)

Pre-Professional Programs

• Pre-Law (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/politicalscience)

Advising

All students in the College of Liberal Studies who have declared majors are assigned to faculty advisors. Advisors provide guidance and assistance to develop plans for post-college experiences. Students and their advisors are provided with Advisement Reports (AR) that assist them in monitoring progress toward meeting degree requirements. Degrees are verified in the dean’s office. Students are encouraged to come to the office to review progress toward the degree during their junior year.
College of Liberal Studies (CLS/SAC)
Bachelor of Arts core requirements

The following conditions apply to one or both Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees:

1. Students majoring in English or in a modern language must earn a Bachelor of Arts degree (education majors earn a Bachelor of Science degree).
2. Students majoring in other CLS programs may choose either a B.A. or a B.S. degree.
3. Language courses (CHI, FRE, GER, RUS, SPA, MLG) used to fulfill general education requirement: "Mathematical/logical systems and modern languages" (GE 02, category 2) may also be used to meet the B.A. and B.S. language requirements.
4. All other courses used to meet the requirements below must be in addition to the minimum 39 credits required in the General Education Program.
5. At least one course in the B.A. or B.S. college degree program (core requirements) must be a CLS designated diversity course.
6. Applicable courses may be found on the CLS B.A./B.S. Degree Option Course List (https://www.uwlax.edu/uploadedFiles/Academics/Colleges_Schools/CLS/CLS%20SAC%20BA%20BS%20Core%20Course%20List%20Updated%20-%20Fall%202015.pdf) or in the Advisement Report (AR) when the degree has been declared.

Courses used to fulfill general education requirements will not apply to core requirements except for language courses (CHI, FRE, GER, RUS, SPA, MLG) that count in the general education requirement: "Mathematical/logical systems and modern languages" (GE 02, category 2).

Declare ONE of the following tracks in the CLS Academic Services Office in 260 Morris Hall:

A. Language track

1. Native speakers of English complete:

   Select one of the following:

   - Code | Title | Credits
   - CHI 202 | Intermediate Chinese II |
   - FRE 202 | Intermediate French II |
   - GER 202 | Intermediate German II |
   - RUS 202 | Intermediate Russian II |
   - SPA 202 | Intermediate Spanish II |
   - MLG 202 | World Languages: Intermediate II |
   - MLG 204 | Heritage Language: Intermediate |
   - MLG 304 | Heritage Language: Advanced |

   Non-native speakers of English: score at least 80 on the La Crosse Battery of exams for non-native speakers of English; or submit a TOEFL or IELTS score that meets the university's English language proficiency requirement for admission; or complete ESL 252 or ESL 253, and one additional course from ESL 250, ESL 251, ESL 252, ESL 253. (Contact the English as a Second Language Institute (http://www.uwlax.edu/esl) for eligibility and regulations); and

2. Two additional courses outside the student's major in two of the following: humanities, social sciences or fine arts.

B. Humanities track

1. One modern language course 102 or higher; and
2. Two additional courses outside the department of the student’s major from two different departments chosen from: history, English, philosophy; and
3. One additional course in social sciences or fine arts.

C. Fine arts track

1. One modern language course 102 or higher; and
2. Two additional courses outside the department of the student’s major from two different departments chosen from: art, communication studies, music, theatre; and
3. One additional course in social sciences or humanities.

In addition to all other College of Liberal Studies core requirements, all students in CLS must complete a second major, minor, or program option by satisfying one of the following:

1. Complete a minor (or second major) outside of the student's major program, consisting of at least 18 credits; or
2. Complete an emphasis, program or concentration of at least 18 credits outside the student’s major program. General education courses may apply provided they are not being used to fulfill minimum general education requirements; or
3. Complete 18 credits in two or more departments or programs (at least 12 credits earned at the 300/400 level). These courses must be outside the student’s major department and can be from any college. General education courses may apply provided they are not being used to fulfill minimum general education requirements.

College of Liberal Studies (CLS/SAC)
Bachelor of Science core requirements

The following conditions apply to one or both Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees:

1. Students majoring in English or in a modern language must earn a Bachelor of Arts degree (education majors earn a Bachelor of Science degree).
2. Students majoring in other CLS programs may choose either a B.A. or a B.S. degree.
3. Language courses (CHI, FRE, GER, RUS, SPA, MLG) used to fulfill general education requirement: "Mathematical/logical systems and modern languages" (GE 02, category 2) may also be used to meet the B.A. and B.S. language requirements.
4. All other courses used to meet the requirements below must be in addition to the minimum 39 credits required in the General Education Program.
5. At least one course in the B.A. or B.S. college degree program (core requirements) must be a CLS designated diversity course.
6. Applicable courses may be found on the CLS B.A./B.S. Degree Option Course List (https://www.uwlax.edu/uploadedFiles/Academics/Colleges_Schools/CLS/CLS%20SAC%20BA%20BS%20Core%20Course%20List%20Updated%20-%20Fall%202015.pdf) or in the Advisement Report (AR) when the degree has been declared.

Courses used to fulfill general education requirements will not apply to core requirements except for language courses (CHI, FRE, GER, RUS, SPA, MLG) that count in the general education requirement:
"Mathematical/logical systems and modern languages" (GE 02, category 2).

**Bachelor of Science students complete four courses outside the department of the student’s major as follows:**
1. A lab science course (from the general education list); and
2. A social science course; and
3. Another social science or general education natural science, or math course, or an approved CLS alternative (ENV 201, PHL 334, PHL 339); and
4. One additional course in humanities or fine arts or complete a modern language course 102 level or higher.

**In addition to all other College of Liberal Studies core requirements,** all students in CLS must complete a second major, minor, or program option by satisfying one of the following:
1. Complete a minor (or second major) outside of the student’s major program, consisting of at least 18 credits; or
2. Complete an emphasis, program or concentration of at least 18 credits outside the student’s major program. General education courses may apply provided they are not being used to fulfill minimum general education requirements; or
3. Complete 18 credits in two or more departments or programs (at least 12 credits earned at the 300/400 level). These courses must be outside the student’s major department and can be from any college. General education courses may apply provided they are not being used to fulfill minimum general education requirements.

**CLS/SAC assurance of progress to degree after 60 credits policy**
The College of Liberal Studies/School of Arts and Communication is committed to student success and completion of a baccalaureate degree in a timely manner. Students must have a declared academic major after the completion of 60 credits. Students who do not meet this requirement will (1) have an advising hold placed on their registration for the next semester; (2) be required to make an appointment with staff in the College of Liberal Studies Academic Services Office to discuss plans for degree completion and to request removal of the advising hold.

1 Undeclared is not an academic major.
2 Pre-professional tracks are not academic majors.

**Graduation/degree requirements**
A student in the College of Liberal Studies may earn either the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree. The type of degree earned by a student (B.A. or B.S.) may be determined by the major programs elected by the student. All general university degree requirements must be met: a minimum of 120 credits (40 of which must be 300/400 numbered courses), general education program requirements, college core requirements, and major program requirements.

**Joint institution programs**
**International joint program in English:** The College of Liberal Studies administers a joint degree program with Guangxi Normal University (GXNU), China and South Central University of Nationalities (SCUN), China. Chinese students at GXNU or SCUN may enroll in this program to receive degrees from both institutions. Successful completion of the requirements set by this program results in the conferring of the Bachelor of degree in English by the authorities of GXNU or SCUN and the conferring of the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in English (emphasis in writing and rhetoric) by UW-La Crosse.

Contact the UWL Admissions Office (http://www.uwlax.edu/admissions/international-student) for more information. Students who earned an associate degree from another UW System institution are exempt from UWL’s general education requirements, although students must still meet all other UWL degree, college, and major requirements.

Joint programs affecting School of Arts and Communication (SAC) majors (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/arts/#joint-program) are found on the SAC page.