

Liberal Studies

Curriculum

Liberal Studies degrees meet the needs of students who desire greater breadth in the major than typical degrees allow. By combining course work across several Arts and Sciences social sciences and humanities disciplines, students tailor their curriculum to unique academic and career goals. The major requires 45 hours distributed across at least three Arts and Sciences disciplines. To ensure coherence among courses selected across disciplines, a three semester hour senior project is required as a part of the major. The senior project is examined and approved by a panel of two faculty members who represent the disciplines in which the candidate concentrates course work.

Liberal Studies majors can choose from the following:

- American Studies
- Anthropology
- Art History
- Economics
- English
- Foreign Language
- Gender and Women Studies
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Religion
- Sociology
- Speech
- Theater

Get Involved

A complete list of student clubs and organizations can be found online at:
<https://campuslink.okstate.edu>

College of Arts & Sciences Career Services

213 Life Science East
Tel: 405 744 5658

For appointments and resources:
<http://cascareers.okstate.edu>

Skills Gained from the Following:

Art: <http://art.okstate.edu/>

- Creativity: A degree in art is built on developing and expanding creativity. Art majors are encouraged to think non-traditionally and find innovative solutions.
- Working with Varied Mediums: Art majors also have the opportunity to work with different media, including electronic and digital media, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry and metals.
- Cultural Development: While studying American, European and Non-Western Art forms, Art Students gain a broad cultural perspective.

English: <http://english.okstate.edu>

- Research: English majors learn to conduct thorough literary research. They also develop critical reading skills to understand scholarly text.
- Effective Writing: English majors improve their writing, planning, drafting, and revising skills in order to produce coherent and articulate papers. They also learn how to format papers in accordance with Modern Language Association (MLA) documentation style guidelines.
- Analysis: English majors learn to write focused arguments through the use of rhetorical analysis and critical thinking.

Foreign Language: <http://flcourses.okstate.edu/>

- Analysis: Foreign Language majors learn to understand and appreciate the culture associated within the language and to gain insight into the evolution of the culture and civilization of foreign peoples as reflected in their literature.
- Communication: Foreign Language majors learn to listen, speak, read, write, and comprehend one or more foreign languages.
- Critical Thinking: Foreign Language majors learn to think and express themselves logically, precisely and critically in one or more foreign languages and to acquire skills in literary criticism by reading representative foreign authors.

Economics: <http://spears.okstate.edu/ecls/>

- Logical Analysis: Logical thought and analysis used in solving problems underlies an economist's ability to understand economic phenomena.
- Observation and Inference from Data: Many programs use algebra and some use calculus as tools for understanding economic events. Developing skills in translating between mathematical models and observed economic phenomena is usually essential.
- Oral and Written Communication Skills: The ability to create and interpret a chart and being able to write thoughtfully and clearly is the best way to show an understanding of economic theory and concepts and to present ideas. The ability to build an argument in the form of an essay and conduct oral presentations is also key.

Geography: <http://geog.okstate.edu/>

- Research: Use research and analysis skills to gather, examine and organize data. They use computer modeling and statistical applications, read and construct maps and graphs and conduct field studies.
- Project Development: Accept responsibility for planning long term projects, developing project designs, maintaining records and producing evaluations.
- Interpersonal and Communication: Geography majors must understand diverse societies and be able to communicate across cultures. Interviewing skills and the ability to observe human interaction is essential.

History: <http://history.okstate.edu/>

- Presentation: Historians must tell the stories of people who cannot speak for themselves. Historians develop powerful storytelling skills that allow them to relate history to a variety of audiences.
- Research: Historians understand how to dig deep for facts that their predecessors may have overlooked. Historians learn the benefits of triangulation, a technique that helps researchers verify facts by identifying multiple, unconnected sources of information.
- Critical Thinking: Learn how to see hidden patterns in time that can profoundly influence our future. History majors develop the ability to look at things in new ways, to see the relevance of past events to our current lives.

Math: <https://www.math.okstate.edu/>

- Analytical Skills: Complete training to recognize problems, distill and define the pertinent issues, determine under exactly what circumstances a solution exists and to find that solution.
- Probability and Statistics: Statistical analysis, sampling techniques, and data acquisition as well as a fundamental understanding of the underlying principles.
- Computer Skills: Develop a wide range of computer skills such as symbolic manipulation & computing theory.

Music: <http://music.okstate.edu/>

- Teamwork: Obtaining a degree in music will require a high degree of collaboration between other students, and the OSU Music Department faculty.
- Showmanship and Leadership: Music majors have the opportunity to regularly perform in front of large crowds and be confident when they are in the spotlight. They also refine their leadership skills through their involvement in various musical organizations.

Philosophy: <http://philosophy.okstate.edu/>

- Analytical Thinking: Analyze and critically evaluate argumentative discourse.
- Clarity of Expression: The ability to express thoughts clearly, ensures sentences are clear, understandable, and grammatically correct.

Political Science: <http://polsci.okstate.edu/>

- Political Science prepares students to: Think independently and conduct in-depth analyses, communicate effectively utilizing persuasive writing and verbal communication skills, understand complex social structures, function effectively in a multicultural world, tolerance of others, and a concern for current affairs

Psychology: <http://psychology.okstate.edu/>

- Information-finding: Psychology students are trained to search through resources to obtain information.
- Interpersonal: Psychology majors learn about mechanisms of social communication and the sources of interpersonal conflict.
- Critical Evaluation: Students learn to evaluate, critically, the quality of an argument; to identify the shortcomings and pitfalls of a particular line of action; and to anticipate problems or difficulties.

Sociology: <http://sociology.okstate.edu/>

- Communication Skills: Sociology majors develop skills in observing people, data and things. They obtain strong interviewing, verbal and writing skills to inform and explain pertinent information.
- Human Relations Skills: Sociology majors are sensitive to people and problems. They are also knowledgeable of human relationships and social processes. They have the ability to assess the needs of others.
- Research Analysis: Sociology majors will learn to gather and analyze information, develop strong problem solving skills, compare and clarify data. They will also gain knowledge of survey research methods, sampling for surveys, marketing, and skills in computer and statistical analysis

Theatre: <http://theatre.okstate.edu/>

- Creativity: While studying various plays, themes, and time periods, theater majors will become culturally enriched while expanding their creativity and broadening their imaginations.
- Mastery of the Technical Craft: In addition to acting, theater majors take courses in stage craft. These courses include stage design and lighting, as well as costume design and stage make up.
- Leadership and Team Work: Theater majors play a large part in many productions at OSU.

