

LETTERS, ARTS, AND SCIENCES, A.A. (ABINGTON)

Begin Campus: Abington

End Campus: Abington

Program Description

The objectives of the Letters, Arts, and Sciences major are to broaden the student’s understanding, interests, and skills; to help the student become a more responsible, productive member of the family and community; and to offer a degree program with sufficient electives to permit some specialization according to the student’s interests or career plans. Letters, Arts, and Sciences is a complete two-year degree major. However, graduates who later seek admission to baccalaureate degree majors may apply baccalaureate credits toward the new degree.

In addition to a wide variety of baccalaureate majors offered at University Park campus, graduates of the Letters, Arts, and Sciences major may qualify for admission to the baccalaureate degree majors in Behavioral Sciences, Elementary Education, Humanities, or Public Policy offered at Penn State Harrisburg. Or they may qualify for any of a large number of baccalaureate degree majors offered by Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, in business, the liberal arts, and sciences.

Entrance to Major

Students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA to change to this Associate degree after admission to the University.

Degree Requirements

For the Associate in Arts degree in Letters, Arts, and Sciences, a minimum of 60 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/associate-degree-general-education-program) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- Quantification (GQ): 3 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 3 credits

Knowledge Domains

- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits

- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Foundations or Knowledge Domains

- A General Education course selected from GWS, GQ, GN, GA, GH, or GS, and may include Integrative Studies (Inter-domain or Linked) courses: 3 credits

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

6 of these 21 credits are included in the Requirements for the Major.

University Degree Requirements

Cultures Requirement

3 credits of United States (US) or International (IL) cultures coursework are required and may satisfy other requirements

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 60 degree credits must be earned for a associates degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 60 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major

This includes 6 credits of General Education GWS courses.

The required credits of General Education and Requirements for the Major must be baccalaureate-level courses. For students intending to seek admission to a baccalaureate program upon graduation, it is recommended that most, if not all, of the courses be at the baccalaureate level. For those students who will seek a bachelor of arts degree upon graduation from Letters, Arts, and Sciences, it is strongly recommended that a foreign language be taken since admission to a bachelor of arts program in the College of the Liberal Arts requires one college-level course, or the equivalent, in a foreign language.

Courses that will satisfy the arts, humanities, social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences, and quantification requirements are defined on the Letters, Arts, and Sciences checksheet, which may be obtained from the College of the Liberal Arts associate dean for undergraduate studies at the University Park campus or from any Letters, Arts, and Sciences representative at other locations.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each
course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15</td>
<td>Rhetoric and Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100</td>
<td>Effective Speech</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202A</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Writing in the Social Sciences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202B</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Writing in the Humanities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202C</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Technical Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202D</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Business Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supporting Courses and Related Areas:</th>
<th>Require a grade of C or better</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Select 3 credits in any course designated as arts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select 3 credits in any course designated as humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select 3 credits in any course designated as social and behavioral sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select 3 credits in any course designated as physical, biological, or earth sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select 9 credits in any one of the following areas: arts, humanities, social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences and quantification, and foreign language skills</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 If foreign language courses are chosen, it is recommended that these courses be in one foreign language sequence.

**Academic Advising**

The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information need to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

**Abington**

Roy Robson  
Division Head, Division of Arts & Humanities  
1600 Woodland Road  
Abington, PA 19001  
215-881-7466  
rrr5237@psu.edu

**Altoona**

Jennifer E. Slusser  
Academic Adviser, Program Specialist, Division of Undergraduate Studies  
Smith Building C112  
3000 Ivyside Park  
Altoona, PA 16601  
814-949-5084  
jzg3@psu.edu

**Berks**

Thomas Lynn  
Program Coordinator, Associate Professor  
Franco 117  
Reading, PA 19610  
610-396-6298  
tjl7@psu.edu

**Brandywine**

Paul deGategno  
Professor of English  
25 Yearsley Mill Road  
Media, PA 19063  
610-892-1465  
pjd15@psu.edu

**DuBois**

Deborah Gill  
Associate Professor of Spanish  
1 College Place  
220 Swift  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-375-4783  
djg25@psu.edu

**Erie**

Joshua Shaw  
Associate Professor of Philosophy  
140 Kochel  
Erie, PA 16563  
814-898-6444  
jjs34@psu.edu

**Fayette**

Lindsey Simon-Jones  
Associate Professor  
2201 University Drive  
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456  
724-430-4249  
lmj133@psu.edu

**Harrisburg**

Catherine Rios, M.F.A.  
Program Coordinator  
Olmsted Building, W005b  
Middletown, PA 17057  
717-948-6751  
car33@psu.edu

**Hazleton**

Maggie Gordon Froehlich  
Associate Professor of English
Butler 203K  
Hazleton, PA 18202  
570-450-3134  
mgf10@psu.edu

Mont Alto  
Freya Qually  
Associate Teaching Professor of Art  
303 General Studies Building  
Mont Alto, PA 17237  
717-749-6202  
fxq1@psu.edu

New Kensington  
Sean Bridgen  
Associate Director of Advising  
3550 Seventh Street Rd.  
New Kensington, PA 15068  
724-334-6096  
stb12@psu.edu

Schuylkill  
Anita Vickers  
Coordinator of Humanities and Corporate Communication  
C201 200 University Drive  
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972  
570-385-6155  
amv5@psu.edu

Scranton  
Paul Perrone  
Senior Instructor  
13 Library Building  
Dunmore, PA 18512  
570-963-2660  
pjp3@psu.edu

Shenango  
Billie Jean Horvath  
Academic Adviser  
147 Shenango Avenue  
201 D Sharon Hall  
Sharon, PA 16146  
724-983-2860  
bjr153@psu.edu

University Park  
Liberal Arts Academic Advising  
814-865-2545  
http://starfish.psu.edu  
http://www.la.psu.edu/current-students/undergraduate-students/advising/advisers-by-major

Wilkes-Barre  
Christyne Berzsenyi  
Associate Professor, English, Liberal Arts  
P.O. Box PSU  
Lehman, PA 18627  
570-675-9275  
cab39@psu.edu

World Campus  
Undergraduate Academic Advising  
301 Outreach Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-3283  
advising@outreach.psu.edu

Contact  
Abington  
DIVISION OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES  
1600 Woodland Road  
Abington, PA 19001  
215-881-7466  
rrr5237@psu.edu  
http://abington.psu.edu/associate-las

Altoona  
DIVISION OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES  
Smith Building C112  
3000 Ivyside Park  
Altoona, PA 16601  
814-949-5084  
jzg3@psu.edu  
http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/associate-degrees/letters-arts-sciences/request-info

Berks  
DIVISION OF HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Franco Building  
Reading, PA 19610  
610-396-6298  
tjl7@psu.edu  
http://berks.psu.edu/associate-letters-arts-and-sciences

Brandywine  
25 Yearsley Mill Road  
Media, PA 19063  
610-892-1465  
pjd15@psu.edu  
http://brandywine.psu.edu/associate-degree-letters-arts-and-sciences

DuBois  
1 College Place  
220 Swift  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-375-4783  
djg25@psu.edu  
http://dubois.psu.edu/letters-arts-sciences-2-lacc

Erie  
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
170 Irvin Kochel Center  
4951 College Drive  
Erie, PA 16563  
814-898-6108  
HumSocSci@psu.edu
Letters, Arts, and Sciences, A.A. (Abington)

http://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-humanities-social-sciences

Fayette
2201 University Drive
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456
724-430-4249
lmj133@psu.edu

http://fayette.psu.edu/letters-arts-and-sciences

Harrisburg
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES
Olmsted Building, W356
Middletown, PA 17057
717-948-6189
ckl14@psu.edu

https://harrisburg.psu.edu/humanities/arts-humanities/associate-arts-letters-arts-and-sciences

Hazleton
Butler 203K
Hazleton, PA 18202
570-450-3134
mgf10@psu.edu

http://hazleton.psu.edu/associate-arts-letters-arts-and-sciences

Mont Alto
303 General Studies Building
Mont Alto, PA 17237
717-749-6202
fxq1@psu.edu

http://montalto.psu.edu/directory/associate-las-program

New Kensington
3550 Seventh Street Rd.
New Kensington, PA 15068
724-334-6146
jch24@psu.edu

http://newkensington.psu.edu/2-year-letters-arts-sciences

Schuylkill
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
Coordinator of Humanities and Corporate Communication
C201 200 University Drive
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-385-6155
amv5@psu.edu

http://www.schuylkill.psu.edu/las

Scranton
13 Library Building
Dunmore, PA 18512
570-963-2660
pjp3@pjp3@psu.edu

http://worthingtonscranton.psu.edu/associate-degree-letters-arts-and-sciences

Shenango
147 Shenango Avenue
310C Sharon Hall
Sharon, PA 16146
724-983-2978
pxb4@psu.edu

http://shenango.psu.edu/las-associate

University Park
LIBERAL ARTS UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES
128 Outreach Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-5386
drg17@psu.edu

Wilkes-Barre
P.O. Box PSU
Lehman PA 18627
570-675-9275
cab39@psu.edu

http://wilkesbarre.psu.edu/academics/las

World Campus
FILIPPELLI INSTITUTE FOR E-EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
128 Sparks Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-5965
drg17@psu.edu

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