



Liberal Arts

Associate in Arts Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences

The Liberal Arts program offers students a variety of courses to choose from and, at the same time, prepares students to transfer into the junior year at four-year colleges and universities in such fields as English, history, humanities, journalism, world languages, pre-law, literature, psychology, sociology, political science, philosophy, and education.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Understand the vocabulary and the major concepts present in the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences;
- Articulate complex ideas clearly and effectively, both verbally and in writing;
- Perform a series of thinking tasks including speculation, analysis, and synthesis (i.e., abstract reasoning);
- Utilize research materials and approaches;
- Speak, write, read, and comprehend a world language commensurate with the level of study.

The Liberal Arts program is fundamentally cross-disciplinary; this broad perspective provides students with a strong foundation in humanities, social science, natural science, and mathematics. Using a variety of cross-disciplinary approaches, students work together to explore what we share and how we differ, developing the skills needed for engaged, responsible, global citizenship.

An associate degree in Liberal Arts is most effective as a step toward transfer and further academic work. Students enrolled in the Liberal Arts program who intend to transfer to four-year colleges or universities are strongly advised to discuss their general education electives with a faculty advisor.

Almost all baccalaureate institutions prefer coursework for a student's major field to be completed at that institution. Therefore, it is better for students to fulfill the general education requirements that make up the core of Liberal Arts at Mercer, selecting courses with an eye toward full transferability. All students should determine the requirements of the transfer institution(s) they would like to attend.

Liberal Arts majors have transferred to Rider University, The College of New Jersey, Rutgers University, and Temple University, among others. Students should consult with Transfer Services about available articulation agreements and transfer options.

The program may be pursued part-time or full-time and may be completed by daytime or evening attendance.

Curriculum

Code	Course (lecture/lab hours)	Credits
FIRST SEMESTER		
ENG 101	English Composition I (3/0)	3
MAT 125	Elementary Statistics I (3/0)	3
HIS —	Historical Perspective general ed. elective ¹	3
— —	World Language elective ²	3
— —	Social Science general education elective ³	3
SECOND SEMESTER		
ENG 102	English Composition II (3/0)	3
CMN 111	Speech: Human Communication (3/0) OR	3
CMN 112	Public Speaking (3/0)	
HPE 110	Concepts of Health and Fitness (1/2)†	2
MAT —	Mathematics elective ⁴	3
— —	World Language elective ²	3
— —	Social Science general education elective ³	3
THIRD SEMESTER		
ENG —	Literature elective ⁵	3
HIS —	Historical Perspective general ed. elective	3
— —	Humanities general education elective*	3
— —	Science laboratory elective	3-4
— —	Social Science elective ^{6*}	3
FOURTH SEMESTER		
ENG —	Literature elective ⁵	3
— —	Science OR Technology elective ⁷	3-4
— —	Diversity and Global Perspective elective	3
— —	Social Science elective ^{6*}	3
— —	Program elective ⁸	3
		62-64

¹ Select from HIS 101, 102, 112, 113.

² Courses must be taken in a progressive sequence limited to one language; start at 101 only if this is a new language for you. Choose carefully with a faculty advisor regarding the transferability of language courses.

³ Recommended: PSY 101 or SOC 101 or 107. These courses can be taken in any order.

⁴ MAT 126 recommended. MAT 120 or higher-level mathematics courses are acceptable alternatives. Consult your academic advisor and the institution(s) to which you plan to apply for transfer regarding their math requirements.

⁵ Select any 200-level ENG literature course (not limited to general education listings).

⁶ Select from all Social Science general education electives as well as some – not necessarily general education – in ANT, CMN, POL, PSY, SOC, and WGS course categories. The list of acceptable Social Science electives is available in the Liberal Arts Division or from any academic advisor. No more than six credits may be taken in any one Social Science discipline.

⁷ Choose carefully with assistance from a faculty advisor or transfer counselor. May be a second laboratory science or another general education Natural Science or Technology elective.

⁸ The list of approved program electives is available in the Liberal Arts Division or from an academic advisor.

* In addition to the two 200-level English literature courses, at least one Humanities or Social Science course must be at the 200 level.

†HPE 111 is an acceptable alternative.