LIBERAL STUDIES

Notes

Subject Code for Liberal Studies: LIBS
Email: hist.undergrad@queensu.ca

Overview

Liberal Studies is designed to provide you with an integrated liberal studies education, structured around modes of critical thought, and focused on breadth rather than specialization. The Liberal Studies Minor (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/liberal-studies/liberal-studies-minor-arts/)/General (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/liberal-studies/liberal-studies-general-arts-ba1/) will prepare you for work in the 21st-century, in jobs that may not yet exist but that will require you to have the transferable skills that can be gained through an interdisciplinary approach to intellectual inquiry, argument, and analysis.

Advice to Students

The BA in Liberal Studies (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/liberal-studies/liberal-studies-general-arts-ba1/) will start with a required foundational course, LIBS 100, which will introduce students to approaches, methodologies, and fundamental questions in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Students will then be required to select courses from each of the four modes of critical thought: scientific inquiry and reasoning, insights into contemporary society and culture, critical perspectives on history, and academic writing. Finally, a required capstone course, LIBS 300, will enable students to draw on and synthesize their learning using a collaborative, project-based approach. By fostering an interdisciplinary approach to intellectual inquiry, argument and analysis, the BA in Liberal Studies will prepare students for more in-depth study in a specific field or to enter a professional program such as law, as well as provide them with a strong comprehensive educational foundation and the adaptable skills for any career path or life activity.

Please note that admissions to the BA in Liberal Studies are currently suspended.

General/Minor


Courses

LIBS 100 Origins and Practices of Liberal Arts Units: 3.00
The Liberal Arts comprise three foundational disciplines: humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Such divisions have shaped everything from the organization of universities to the ways in which we organize and understand knowledge in our daily lives. The course will provide a background for each of the three liberal disciplines in ways that explain their historical origins and development over time, including their modern applications.
NOTE Only offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online.
Learning Hours: 120 (48 Online Activity, 72 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Summarize the historical development of humanities, social sciences and natural sciences to identify the distinctions among the three disciplines.
2. Explain each discipline’s approach to scholarly study to be able to evaluate each disciplinary approach.
3. Articulate how each discipline relates to their own interest in study the liberal arts.
4. Implement the process of gathering, assessing, interpreting information to write critically about a given topic.
5. Demonstrate the ability to consider peers’ perspectives, to articulate a clear message, and to communicate effectively.

LIBS 300 The Liberal Arts in the Contemporary World Units: 6.00
A summative capstone course for the minor in Liberal Studies that will bring the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences to bear on the study and interpretation of a contemporary global issue.
NOTE Only offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online.
Learning Hours: 240 (96 Online Activity, 144 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above and registration in a LIBS Plan and LIBS 100/3.0.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

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