

- Major, BA

The Liberal Arts Major is a good fit for students interested in a variety of academic fields and who crave the intellectual challenge of thinking about the ways those frameworks and insights converge and diverge in approaches to pressing issues and problems. It is a major that fosters independence, develops critical and creative thinking and communication skills, and offers students the opportunity to learn outside the classroom.

Skills developed

With a degree in Liberal Arts you will gain the ability to learn beyond college as you discover how to find information in different disciplines and analyze, interpret, and make connections between those diverse fields of knowledge. You will identify issues and formulate multidisciplinary research questions as you learn to review discipline-based literature and existing practice in your areas of concentration. You will also develop the ability to think critically and communicate well by relating academic knowledge to civic engagement and issues in your community. You will also learn excellent research skills.

Curriculum overview

As a Liberal Arts major, you will take two core courses (6 credits) plus two concentrations, each requiring 3 classes at the 300 level (15 credits).

Liberal Arts (LAR) courses include:

- LAR 201 - Introduction to Studies Across the Disciplines
- LAR 401 - Seminar in Multidisciplinary Studies

Students choose two concentrations from the following areas: Art History, Economics, English, Foreign Literature & Languages, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Portuguese Studies, Sociology and Anthropology, Sustainability, Urban Studies, Women's and Gender Studies

Available options for concentration requirements vary by semester and can include courses like:

- ARH 322 - Art of the City
- ECO 311 - Intermediate Macroeconomics
- ENL 328 - Survey of African American Literature
- FRN 301 - French Composition & Conversation
- SPA 314 - Culture & Civilization of Latin America
- HST 103 - World Civilizations
- PHL 317 - Ethics & Health Care Professionals
- PSC 348 - Ocean Policy and Law
- POR 270 - Music & Cinema of Brazil
- SOA 334 - Food, Feast, and Famine
- SUS 101 - Principles of Sustainability
- BIO 143 - Ecology and Environmental Issues
- URB 201- City Life: Introduction to Urban Studies

Top Jobs

The Liberal Arts degree at UMassD prepares students to fulfill the top three expectations of the new college-educated employee:

- strong oral and written communication and research skills
- the confidence to assess a situation and develop an innovative course of action
- the ability to work successfully independently and collaboratively
- Fundraisers (average salary \$55,640)
- Secondary School Teachers (average salary \$59,170)
- Social Worker / Counselor (average salary \$61,230)
- Human Resources Specialists (average salary \$60,350)
- Training and Development Specialists (average salary \$60,360)
- Customer Service Managers (average salary \$58,562)
- Salespeople (average salary \$57,563)
- Archivists, Curators, Museum Staff (average salary \$49,000)
- Community Service Managers (average salary \$67,000)
- Writer / Editor (average salary \$59,873)

Graduate School Placements

- Yale, School of Forestry
- Harvard Medical School, MS in Bio-Ethics
- Columbia, Comparative Literature
- Simmons, Education, Social Work
- Boston University, MA in Criminal Justice
- UMass Dartmouth, Education, Professional Writing, and Public Policy
- UMass Law
- UMass Dartmouth BA-BSN Program

Career Placements

- Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Fairhaven High School
- Fidelity Investments
- Greater New Bedford Community Health Center
- Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
- ING Financial Partners
- MEDITECH
- New England Center for Children
- Shawmut Design and Construction
- State Street
- Women's Center of Rhode Island

More Info

- Honors Program
- Study abroad
- Undergraduate research
- 4+1 Teacher Preparation program
- Internships in the social sector through the College for Social Innovation