
College of Arts and Sciences



The programs of the College of Arts and Sciences offer students the theoretical and practical foundations for careers in the sciences, humanities, and social sciences, and develop the understanding that enables an informed and independent life.

Majors are offered in Biology, Chemistry, and Medical Laboratory Science (Bachelor of Science); Mathematics, and Multidisciplinary Studies (Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science); and Economics, English, French, History, Humanities/Social Sciences, Philosophy, Political Science, Portuguese, Psychology, Sociology/Anthropology, and Spanish (Bachelor of Arts).

The College also offers minor programs that invite inquiry beyond the bounds of the traditional disciplines. These include: African and African-American Studies, Anthropology, Economics, English (Literature, Writing/communications, and Drama/film Studies), French, German, History, Judaic Studies, Labor Studies, Mathematics, Philosophy, Policy Studies, Political Science, Portuguese, Sociology, Spanish, and Women's Studies.

Students intending to enter medical school or law school can plan appropriate programs of study with the help of the Pre-Law or Pre-Medical Advisory Committee. Students interested in teaching careers enroll in certain preparatory courses as undergraduates and then return as post-baccalaureate students to complete the Education Department's program for state teacher licensure.

Since many Arts and Sciences students enter the university without yet knowing the specific fields in which they would like to major, the College offers the Liberal Arts pre-major program. This provides students a flexible and well-rounded course of study in the liberal arts and sciences, while also giving them time to discover their individual areas of interest and ability.

Bachelor of Arts Degree

Requirements

All College of Arts and Sciences bachelor of arts candidates must complete the following courses and credits and meet the following requirements.

6 credits

Critical Writing and Reading **ENL 101, 102**

6 credits

Literature (except English majors)
Literature in English, literature in a foreign language or foreign literature in translation. Departments of English, Foreign Literature and Languages, and Portuguese shall specify which courses satisfy the requirements.

9 credits

Natural Science

Courses taught in Chemistry, Biology, Medical Laboratory Science, Physics, and selected courses in Nursing and Engineering.

9 credits

Humanities

The credits must not be taken in a student's major field. No more than 6 credits from any one field. Choose from History, Philosophy (including logic), Art History, Music (excluding applied courses), and culture and civilization courses from the departments of Foreign Literature and Languages and Portuguese.

12 credits

Social Science

The credits must not be taken in a student's major field. No more than 6 credits from any one field. Choose from Economics, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology/Anthropology.

Department Requirements

Every student must complete at least thirty semester credits of work in the major field. For details see sections under major programs.

A sufficient number of courses must be elected so that the earned credits total a minimum of 120. Certain majors require more than 120 credits.

At least 30 credits must be in courses numbered 300 or higher, exclusive of experiential learning.

Language Requirement

All candidates for the Bachelor of Arts degree (including returning students and transfers from other universities, colleges, or community colleges) must satisfy a language requirement in one of the following ways:

1

Completion of a 202-level course in a language other than English.

2

Satisfactory performance in both oral and written UMass Dartmouth proficiency tests, if a student has fluency in French, German, Italian, Latin, Portuguese, or Spanish. No academic credits are awarded for satisfactory performance on this test. Proficiency tests are administered for all incoming students and transfers on Orientation dates if requested.

3

Satisfactory score on the ETS Achievement Test, the Advanced Placement Test, the Advanced Placement Literature Test, the CLEP Examination, or the TOEFL Examination; the last two, when combined with a writing sample, an oral examination, and the written permission of the chairperson of the Department of Foreign Literature and Languages.

4

Completion of American Sign Language certification at the intermediate level. Up to six academic credits are awarded for American Sign Language courses provided they are taken at an institution of higher learning such as a Massachusetts community college (in transfer credit); prior approval must be obtained from the Chairperson of the Department of Foreign Literature and Languages.

Exceptions:

1

Students majoring in Sociology/Criminal Justice and taking Spanish as their required language may opt to satisfy the intermediate-level requirement by taking SPA 207 and 208, Spanish for Law Enforcement Personnel I and II, instead of SPA 201 and 202.

2

Learning Disabled Students. Students who are certified by the Disabled Students Office as having difficulties in learning a foreign language may fulfill their requirement by taking two courses taught in English on the history, culture or literature of non-English speaking countries. Courses will be approved by the chair of the Foreign Languages Department, and are in addition

to courses used to fulfill the college distribution requirements.

3

Hardship cases. Although there is no provision for waiver of the foreign language requirement, a formal mechanism exists whereby students may seek a reduction of the requirement. The student must initiate the procedure with a written petition to the chairperson of the Foreign Literature and Languages department. The final decision will be made by the dean of the College of Arts & Sciences on an individual basis. If a reduction is granted, the student must fulfill the remainder of the requirements with courses taught in English on the history, culture or literature of non-English speaking countries. Courses will be approved by the chair of the Foreign Languages Department, and are in addition to courses used to fulfill the college distribution requirements.

No credit is awarded to students who have received advanced standing or satisfied the language requirement by passing the appropriate test or by a reduction in the requirement.

Quality Requirement

A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 out of a possible 4.00 is required of all students. A grade point average of at least 2.00 is also required in courses in the major field. Individual departments may establish higher quality requirements.

Bachelor of Science Degree

Requirements

All College of Arts and Sciences bachelor of science candidates must complete the following courses and credits and meet the following requirements.

6 credits

Critical Writing and Reading ENL 101, 102

6 credits

Literature

Literature in English, literature in a foreign language, or foreign literature in translation. The Departments of English, Foreign Literature and Languages, and Portuguese shall specify which courses satisfy this requirement.

18 credits

Humanities/Social Sciences

These credits are to be taken from the areas of Humanities and Social Sciences listed below, with a minimum of six credits from Humanities and six from Social Sciences. The credits may not be taken in a student's major field.

Humanities
History
Philosophy (including Logic)
Art History
Music (excluding applied courses)
Foreign Language (excluding Literature)

Social Sciences
Economics
Political Science
Psychology
Sociology

Department Requirements and Free Electives

Every student must complete at least thirty semester credits of work in the major field. For details see section under major program.

A sufficient number of courses must be elected so that the earned credits total a minimum of 120. Certain majors require more than 120 credits.

At least 30 credits must be in courses numbered 300 or higher, exclusive of experiential learning.

Quality Requirement

A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 out of a possible 4.00 is required of all students. A grade point average of at least 2.00 is also required in courses in the major field. Individual departments may establish higher quality requirements.