



2020-2021 Academic Year

Liberal Arts

Associate in Arts Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences (A.A.)

Liberal Arts Division

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The **Liberal Arts** program offers a variety of courses that prepare 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, anthropology, philosophy, and education. Liberal Arts can be a valuable, flexible path allowing students to explore many subject areas before choosing a more specific discipline upon transfer.

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, working with faculty advisors to select courses with an eye toward full transferability. All students should determine the requirements of the transfer institutions they would like to attend and consult with Transfer Services about available articulation agreements and transfer options.

Liberal Arts majors have transferred to Rider University, The College of New Jersey, Rutgers University, Temple University, and many other institutions.

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

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Understand the vocabulary, methods, 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 methodologies;
- Speak, write, read, and comprehend a world language commensurate with the level of study.

SEE ALSO:

[Liberal Arts: Global Studies](#) degree program

DEGREE CURRICULUM

2020-2021 Academic Year

LA.AA

CIP 240101

The course sequence below represents a recommended example of how this degree program can be completed in two years, presuming a Fall Term start and satisfaction of all Developmental Studies (Foundations courses) requirements and prerequisites. Actual approaches toward completion depend on each student's anticipated transfer institution, career objectives, or other individual circumstances.

Students are encouraged to meet regularly with an academic advisor or Success Coach to consider options, establish plans, and monitor progress.

| Code | Course (lecture/lab hours) | Credits | To Do This Semester |
|-------------------------|--|---------|--|
| FIRST SEMESTER | | | |
| CSW 100 | College Success and Personal Wellness (2/0) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some exemptions apply. Consult academic advisor for details. | 2 | ✓ Meet with your faculty advisor to complete an academic plan. Make sure you are aware of any course prerequisites you may need to take, and how |
| ENG 101 | English Composition I (3/0) | 3 | |

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|----------------|--|--------|--|
| <u>LAS 101</u> | Introduction to Liberal Arts Studies (1/0) Take either LAS 101 or 201 – not both. Students who need an additional credit for full-time status while taking CSW 100 should take LAS 101 the same semester. Students who need an additional credit in order to graduate should take LAS 201 in their last year; students who will achieve 60 credits without LAS are exempt from the LAS requirement. | 1 or 0 | long it will take to complete your degree. ✓ Use your online tools: Check your MercerMail daily, utilize features of Office 365, and get to know Student Planning . |
| <u>MAT 125</u> | Elementary Statistics I (3/0) | 3 | |
| <u>HIS</u> — | <u>Historical Perspective general education elective</u> • Select from HIS 101, 102, 112, 113. | 3 | ✓ Take advantage of Learning Centers or Online Tutoring to support your studies and assignments. |
| — — | <u>Social Science general education elective</u> • Recommended: PSY 101, SOC 101 or 107. | 3 | |

SECOND SEMESTER

| | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|
| <u>CMN 111</u> | Speech: Human Communication (3/0) <i>OR</i> | 3 | ✓ Transitioning to college can be challenging. Meet with your Success Coach for guidance and support. |
| <u>CMN 112</u> | Public Speaking (3/0) | | ✓ Apply for financial aid by May 1. |
| <u>ENG 102</u> | English Composition II (3/0) | 3 | |
| <u>HIS</u> — | <u>Historical Perspective general education elective</u> | 3 | ✓ Contact professors with questions and use their office hours to develop a connection. |
| <u>MAT</u> — | Mathematics elective MAT 126 recommended. Acceptable alternatives include MAT 120 based on transfer needs. Consult academic advisor and intended transfer institution(s) regarding their mathematics requirements. | 3 | ✓ Apply for Continuing Student scholarships at www.mccc.edu/m-scholarships . |
| — — | <u>Social Science general education elective</u> • Recommended: PSY 101, SOC 101 or 107. | 3 | ✓ Begin attending college transfer events and visit campuses. Be sure to visit the Transfer Services and Career |

[Services](#) offices to get to know how the transfer process works and to explore career options.

✓ Plan for how you will complete transfer applications while finishing your classes.

THIRD SEMESTER

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|-----|--|---|--|
| ENG | — Literature elective | 3 | <p>✓ Keep in contact with each professor and your faculty advisor. Make sure you are on track to graduate.</p> |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select any 200-level ENG literature course (not limited to general education listings). | | |
| — | — Lab Science elective | 3 | <p>✓ Complete your applications to desired transfer institutions.</p> <p>✓ Develop team and leadership skills by getting involved in activities and clubs.</p> |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended: 3-credit science for Liberal Arts – BIO 113, CHE 106, OHT 101, PHY 111. | | |
| — | — Social Science elective | 3 | <p>✓ Manage your stress! Take advantage of the MCCC pool, Fitness Center, free yoga and Zumba.</p> <p>Reach out for counseling or other support if you need it. Your Success Coach can connect you with resources.</p> |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select any 200-level Social Science course (not limited to general education listings). No more than six credits may be taken in any one Social Science discipline. | | |
| — | — World Language elective | 3 | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take one language in a progressive sequence; start at 101 only if this is a new language for you. Consult academic advisor regarding the transferability of language courses. If language courses are CLEPed, you must meet with a Liberal Arts faculty advisor and the World Languages coordinator. | | |
| — | — Diversity and Global Perspective general education elective | 3 | |

FOURTH SEMESTER

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|----------------|---|--------|--|
| <u>LAS 201</u> | <p>Liberal Arts Special Topics (1/0)</p> <p>Take either LAS 101 or 201 – not both. Students who need an additional credit for full-time status while taking CSW 100 should take LAS 101 the same semester. Students who need an additional credit in order to graduate should take LAS 201 in their last year; students who will achieve 60 credits without LAS are exempt from the LAS requirement.</p> | 0 or 1 | <p>✓ Apply for financial aid by May 1.</p> <p>✓ Talk to your faculty advisor and the Transfer office for advice on how to successfully transition to a new school.</p> <p>✓ Apply for Graduating Student scholarships at www.mccc.edu/m-scholarships.</p> |
| <u>PHI</u> — | <p>Philosophy elective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select any 200-level Philosophy course. | 3 | |
| — — | <p>Science OR Technology elective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult academic advisor or transfer counselor regarding transferability. May be a second laboratory science or another general education Natural Science or Technology elective. | 3 | |
| — — | <p>Social Science or Humanities elective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any Social Science, ENG, HIS, PHI, or REL course qualifies. | 3 | |
| — — | <p>World Language elective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take one language in a progressive sequence; start at 101 only if this is a new language for you. Consult academic advisor regarding the transferability of language courses. If language courses are CLEPed, you must meet with a Liberal Arts faculty advisor and the World Languages coordinator. | 3 | |
| — — | <p>Program elective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any 101-level or higher course required in an A.A., A.F.A., or A.S. degree program. List available from Liberal Arts program coordinator. | 3 | |