

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts

University of the West's Liberal Arts degree program offers each undergraduate a self-designed cross- and interdisciplinary learning path. Liberal Arts majors follow their intellectual curiosity to pursue specific interests and a wide-ranging understanding of the history and sweep of human endeavor. Liberal Arts concentrations allow each student to create across disciplines a cluster of courses focused on whatever sparks her or his intellect. Liberal Arts majors graduate from University of the West with a strong sense of self and an understanding of how to live well and with purpose in the world.

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Arts is designed for completion in four years of full-time study.

Program Learning Outcomes

Goal 1: Communication

Students effectively communicate in professional, academic, and personal domains.

LO1: Oral Communication - Students will be able to engage in public discourse through careful listening to others' perspectives, respectful questioning, articulating original ideas, and speaking thoughtfully in formal and informal settings. (Be/Know/Do)

LO2: Written Communication - Students will be able to produce grammatically-correct and well-organized academic writing (e.g., analytical, persuasive, expository, argumentative) in a variety of formats, including essays, research papers, reflective writing, and critical reviews of secondary sources. (Know/Do)

Goal 2: Information Literacy & Critical Thinking

Students gather, assess, and interpret relevant information and apply intellectual standards to support logical and skillful thinking and conclusions.

LO3: Information Literacy - Students will be able to identify, evaluate, and use information from multiple sources in a manner reflective of ethical academic standards. (Be/Know/Do)

LO4: Critical Thinking Processes - Students will be able to apply intellectual standards (e.g., clarity, logic, relevance, significance, fairness) to ensure the quality of reasoning and conclusions (e.g., ideas, questions, perspectives, assumptions) generated by themselves as well as others. (Know/Do)

Goal 3: Quantitative Reasoning

Students develop quantitative reasoning skills to support decision-making, critical thinking, and navigation of real-world situations.

LO5: Practical Mathematical Literacy - Students will be able to describe how mathematical facts and concepts apply to real-world situations. (Know/Do)

LO6: Practical Mathematical Skills - Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of quantitative reasoning using tables, graphs, mathematical equations, and their applications in real-world settings. (Know/Do)

Goal 4: Diversity And Identity

Students recognize, respect, and value the differences of others, supported by examination of their own individual/cultural identities.

LO7: Individual and Cultural Diversity and Identity – Students will be able to discuss and critically reflect upon the roles of individual and cultural diversity and identity (e.g., national origin, race, ethnicity, age, gender and gender expression, sexual identity, ability/disability, socioeconomic class, language, religion, social values, customs, traditions) within modern, historical, cultural, and personal contexts. (Be/Know/Do)

Goal 5: Service

Students recognize the importance of service-orientated approaches to people, society, and the environment, and they find ways to serve others.

LO8: Value of Service - Students will be able to justify the value of service to others. (Be/Know)

LO9: Acts of Service - Students will be able to engage in acts of service to benefit their communities. (Be/Do)

Course Requirements

Area	Required Units
General Education	51, 9 of which must be upper-division
General Electives	27
Upper Division Electives	42
Total	120

General Electives (27 units): Students complete 27 units of elective coursework. Students may select any undergraduate courses that have not been applied to General Education or Upper Division Elective requirements.

Upper Division Electives (42 units): Students complete 42 units of upper division elective coursework. Students may select any upper division undergraduate courses (numbered 300-499) that have not been applied to General Education or General Elective requirements.

Student-Developed Concentrations (Optional) (18 units): Liberal Arts majors have the opportunity of creating concentrations to provide an in-depth focus to their program. While a concentration is not required, it is an excellent opportunity for students to establish a foundation for future career paths or graduate studies.

Graduation Requirements

Students must complete 120 units as designated above with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. UWest's residency requirement for the Bachelor of Arts states that at least 30 units, including 24 upper division units, must be completed at UWest.

Students are required to complete their final 6 units in attendance at UWest. Any pre-approved transfer work must be completed with a minimum grade of C (2.0) prior to the last day of the student's last term in attendance at UWest.

Student-Developed Concentrations

Student-developed concentrations allow students to integrate courses from multiple disciplines to create a concentration relevant to their own interests and aspirations. Working directly with the chair of the Liberal Arts department, students select a series of courses that includes a minimum of 18 units. Courses must be predominantly upper division and may include up to 6 units of transfer credit.

While students usually declare one concentration or one minor, Liberal Arts majors are allowed to declare two concentrations or minors, or one concentration and one minor. However, completing multiple concentrations and minors may delay time to degree and completion of units over the minimum 120 units required to graduate.

Courses completed to fulfill a concentration are also applied to elective requirements. However, courses cannot be applied to multiple concentrations nor may courses applied toward a concentration be used to fulfill general education or minor requirements.

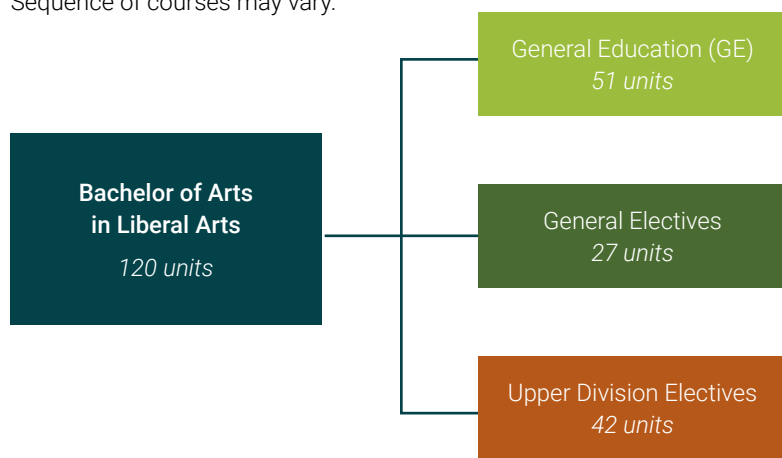
Examples of Concentrations

- Global Studies: Integrate business, history, political science, religion, foreign language, culture, and related fields
- Diversity and Multiculturalism: Integrate anthropology, sociology, psychology, religion, language, and related fields
- Buddhist Psychology
- Business: Focus on areas such as management, finance, marketing, entrepreneurship, and international business
- Social Justice and Human Rights
- Contemporary and Historical Relations between East and West
- Interdisciplinary Perspectives and Practices
- Mind and Mindfulness
- Buddha and the Information Age
- Religion and Psychology

Sample Road Map for the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts

The following is a sample course progression that allows students to graduate in 4 years / 8 semesters. Students who attend part-time or require developmental coursework may take longer to graduate.

Sequence of courses may vary.



Fall Semester

Spring Semester

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
First Year 30 units	GE CAT 1: CS 101 Information Literacy & Academic Study Skills GE CAT 1: ENGL 101 English Composition GE CAT 1: MATH 102 Quantitative Reasoning I GE CAT 2A: HIST 200 Big History I GE CAT 4A: L&C 120 Life & Culture 1: World Religion GE CAT 7: Wellness 1	GE CAT 1: CS 102 Whole Person Wellness for College GE CAT 1: ENGL 102 Advanced Composition GE CAT 1: SPCH 100 Speech Communications GE CAT 2B: HIST 205 Big History II GE CAT 3A: MATH 107 or 112 GE CAT 4B: L&C 121 Life & Culture 2: World Philosophy
Second Year 30 units	GE CAT 1: CS 103 Introduction to Major & Career Development GE CAT 3B: Science with Lab GE CAT 5: Social/Behavioral Sciences 1 GE CAT 6: Humanities 1 GE CAT 7: Wellness 2 General Elective 1	GE CAT 5: Social/Behavioral Sciences 2 GE CAT 6: Humanities 2 GE CAT 8: SRVLG 100 Service Learning General Elective 2 General Elective 3 Upper Division Elective 1
Third Year 30 units	GE CAT 9: CAP 401 General Education Capstone General Elective 4 General Elective 5 Upper Division Elective 2 Upper Division Elective 3	General Elective 6 General Elective 7 Upper Division Elective 4 Upper Division Elective 5 Upper Division Elective 6
Fourth Year 30 units	General Elective 8 General Elective 9 Upper Division Elective 7 Upper Division Elective 8 Upper Division Elective 9	Upper Division Elective 10 Upper Division Elective 11 Upper Division Elective 12 Upper Division Elective 13 Upper Division Elective 14