



# University Bulletin

## Undergraduate Degree Programs

### Letters, Arts, and Sciences

*Abington College (LASAB)*

*Altoona College (LASAL)*

*Penn State Harrisburg (LASCA)*

*University College (LASCC): Penn State Beaver, Penn State Brandywine, Penn State DuBois, Penn State Fayette, Penn State Greater Allegheny, Penn State Hazleton, Penn State Mont Alto, Penn State Shenango, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Penn State Worthington Scranton, Penn State York*

*University Park, College of the Liberal Arts (LAS)*

*World Campus*

Letters, Arts, and Sciences is a multi-disciplinary, theme-oriented, and student-designed major leading to a bachelor of arts degree. The major consists of 36 credits, divided into two sections. The core (12 credits) consists of 3 credits each in the following: research methods/projects; communication skills; theory/application; and critical analysis. The additional courses (24 credits) consist of courses directed toward the student's theme, 15 credits of which must be at the 400 level.

In order to be eligible for entrance to the major, the student must submit a proposal. In consultation with an LAS adviser, the student formulates a proposal designing a program that investigates a theme from the viewpoint of at least three different subject areas. Students may not duplicate existing majors from any academic area. An important standard for entrance to the Letters, Arts, and Sciences major is the student's ability to design a program with academic integrity worthy of a bachelor of arts degree.

For the B.A. degree in Letters, Arts, and Sciences, a minimum of 120 credits is required.

*Early Admission Program for Professional Schools* If a student is accepted and enrolled as a degree candidate in a professional postgraduate degree program requiring three years or more to complete (such as medical school, dental school, law school, theological seminary, etc.) and if that student completes 94 undergraduate credits at Penn State including General Education, B.A. requirements, and the LAS 12-credit core requirements, that student may use up to 30 credits from the professional school to complete the B.A. in LAS.

It must be emphasized that only top students are accepted into professional school programs on such an early admission basis and that not every professional school has such a policy. Students must have enrolled in LAS prior to attending the professional school to request graduation in LAS.

*Scheduling Recommendation by Semester Standing given like (Sem: 1-2)*

**GENERAL EDUCATION:** 45 credits  
(See description of General Education in this bulletin.)

**FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR:**  
(Included in ELECTIVES or GENERAL EDUCATION course selection)

**UNITED STATES CULTURES AND INTERNATIONAL CULTURES:**  
(Included in ELECTIVES or GENERAL EDUCATION course selection)

**WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM:**  
(Included in ELECTIVES, GENERAL EDUCATION course selection, or REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR)

**ELECTIVES:** 15 credits

**BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:** 24 credits  
(3 of these 24 credits are included in the REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR, GENERAL EDUCATION, or ELECTIVES and 0-12 credits are included in ELECTIVES if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.)  
(See description of Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements in this bulletin.)

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR:** 36 credits [1](#mnote01)

**ADDITIONAL COURSES** (24 credits)

In consultation with adviser, select 24 credits from University-wide offerings to include:  
a) 12 credits at the 400 level representing at least three different subject areas;  
b) a 3 credit 400-level capstone course (to be selected in consultation with adviser);  
c) at least 9 credits (of the 24 total) from the humanities and social sciences. (Sem: 1-8)

**SUPPORTING COURSES AND RELATED AREAS** (12 credits)

In consultation with adviser, select 3 credits in research methods/projects from courses that involve research methodology or that focus on a research project; select 3 credits in communication skills from courses that focus on expression including those in verbal, symbolic, and written skills; select 3 credits in theory/application from courses that focus on theory, principle, central concepts, or fundamental issues; select 3 credits in critical analysis from courses that focus on evaluation, synthesis, and analysis. (Sem: 1-8)

**[1]** A student enrolled in this major must receive a grade of C or better, as specified in Senate Policy 82-44.

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This is the official bulletin of The Pennsylvania State University. Programmatic expectations for General Education are those in effect at the time of admission to degree candidacy, and college and major requirements are those in effect at the time of entry to college and major. These are accurately indicated in each student's degree audit.

The University reserves the right to change the requirements and regulations listed here and to determine whether a student has satisfactorily met its requirements for admission or graduation, and to reject any applicant for any

reason the University determines to be material to the applicant's qualifications to pursue higher education. Nothing in this material should be considered a guarantee that completion of a program and graduation from the University will result in employment.

The University Faculty Senate has responsibility for and authority over all academic information contained in the Undergraduate Bulletin.