LIBERAL STUDIES

College of Liberal & Creative Arts
Dean: Dr. Andrew Harris

School of Humanities & Liberal Studies

Liberal Studies Program
Humanities Building, Room 409
Phone: (415) 338–6927
Website: humanitiesliberalstudies.sfsu.edu (http://humanitiesliberalstudies.sfsu.edu)
Program Director: Cristina Ruotolo

Advising is by appointment. Contact the Liberal Studies Office to arrange an appointment.

Program Scope

The Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies requires 120 units for graduation. The 46 unit major has a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary curriculum encompassing all areas of knowledge in the arts and sciences. Many employers and professional schools prefer graduates with the richly diversified education that this major provides. A liberal studies program is also recommended as preparation for students who aspire to become elementary school teachers.

Before meeting with an individual advisor, students are expected to review the information in this Bulletin and on the web by going to Advising in Humanities (http://humanitiesliberalstudies.sfsu.edu/advising-humanities) or Advising in Liberal Studies (http://humanitiesliberalstudies.sfsu.edu/advising-liberal-studies).

Career Outlook

The Liberal Studies major prepares students for future employment in a variety of fields, including education, government or public service, the arts, management, communications, humanities and social sciences, and work involving multicultural communities. The teacher preparation emphasis provides the broad academic background necessary for teaching in an elementary classroom and as part of a student’s preparation for the CSET Multiple Subjects (California Subject Examinations for Teachers). The major is also appropriate preparation for various professional and graduate programs such as business, counseling, law, librarianship, medicine, and for disciplinary or interdisciplinary graduate programs.

Students interested in becoming elementary school teachers are strongly encouraged to choose the Liberal Studies major and to choose the recommended Teacher Preparation courses in the core, and the Teacher Preparation emphasis for their 15 units beyond the core.

- Each student should consult with an advisor at least once a year to discuss the major, selection of courses, and preparation of the planning worksheet.
- Liberal Studies majors who successfully complete LS 300GW in Spring 2009 or thereafter will have satisfied the University Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR).
- For additional information on the program as well as a complete list of approved emphasis courses, go to humanitiesliberalstudies.sfsu.edu/ (http://humanitiesliberalstudies.sfsu.edu).

• Before beginning the core courses, students should have completed ENG 214 or equivalent (e.g., AFRS 214, CWL 214, or ENG 1B at a community college).
• A course may be used for only one purpose within the major. For example, if a course is used in the core, it may not be used in the Emphasis Pattern.

Transfer Courses Included in the Liberal Studies Major

With advisor approval, courses transferred from other institutions may be used to fulfill the Core requirements of the major if they are upper division and equivalent in content to the courses required in the major. Lower and/or upper division courses transferred from other institutions may be used in the Emphasis Pattern so long as at least six units are upper division and the content of the courses is equivalent. All residence requirements stipulated in the Bulletin must be met.

Students who have earned AA-T or AS-T degrees and are pursuing a similar B.A. degree at SF State are required to fulfill the Complementary Studies requirement as defined by the major department. Students should consult with a major advisor about how transfer units and SF State units can best be applied to this requirement to ensure degree completion within 60 units.

Grading

A maximum of two courses in the major may be taken for a CR grade.

Professor

MARIANA FERREIRA (2003), Professor of Liberal Studies; B.A. (1988), Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil; Ph.D. (1996), University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco.

Associate Professors

TANYA AUGSBURG (2007), Associate Professor of Liberal Studies; B.A. (1987), New York University; M.A. (1993), Emory University; Ph.D. (1996), Emory University.

JOSE ACACIO DE BARROS (2007), Associate Professor of Liberal Studies; B.S. (1988), Federal University at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; M.S. (1989), Brazilian Center for Research in Physics, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Ph.D. (1991), Brazilian Center for Research in Physics, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

LOGAN HENNESSY (2007), Associate Professor of Liberal Studies; B.A. (1996), Boston University; M.S. (2000), University of California, Berkeley; Ph.D. (2005), University of California, Berkeley.

Assistant Professor


Lecturers

Coopman, Erickson, Fraschella, Taylor

Major

- Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/liberal-creative-arts/liberal-studies/ba-liberal-studies)
Minor

- Minor in Comic Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/liberal-creative-arts/humanities/minor-comic-studies)

LS 200 Introduction to Liberal Studies: Self, Place, and Inquiry (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: GE Area A2 or an approved exemption.
Introduction to the Liberal Studies and the practice of interdisciplinary inquiry. Culmination of the first-year experience sequence. Project-based focus on different ways of understanding oneself in relationship to our place of study: the University and the city of San Francisco. Emphasis on experiential learning through mapping (exploring, navigating, understanding, and cataloging).

LS 209 Physical Sciences for Elementary School Teachers (Units: 3)
Designed for prospective elementary and middle school (K-8) teachers. Understanding through inquiry the structure and property of matter and principles of motion and energy. Lecture, 2 units; laboratory, 1 unit. [Formerly LS 309]

LS 300GW Perspectives on Liberal Studies - GWAR (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent with a grade of C- or better. Priority enrollment for Liberal Studies majors.
Basic preparation for interdisciplinary study. Draws on language arts, mathematics, science, social sciences, humanities, and creative arts to prepare students for advanced work in Liberal Studies and for careers requiring breadth and depth of knowledge. (ABC/NC grading only) [CSL may be available]
Course Attributes:
- Graduation Writing Assessment

LS 304 Making Comics (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of instructor.
Introduction to the hands-on making of comics. Focus on in-class exercises and small projects in making comics alongside analysis of comics. Promotes understanding of how to communicate in comics and discover working methods that best work for them.

LS 310 Physics for Future Elementary School Teachers (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Completion of lower-division physical science GE or consent of instructor.
Designed for prospective elementary/middle school (K-8) teachers. Understanding through inquiry-based instruction the principles of motion and energy. In compliance with Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core.

LS 317 Critical Animal Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Examination of the nature of animal experience and the various roles nonhuman animals play in human life, with a particular focus on approaches to nonhuman animals in science, art, and literature. (This course is offered as LS 317 and HUM 317. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

LS 400 Social Sciences Core I (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.
An interdisciplinary approach to the scientific study of human social behavior. Exploration of the similarities and differences between the social science disciplines of anthropology, psychology, and sociology with respect to their subject matter, concepts, models, and research approaches. [Formerly SS 300]

LS 401 Social Sciences Core II (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4 or consent of the instructor.
An interdisciplinary social science approach to the disciplines of history, geography, economics and political science with regard to their subject matter, concepts, models, and research approaches. Considers the prospects and problems of interdisciplinary vs. disciplinary social analysis. [Formerly SS 301]
Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Environmental Sustainability
- Global Perspectives

LS 402 Introduction to Human Rights Education for Teachers and Local Communities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of the instructor.
Introduction to Human Rights Education for teachers and local communities. Engages in the evolving field of Human Rights and enhance knowledge, skills, and commitment to a life of freedom and dignity. Examination of United Nations declarations, treaties, and conventions, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Learn to produce hands-on pedagogical materials on human rights that can be incorporated into school curricula and how to spread awareness of peace and freedom into local communities based on students’ real-life experiences.
Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice

LS 403 Performance and Pedagogy of the Oppressed for Educators (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: CWL 214 or ENG 214 or equivalent.
Examination of the theories of Augusto Boal and Paulo Freire and their application for educators and community activists. [CSL may be available]
(This course is offered as LS 403 and COMM 557. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)
Course Attributes:
- Social Justice

LS 426 Thought and Image: Creative Arts (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 114 or equivalent.
Works in the creative arts and humanities studied in terms of the unique ways the meanings, values, and forms reflect their cultures of origin. Works from at least two global cultures will be included. [Formerly CA 426]
LS 430 Future of the Forests (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Successful completion of GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4; ENG 214 or equivalent; one college-level biology course; or consent of the instructor.

Ecological and social dimensions of Western-Hemisphere forests; forest ecology and science; socio-political relations of industries to forest decline and with minority forest dwellers and laborers; sustainability and the future role of forests.

Course Attributes:
- UD-B: Physical Life Science
- Environmental Sustainability
- Global Perspectives

LS 440 Mind, Body, and Culture (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 114 or equivalent.

Interdisciplinary exploration of how our bodies, emotions, and internal biases affect our thinking and influence how we respond to the world. Investigation of how our worlds and cultures affect our bodies and minds. (This course is offered as LS 440 and HUM 440. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

LS 460 Childhood, Nature, and Society (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing; ENG 214 or equivalent.

Exploration of the relationship between childhood and nature in pre-through post-industrial societies using theory, research, and methods from the social sciences. [CSL may be available] [Formerly S S 460]

LS 604 Advanced Comics Making (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: LS 304.

Builds on the making and analytical skills covered in LS 304. Project-based course for developing skills in communicating through comic form, culminating in the production of a significant work ready for publication. (This course is offered as LS 604 and HUM 604. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

LS 681 Community Service Learning in the Schools (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing.

Projects in history and social studies learning at the K-12 level. Meets the state early field experience requirement for multiple and single subject credential program admissions. May be repeated for a total of 6 units. [CSL may be available] (This course is offered as LS 681 and HIST 681. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

LS 690 Liberal Studies Senior Seminar (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to senior standing and LS 300GW.

Interdisciplinary theory, research and practice. Examination of key questions and complex problems from multiple perspectives through the preparation of a substantial piece of work.

LS 699 Independent Study (Units: 1-3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; declared liberal studies major; and consent of instructor;

Independent inquiry into a specific interdisciplinary issue or problem formulated by the student and approved and supervised by a member of the Liberal Studies faculty.