Degree Completion

Liberal Studies

University of Missouri—St. Louis

Reaching Out to You

The University of Missouri-St. Louis provides students with the opportunity to complete select degree programs and credit courses through our Off-Campus Sites Program. The Off-Campus Site Program partners with Jefferson College, Mineral Area College, St. Charles Community College and St. Louis Community College. Through these partnerships students can earn their degree from UMSL while taking UMSL courses on the campus of one of our community college partners. Students will earn UMSL credit, courses will be taught by UMSL faculty, and students earn their Bachelor’s degree from UMSL. The faculty and staff of the community colleges and UMSL are committed to helping you achieve your academic goals.

Courses are offered in a variety of formats through the off-campus site program, including on-site & Internet-based. All courses are taught by UMSL faculty.

For more information on the Liberal Studies program contact:

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About the degree

The Bachelor of Liberal Studies (BLS) is a degree program that enables students to combine structured areas of academic emphasis in ways more relevant to their interests, profession or area of expertise than the standard academic major. It provides a framework to assemble all the educational opportunities that may be locally available into a coherent four-year educational program. Most of the total degree requirements can be transferred from accredited institutions. Work done in community colleges or other accredited colleges and universities can be applied toward the degree, as can applicable courses taken at the UMSL, whether on or off campus. The BLS may serve as a terminal degree or as preparation for graduate school, professional school, or employment in business, government or industry.

Students who participate in this program must declare their areas of study — two minors or minor and undergraduate certificate — at the time they declare that BLS is their intended degree. The plan of study must be approved at the beginning of the program.

The BLS program is administered through the Department of Philosophy.

Areas of study for the BLS include:

- Anthropology
- Art and Art History
- Biology
- Business Administration
- Biochemistry and Chemistry
- Communication
- Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Economics
- English
- Modern Languages
- Mathematics and Computer Science
- Media Studies
- Music
- Philosophy
- Physics and Astronomy
- Pierre Laclede Honors College
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Theatre
- Gender Studies
- Undergraduate Certificates

More information on reverse side
To obtain a Bachelor of Liberal Studies (BLS), a student must complete:

- UMSL General Education Requirements (consult General Education section of course listings in Bulletin)
- In addition, students must complete the State Requirement (3) and Cultural Diversity Requirement (3) if not met in General Education course selection
- The university requirement of proficiency in English Composition
- ENGL 1100 - First Year Writing (to be completed in the first 24 credit hours at the university)
- Junior Level Writing
- The university requirement of proficiency in Mathematics (to be completed in first 24 credit hours at the university)
- A Liberal Studies Concentration to consist of two designated BLS Minors in participating departments or other units or
  - A designated minor and any undergraduate certificate. No course may be used more than once.
  - A capstone course (minimum of 3 hours) selected from one of the concentration areas that make up the identified BLS core.

Also Required

- Minimum of 45 credit hours in upper level course work (2000 or higher)
- Electives 28-42
- A minimum of 120 credit hours
- Overall GPA of 2.0 or better
- GPA of 2.0 or better in BLS combination areas (unless otherwise specified)
- Minimum grade of C in all courses used in BLS combination areas
- Residency requirement, in addition to campus residency, unless otherwise specified, 9 graded hours in each minor and certificate at 2000 level or above and one capstone course

Note: Not all minors have a designated BLS capstone course so students must be careful to pair minors and certificates so that they have a capstone course.

Bachelor of Liberal Studies: Capstone and Other Restrictions

1. Students who are planning to earn a Bachelor of Liberal Studies degree should declare the BLS as their major within the first 90 hours of the program. Declaration past this time may prevent timely graduation as all capstone courses are not available every semester.

2. The College of Nursing and the Joint Engineering Program are not participants in the BLS program.

3. The following Colleges/Departments participate in the BLS program but do not offer a capstone course and must be paired with a minor from one of the areas listed below: Business, Studio Art, Theater Arts, Statistics, Undergraduate Certificates, and Interdisciplinary minors.

4. Students admitted to the Pierre Laclede Honors College who wish to present the Honors Certificate as a minor for the BLS must complete the Honors Capstone, (one or two credit hours) and also direct three to six hours of their Honors independent study requirement to work demonstrably relevant to their BLS program. Students should consult the BLS faculty advisor in the Honors College about this requirement.

5. The capstone is required in addition to the courses presented for the minor. A minimum grade of C must be earned in the capstone course. The capstone course is not counted toward the minor residency requirement.

Students choosing to combine the minor in History of Science and Technology with a minor in the Philosophy of Science and Technology may use the same course to satisfy the Logic and Methodology requirement for both minors and may select either PHIL 4491 or HIST 4999 as the capstone. However students selecting HIST 4999 must have also taken HIST 2999.

The following have identified a Capstone, so at least one of these minors must be included in the BLS program:

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<tr>
<th>Anthropology</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Music</th>
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<tr>
<td>Art &amp; Art History</td>
<td>Gerontology</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Physics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry/Biochemistry</td>
<td>Honors College*</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>Languages &amp; Cultures</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>Criminology &amp; Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Mathematics/Computer Science</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
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<td>Economics</td>
<td>Media Studies</td>
<td>*must be admitted to Honors Program</td>
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