Why Choose the College of Letters & Science (L&S)?

What’s so great about a liberal arts education from UW–Madison?

For one thing, it makes for a college experience that is rich in discovery, exploration, personal growth, and new ideas.

But while your courses may be fascinating, liberating, eye-opening and mind-blowing, a liberal arts degree from UW–Madison keeps working for you long after you have graduated.

By pursuing a degree in the liberal arts—a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science—you are preparing for long-term satisfaction in work and in life. A liberal arts degree is a journey of self-discovery, as you explore new topics and discuss ideas with a wide range of people. You delve deeply into a broad range of subjects beyond just your major. When you graduate, you aren’t narrowly prepared for one field. You’ve developed writing, presentation, and analytical skills. You’ve been exposed to the scientific method, as well as literary analysis. A chemistry major, for example, will also graduate with knowledge of a language, history, social science, the arts, and more.

Why Does This Matter?

Because the more you know, the more curious you become. Curious people seek opportunities to enrich and expand their lives. Learning leads to conversation, dialogue, innovation, advancement. Employers value liberal arts majors because they are problem-solvers, out-of-the-box thinkers, and good communicators.

Can a 4-Year Degree from L&S Really Open Doors with Employers?

Yes, it can. Based on a recent L&S alumni survey rigorously designed and administered by the university’s nationally renowned survey center, our graduates’ employment rates are on par with the School of Business and the College of Engineering, and out-perform the national average for university graduates. They work for an extremely wide range of fields, including technology, corporate management, education, and nonprofits.

L&S alumni also report high job satisfaction and believe that their academic preparation gave them an advantage compared to employees from other colleges and universities.

Then there’s our L&S Career Initiative (http://ls.wisc.edu/lsci) (LSCI)—unique among large public universities. Funded by alumni and sponsored by key employers, the LSCI is designed to help each and every one of our students—not just the extra-motivated or well-connected few—define his or her path. We start where you are—and go from there. From the basics of resume-building, to connecting with alumni mentors, to landing an internship, the resources are at your fingertips.

But We Value Learning for Its Own Sake, Here.

You will never regret your liberal arts degree from UW–Madison, because it gives you the opportunity to explore subjects that fascinate you, as well as prepare you for a successful career. You will connect with wonderful faculty from 125 departments, programs, centers and institutes, whose mentoring and teaching will influence your goals and direction. And you will gain an appreciation for learning that will last a lifetime.

The University of Wisconsin–Madison is one of the great universities of the world, and the College of Letters & Science (http://www.ls.wisc.edu) is at its center. Students who earn a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree in the College of Letters & Science (L&S) complement their broad study in the liberal arts and sciences with in-depth study of one or more particular fields, or “majors.” Majors range from African cultural studies to philosophy in the humanities, from astronomy to zoology in the natural sciences, and from Afro-American studies to sociology in the social sciences.

In addition to the bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees available in L&S, the college also offers a limited number of special degrees. These programs often have additional admission requirements and require completion of additional requirements in the major.

Finally, a wide array of certificate programs are also available for students who have special interests in such diverse topics as integrated liberal studies; international, global, and area studies; religious, ethnic, and gender studies; and more.

Degrees/Majors/Certificates

All students pursuing their undergraduate studies in the College of Letters & Science must fulfill the following requirements:

- General Education Requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatetestudytext)
- Letters & Science Requirements (p. 37)
- Major/Degree/Certificate Requirements (See below)

Certificates are not required for graduation from L&S. With a few exceptions, students are expected to complete all requirements for a certificate program prior to graduating.

L&S will award all declared and completed certificates upon graduation with the L&S degree. Certificates that are not complete at the time of graduation will not be awarded. Students who have satisfied all major and degree requirements will not be delayed from graduating if they have unmet requirements in a declared certificate program.

Although most certificates must be completed at the same time students have completed all of their major and degree requirements, there are a very limited number of certificates that are available to students after they graduate. Students who have completed a substantial portion (as least 12 credits) of a certificate at UW-Madison, and who may need one or two additional courses to complete the certificate, may do so immediately after completing a bachelor’s degree. This provision is not universal; it applies to a limited number of certificates only. Students seeking to complete certificates eligible under this provision should enroll in the remaining coursework as a University Special (non-degree) student. A certificate must be completed within a year of completion of the bachelor’s degree. More information about L&S certificates can be found at certificate programs (p. 6) under Courses and Enrollment.

For general information about certificates and which ones can be earned/completed as a University Special, see undergraduate/
special student certificates (http://guide.wisc.edu/nondegree/
undergraduate-special-student-certificates).

NOTE: Major requirements are the same whether a student pursues
a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree.

- African Cultural Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/african-cultural-studies/african-cultural-studies-ba)
- African Cultural Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/african-cultural-studies/african-cultural-studies-bs)
- African Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/african-
  studies-certificate)
- Afro-American Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/afro-american-studies/afro-american-studies-ba)
- Afro-American Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/afro-american-studies/afro-american-studies-bs)
- Afro-American Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/
  undergraduate/letters-science/afro-american-studies/afro-american-
  studies-certificate)
- American Indian Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/
  undergraduate/letters-science/american-indian-studies/american-
  indian-studies-certificate)
- Anthropology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/anthropology/anthropology-ba)
- Anthropology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/anthropology/anthropology-bs)
- Applied Mathematics, Engineering, and Physics, B.S. AMEP (http://
guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/mathematics/applied-
mathematics-engineering-physics-bs-amep)
- Archaeology, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/archaeology/archaeology-certificate)
- Art History, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/art-history/art-history-ba)
- Art History, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/art-history/art-history-bs)
- Art History, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/art-history/art-history-certificate)
- Asian American Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/
  undergraduate/letters-science/american-indian-studies/american-
  american-studies-certificate)
- Asian Languages and Cultures, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/
  undergraduate/letters-science/american-indian-studies/american-
  american-studies-certificate)
- Asian Languages and Cultures, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/
  undergraduate/letters-science/american-indian-studies/american-
  american-studies-bs)
- Asian Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/institute-regional-international-studies/asian-studies-ba)
- Asian Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/institute-regional-international-studies/asian-studies-bs)
- Astronomy–Physics, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/astronomy/astronomy-physics-ba)
- Astronomy–Physics, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/astronomy/astronomy-physics-bs)
- Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/
  undergraduate/letters-science/atmospheric-oceanic-sciences/
  atmospheric-oceanic-sciences-ba)
- Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/
  undergraduate/letters-science/atmospheric-oceanic-sciences/
  atmospheric-oceanic-sciences-bs)
- Biochemistry, B.A. (L&S) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/college-wide/biochemistry-ba)
- Biochemistry, B.S. (L&S) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/college-wide/biochemistry-bs)
- Biology Core Curriculum Honors, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/
  undergraduate/letters-science/biology-core-curriculum/biology-core-
  curriculum-honors-certificate)
- Biology, B.A. (L&S) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/integrative-biology/biology-ba)
- Biology, B.S. (L&S) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/integrative-biology/biology-bs)
- Botany, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/
  botany/botany-ba)
- Botany, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/
  botany/botany-bs)
- Cartography and Geographic Information Systems, B.A. (http://
guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/geography/
cartography-geographic-information-systems-ba)
- Cartography and Geographic Information Systems, B.S. (http://
guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/geography/
cartography-geographic-information-systems-bs)
- Chemistry, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/chemistry/chemistry-ba)
- Chemistry, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-
  science/chemistry/chemistry-bs)
- Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/
  undergraduate/letters-science/chicana-chicano-latina-latino-studies/
  chicana-chicano-latina-latino-studies-certificate)
- Chinese Professional Communications, Certificate (http://
guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/asian-languages-
cultures/chinese-professional-communications-certificate)
- Chinese, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/
  asian-languages-cultures/chinese-ba)
- Chinese, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/
  asian-languages-cultures/chinese-bs)
- Classical Humanities, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/classics-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-
  humanities-ba)
- Classical Humanities, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/classics-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-
  humanities-bs)
- Classical Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/classics-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classical-
  studies-certificate)
- Classics, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/
  classics-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classics-ba)
- Classics, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/
  classics-ancient-near-eastern-studies/classics-bs)
- Communication Arts, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/communication-arts/communication-arts-ba)
- Communication Arts, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
  letters-science/communication-arts/communication-arts-bs)
• Communication Sciences and Disorders, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/communication-sciences-disorders/communication-sciences-disorders-ba)
• Communication Sciences and Disorders, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/communication-sciences-disorders/communication-sciences-disorders-bs)
• Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/comparative-literature-folklore-studies/comparative-literature-folklore-studies-ba)
• Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/comparative-literature-folklore-studies/comparative-literature-folklore-studies-bs)
• Computer Sciences, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/computer-sciences/computer-sciences-bs)
• Computer Sciences, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/computer-sciences/computer-sciences-bs)
• Computer Sciences, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/computer-sciences/computer-sciences-certificate)
• Conservation Biology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/botany/conservation-biology-ba)
• Conservation Biology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/botany/conservation-biology-bs)
• Computer Sciences, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/computer-sciences/computer-sciences-certificate)
• Computer Sciences, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/computer-sciences/computer-sciences-certificate)
• Digital Cinema Production, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/communication-arts/digital-cinema-production-certificate)
• Digital Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/communication-arts/digital-studies-certificate)
• East Asian Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/east-asian-studies-certificate)
• East Central European Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/german-nordic-slavic-east-central-european-languages-literatures-cultures-certificate)
• Economics, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/economics/economics-ba)
• Economics, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/economics/economics-bs)
• English, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/english/english-ba)
• English, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/english/english-bs)
• Environmental Sciences, B.A. (L&S) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/atmospheric-oceanic-sciences/environmental-sciences-bs)
• Environmental Sciences, B.S. (L&S) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/atmospheric-oceanic-sciences/environmental-sciences-bs)
• Environmental Studies Major (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/environmental-studies/environmental-studies-major)
• European Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/european-studies-certificate)
• Folklore, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/german-nordic-slavic-folklore-certificate)
• French, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/french-literature-french-ba)
• French, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/french-literature-french-bs)
• French, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/french-literature-french-certificate)
• Gender and Women's Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/gender-womens-studies/gender-womens-studies-ba)
• Gender and Women's Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/gender-womens-studies/gender-womens-studies-bs)
• Gender and Women's Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/gender-womens-studies/gender-womens-studies-certificate)
• Geography, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/geography/geography-ba)
• Geography, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/geography/geography-bs)
• Geology and Geophysics, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/geoscience/geology-geophysics-ba)
• Geology and Geophysics, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/geoscience/geology-geophysics-bs)
• German, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/german-ba)
• German, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/german-bs)
• German, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/german-certificate)
• Health and the Humanities, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/english/health-humanities-certificate)
• History and History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/history/history-and-history-of-science-medicine-technology-ba)
• History and History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/history/history-and-history-of-science-medicine-technology-bs)
• History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/history/history-of-science-medicine-technology-ba)
• History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/history/history-of-science-medicine-technology-bs)
• History, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/history/history-ba)
• History, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/history/history-bs)
• Individual Major, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/college-wide/individual-major-ba)
• Individual Major, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/college-wide/individual-major-bs)
• Integrated Liberal Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/integrated-liberal-studies/integrated-liberal-studies-certificate)
• International Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/international-studies-ba)
• International Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/international-studies-bs)
• Italian, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/french-italian/italian-ba)
• Italian, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/french-italian/italian-bs)
• Italian, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/french-italian/italian-certificate)
• Japanese, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/asian-languages-cultures/japanese-ba)
• Japanese, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/asian-languages-cultures/japanese-bs)
• Jewish, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/jewish-studies/jewish-studies-ba)
• Jewish, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/jewish-studies/jewish-studies-bs)
• Jewish Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/jewish-studies/jewish-studies-certificate)
• Journalism, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/journalism-mass-communication/journalism-mass-communication-ba)
• Journalism, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/journalism-mass-communication/journalism-mass-communication-bs)
• Landscape and Urban Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/planning-landscape-architecture/landscape-urban-studies-ba)
• Landscape and Urban Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/planning-landscape-architecture/landscape-urban-studies-bs)
• Landscape Architecture, BLA (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/planning-landscape-architecture/landscape-architecture-bla)
• Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/latin-american-caribbean-iberoamericana-studies-ba)
• Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/latin-american-caribbean-iberoamericana-studies-bs)
• Latin, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/classics-ancient-near-eastern-studies/latin-ba)
• Latin, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/classics-ancient-near-eastern-studies/latin-bs)
• Legal Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/center-law-society-justice/legal-studies-ba)
• Legal Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/center-law-society-justice/legal-studies-bs)
• LGBTQ+ Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/gender-womens-studies/lgbtq-plus-studies-certificate)
• Linguistics, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/language-sciences/linguistics-ba)
• Linguistics, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/language-sciences/linguistics-bs)
• Material Culture Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/art-history/material-culture-studies-certificate)
• Mathematics, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/mathematics/mathematics-ba)
• Mathematics, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/mathematics/mathematics-bs)
• Mathematics, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/mathematics/mathematics-certificate)
• Medieval Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/history/medieval-studies-certificate)
• Microbiology, B.A. (L&S) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/college-wide/microbiology-ba)
• Microbiology, B.S. (L&S) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/college-wide/microbiology-bs)
• Middle East Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/middle-east-studies-certificate)
• Molecular Biology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/integrative-biology/molecular-biology-ba)
• Molecular Biology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/integrative-biology/molecular-biology-bs)
• Music, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/music/music-ba)
• Music, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/music/music-bs)
• Music: Education, B.M. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/music/education-bm)
• Music: Performance, B.M. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/music/performance-bm)
• Neurobiology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/integrative-biology/neurobiology-ba)
• Neurobiology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/integrative-biology/neurobiology-bs)
• Philosophy, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/philosophy/philosophy-ba)
• Philosophy, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/philosophy/philosophy-bs)
• Physics, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/physics/physics-ba)
• Physics, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/physics/physics-bs)
• Physics, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/physics/physics-certificate)
• Polish, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/polish-polish-ba)
• Polish, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/polish-polish-bs)
• Political Economy, Philosophy, and Politics, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/political-economy-philosophy-politics-certificate)
• Political Science, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/political-science/political-science-ba)
• Political Science, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/political-science/political-science-bs)
• Political Science, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/political-science/political-science-certificate)
• Psychology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/psychology/psychology-ba)
• Psychology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/psychology/psychology-bs)
• Psychology, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/psychology/psychology-certificate)
• Spanish, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/southwestern-studies/spanish-ba)
• Spanish, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/southwestern-studies/spanish-bs)
• Spanish, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/southwestern-studies/spanish-certificate)
• Political Science, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/political-science/political-science-bs)
• Portuguese, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/spanish-portuguese/portuguese-ba)
• Portuguese, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/spanish-portuguese/portuguese-bs)
• Psychology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/psychology/psychology-ba)
• Psychology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/psychology/psychology-bs)
• Public Policy, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/lafollette-school-public-affairs/public-affairs-certificate)
• Religious Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/religious-studies/religious-studies-ba)
• Religious Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/religious-studies/religious-studies-bs)
• Religious Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/religious-studies/religious-studies-certificate)
• Russian, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/russian-ba)
• Russian, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/russian-bs)
• Scandinavian Studies, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/scandinavian-studies-ba)
• Scandinavian Studies, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/scandinavian-studies-bs)
• Scandinavian Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/scandinavian-studies-certificate)
• Social Work, BSW (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/social-work/social-work-bsw)
• Sociology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/sociology/sociology-ba)
• Sociology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/sociology/sociology-bs)
• South Asian Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/south-asian-studies-certificate)
• Southeast Asian Studies, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/southeast-asian-studies-certificate)
• Spanish Studies for Business Students, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/spanish-portuguese/spanish-studies-business-students-certificate)
• Spanish, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/spanish-portuguese/spanish-ba)
• Spanish, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/spanish-portuguese/spanish-bs)
• Sports Communication, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/journalism-mass-communication/sports-communication-certificate)
• Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/english/teaching-english-speakers-other-languages-certificate)
• Zoology, B.A. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/integrative-biology/zoology-ba)
• Zoology, B.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/integrative-biology/zoology-bs)

**Admissions**

Any student interested in earning an undergraduate degree in the College of Letters & Science will need to apply for admission through the Office of Admissions and Recruitment at UW–Madison. Information on applying to the university as a freshman, transfer, or international student is available through the Office of Admissions and Recruitment (https://www.admissions.wisc.edu/apply).

Prospective students with questions about study in the College of Letters & Science may contact L&S Academic Advising Services (http://advising.ls.wisc.edu) at 608-262-5858 or Cross-College Advising Service (https://ccas.wisc.edu) at 608-265-5460. Students should also feel free to contact the major department (p. 1) directly if they have specific questions about a particular major.

**Transfer Students**

Transfer students interested in earning an undergraduate degree in the College of Letters & Science will need to apply for admission through the Office of Admissions and Recruitment at UW–Madison. Transfer students must complete all Letters & Science degree requirements. Once admitted, transfer students should obtain a copy of their DARS (https://registrar.wisc.edu/dars-student) report which will explain how their transfer credits will apply toward L&S requirements. Students can request and review their DARS in the Student Center via My UW (https://my.wisc.edu). Students can also request DARS for programs, majors, or certificates that they have not declared but are interested in declaring. These reports are called “what-if” reports. (Please note that some programs may not be available in DARS. For information about requirements in a program not available in DARS, contact the advisor for the particular program.)

Please note that the DARS audit serves as the **document of record** (DOR) for students in the College of Letters & Science. The DOR is used to certify completion of degree requirements, and it is retained according to university record retention and archival polices.

Students can transfer only a limited number of credits from non-degree-granting accredited institutions and correspondence courses. See non-degree-granting accredited institutions’ transfer credit limitation (p. 6) in the Guide under Credits.

Transfer students who have more than 30 degree credits are **ineligible** to earn retroactive credits in a foreign language on the UW–Madison
campus. See credit by course examination/retroactive credits (p. 6) in the Guide under Credits.

Advisors for freshman and sophomore students are in the L&S Academic Advising Services (608-262-5858) in 101 Ingraham Hall and the Cross-College Advising Service (608-265-5460) in 10 Ingraham Hall. Junior and senior transfer students should meet with an advisor in the department in which they intend to major. All L&S undergraduate students are expected to declare a major by the time they have 86 degree credits.

Transfer students should note that the L&S degree requirements have changed as of summer 2007. Those students who matriculated before May 21, 2007 are eligible to complete the degree requirements in force at the time they began their college-level studies. (See previous catalogs under Archive (http://guide.wisc.edu/archive) for more information.)

Because some requirements in force before this edition of the Guide differ substantially from the requirements articulated here, transfer students are strongly encouraged to refer to the undergraduate catalog or Guide in force at the time of their first matriculation to college. (See past catalogs (http://guide.wisc.edu/archive) to review the requirements that apply.) For some students, it may be to their benefit to consider transferring to the new degree requirements; they may consult with their academic advisor if they wish to consider this option.

ON-CAMPUS TRANSFER

Continuing UW–Madison students must have a minimum 2.000 cumulative grade point average and a UW–Madison grade point average of at least 2.000 in their most recent semester of work in order to transfer into the College of Letters & Science. First-semester and new transfer students without a UW–Madison grade point average may transfer into Letters & Science provided they meet university admission requirements (three units of math and two units of a single foreign language). Students admitted to the university with admission deficiencies must remove those deficiencies before they are eligible to transfer into L&S. For more information about transferring into L&S, call 608-262-5858 or refer to request to transfer into L&S (https://advising.ls.wisc.edu/transfer).

Students transferring into one of the general courses from a special course (AMEP, Music), or from another college/school of the university to the College of Letters & Science will receive no more than 18 credits per semester toward graduation for work already completed, unless a 3.000 grade point average was earned the previous semester or the semester the overload was carried. Then a maximum of 20 credits from that term may be transferred. These transferring students will receive credit for studies in another college/school, but will be subject to the conditions of the Liberal Arts and Science Credits requirement. (See Liberal Arts and Science Credits (p. 37.).)

UNIVERSITY SPECIAL STUDENTS

If you are not currently enrolled in a UW–Madison degree program but wish to take courses within the College of Letters & Science at UW–Madison for credit or as an auditor, it may be best to consider becoming a University Special student. Information about becoming a non-degree-seeking student at UW–Madison can be found at Adult Career and Special Student Services (https://acss.wisc.edu/apply).

WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE

THE WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE: ESSENTIAL LEARNING IN THE COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE

The three elements of learning described below—tools, breadth, and depth—work together to create a broad and rich education in the liberal arts and sciences, and promote attainment of core areas of essential learning: knowledge of human cultures and the natural and physical world, intellectual and practical skills, personal and social responsibility, and integrative and applied learning. These and countless other experiences comprise the Letters & Science approach to helping students obtain a distinctive Wisconsin Experience.

Additional information about the Wisconsin Experience (https://students.wisc.edu/wisconsin-experience) can be found through the Office of Admissions and Recruitment/Why UW (https://www.admissions.wisc.edu/why/wisconsin_experience.php) link.

POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

ACADEMIC STATUS

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Every student is expected to maintain at least a C average (2.000 grade point average) on all work carried, whether passed or not, in each term (fall, spring, and summer). Failure to earn this minimum grade point average will result in a status of probation, strict probation, or dropped, as shown below.

Every student can determine their academic status at the end of each term (fall, spring, or summer) based on the probationary status when the term began and the grade point average earned during that term.

1. If a student is not on probation and:
   a. earns a grade point average in the fall term, spring term, or summer term between 1.000–1.999: placed on probation.
   b. earns a grade point average in the fall term, spring term, or summer term less than 1.000: placed on strict probation.

2. If a student is on probation and:
   a. earns a grade point average in the fall term, spring term, or summer term between 1.500–1.999: placed on strict probation.
   b. earns a grade point average in the fall term, spring term, or summer term less than 1.500: dropped for at least one year.

3. If a student is on strict probation and the grade point average is less than 2.000: dropped for at least one year.

If a student is dropped for one year, the student must stay out of school for a minimum of twelve (12) months. For more information on Academic Probation and Drop, refer to Probation (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/probation-overview.htm) and What exactly is the L&S Academic...
ACADEMIC SUSPENSION (DROPPED FOR ONE YEAR)

An L&S undergraduate student on academic probation will be dropped (placed on academic suspension) for at least one year at the end of any term in which the student has had at least two terms below a 2.000 grade point average (GPA). The College of Letters & Science undergraduate probation system is as follows:

- If a student is not on probation and earns a term GPA of 1.000–1.999, the student is placed on probation.
- If a student is not on probation and earns a term GPA of less than 1.000, the student is placed on strict probation.
- If a student is on probation and earns a term GPA of 1.500–1.999, the student is placed on strict probation.
- If a student is on probation and earns a term GPA of less than 1.000, the student is dropped for one (1) year.
- If a student is on strict probation and earns a term GPA below 2.000, the student is dropped on one (1) year.

Students have the opportunity to appeal the “dropped for one year” status from the University of Wisconsin–Madison by participating in the Appeals Process (also known as Faculty Appeals). It is important to note that appealing one’s drop status does not guarantee a student will be immediately readmitted to the university to continue his/her undergraduate studies. For more information about appealing, see appeal dropped status (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/probation-appeals-process.htm) or contact L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services) for more assistance.

APPEALS

Exceptions for Students in Dropped Status

An L&S undergraduate student who has been placed on academic suspension or dropped for academic reasons may appeal for readmission. More detailed information can be found at appeal dropped status (faculty appeals) (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/probation-appeals-process.htm).

- Students dropped at the end of fall term who wish to continue in school in the spring term must appeal in January for readmission the week before spring term classes begin.
- Students dropped at the end of spring term who wish to continue in school for the summer or fall term must appeal for readmission the week before the beginning of the first three-week summer term begins for students who wish to take summer classes, or before the eight-week summer term begins for students who do not wish to take summer courses.

Students dropped at the end of a summer term who wish to continue in school for the fall term must appeal in August for readmission the week before fall term classes begin.

Additional information concerning appeals is available at Appeal Dropped Status (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/probation-appeals-process.htm).

Exceptions to Basic Degree Requirements

A student wishing to request an exception to a basic degree requirement must first confer with an academic dean (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services). Only in extremely rare and unusual circumstances will any exception be made.

Exceptions to Major Requirements

A student wishing to request an exception to a requirement in the major must first confer with the advisor or chair of the department. If the department supports the request, a DARS appeal in January for readmission the week before fall term classes begin.

Exceptions to College Rules

A student wishing to request an exception to college rules should consult an academic dean in L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services). The dean will consider the request on an individual basis and make a decision to grant or to deny the request.

CLASS STANDING

Students are classified by year according to the number of degree credits they have earned:

- Freshman: A student has fewer than 24 degree credits
- Sophomore: A student has at least 24 degree credits
- Junior: A student has at least 54 degree credits
- Senior: A student has at least 86 credits

These credits must be in courses that count toward a Letters & Science degree. Advanced Placement (AP), College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB) credits, credit by department examination, and retroactive credits (retrocredits) will count toward a student’s class standing (level).

Every L&S undergraduate student is expected to maintain at least a C average (2.000 grade point average) on all work carried, whether passed or not, in each term (fall, spring, & summer). Failure to earn this minimum grade point average will result in a status of probation, strict probation or dropped. For more information, see the entries Academic Probation and Academic Suspension above.

DEAN’S LIST

The College of Letters & Science Dean’s List is established at the end of each fall and spring terms. To be eligible for the Dean’s List in a given term, students must:

- complete a minimum of 12 graded* credits in that term with a minimum GPA of 3.600 for students who
are classified as freshmen (fewer than 24 credits) and sophomores (at least 24 credits), or
• complete a minimum of 12 graded* credits in that term with a minimum GPA of 3.850 for students who are classed as juniors (at least 54 credits) and seniors (at least 86 credits)
• **Note**: Advanced Placement (AP), College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB) credits, credit by department examination, transfer credits, and retroactive credits (retrocredits) **will** count toward a student’s class standing (level).

*The grades used to determine the dean’s list eligibility are: A, AB, B, BC, C, D, and F. A student must have a minimum of 12 credits from this list of grades in order to qualify for the L&S Dean’s List.

An entry, “Dean’s List,” appears on the student’s grade report and on the transcript.

• Students who have P grades for their senior thesis (regardless of whether they have 12 other graded credits), as well as students with unresolved grades of NR, I, and Q **are not** eligible for the Dean’s List until they get these outstanding temporary grades resolved.
• Once a student has resolved any outstanding grade issues and believes he/she qualifies to be on the Dean’s List, the student should contact L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services) for more assistance.
• **Please note that the College of Letters & Science does not “round up” for the purpose of tabulating the GPA for the Dean’s List.** For example, an L&S sophomore with a fall or spring term GPA of 3.599 is not eligible for the Dean’s List since the minimum GPA for freshmen and sophomores to qualify for the Dean’s List is 3.600.

More information can be found at Dean’s List (https://registrar.wisc.edu/deanslist) and How do I qualify for the Dean's List? (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21121) For information about class standing, see How can I determine my classification or class standing? (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=38197)

**DISTINCTION IN THE MAJOR**

This award is granted at graduation, upon the recommendation of a department to the dean, to any L&S undergraduate student **not** earning the Honors Degree (i.e., Honors in the Liberal Arts, Honors in the Major, or Comprehensive Honors) who has done superior work in the major and who has passed a comprehensive examination on that work. The comprehensive examination may be omitted for the student with a 3.500 grade point average in the major who successfully completes special work prescribed by the department. The award is noted on the student’s transcript.

**GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING**

L&S undergraduate students are considered in good academic standing if they have a cumulative (CUM) GPA of at least a 2.000 and their most recent GPA is at least a 2.000. Students in good academic standing are not on any form of academic probation and are not at risk of being dropped from the university. For more information, see how do I know if I am in good academic standing if I am an L&S undergraduate student (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=38198).

**ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS**

**ON-CAMPUS TRANSFERS**

The College of Letters & Science (L&S) welcomes current UW–Madison students with an established GPA to transfer into the college if they meet certain requirements:

• Continuing students must have a 2.000 cumulative GPA at UW–Madison **and**
• A 2.000 in their most recent semester/term at UW–Madison, including summer term.
• A student dropped for academic reasons must be readmitted by the original school or college on the UW–Madison campus before initiating an L&S transfer.

**Please note:** Only new freshmen (first-year students) and transfer students who **do not** have an established UW–Madison GPA may request to transfer into the College of Letters & Science **during their first term on campus without having an established GPA.**


Students transferring into one of the general courses from a special course (AMEP, Music), or from another college/school of the university to the College of Letters & Science will receive no more than 18 credits per term (fall or spring) toward graduation for work already completed, unless a 3.000 grade point average was earned the previous semester or the semester the overload was carried. Then a maximum of 20 credits from that term may be transferred. These transferring students will receive credit for studies in another college/school, but will be subject to the conditions of the Liberal Arts and Science Credits requirement. (See Liberal Arts and Science Credits (p. 37).)

**READMISSION**

Students who have been required by the College of Letters & Science to take off time from their undergraduate studies at UW–Madison due to past academic performance (dropped/academic suspension) must apply for readmission with an academic dean in the College of Letters & Science in order to be eligible for reentry through the Office of Admissions and Recruitment. For more detailed information about apply for readmission, refer to readmission (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/readmission.htm) through L&S Student Academic Affairs.
More detailed information about the readmission process can be found by contacting L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans Services (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services) (lsdeans@saa.ls.wisc.edu or 608-262-0617).

REENTRY

Students who previously attended the University of Wisconsin–Madison but have not been enrolled in courses for at least one term/semester (not including the summer term) are considered reentry students. The primary admission consideration for a reentry student would be his/her academic record while previously enrolled at UW–Madison. For more information about this process, refer to reentry admissions (https://www.admissions.wisc.edu/apply/reentry) via the Office of Admissions and Recruitment website.

Note: Any L&S undergraduate student who has been dropped (put on academic suspension) for at least one year due to their academic performance must also apply for readmissions through the College of Letters & Science. For more information, please refer to readmission (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/readmission.htm).

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students must complete all Letters & Science degree requirements. Once admitted, transfer students should obtain a copy of their DARS (p. 24) report, which will explain how their transfer credits will apply toward L&S requirements.

DARS reports can be requested from the Degree Audit section of the registrar’s office or accessed via My UW–Madison (http://my.wisc.edu).

Students can transfer only a limited number of credits from non-degree-granting accredited institutions and correspondence courses. See non-degree-granting accredited institutions’ transfer credit limitation (p. 6) in the Guide under Credits.

Transfer students who have more than 30 degree credits are ineligible to earn retroactive credits in a foreign language on the UW–Madison campus. See credit by course examination/retroactive credits (p. 6) in the Guide under Credits.

Advisors for freshman and sophomore students are in the L&S Academic Advising Services (608-262-5858) in 101 Ingraham Hall and the Cross-College Advising Service (608-265-5460) in 10 Ingraham Hall. Junior and senior transfer students should meet with an advisor in the department in which they intend to major.

Transfer students should note that the L&S degree requirements have changed as of summer 2007. Those students who matriculated before May 21, 2007, are eligible to complete the degree requirements in force at the time they began their college-level studies. (See previous catalogs under Archive (http://guide.wisc.edu/archive) for more information.)

Because some requirements in force before this edition of the Guide differ substantially from the requirements articulated here, transfer students are strongly encouraged to refer to the undergraduate catalog in force at the time of their first matriculation to college. (See past catalogs (http://guide.wisc.edu/archive) to review the requirements that apply.) For some students, it may be to their benefit to consider transferring to the new degree requirements; they may consult with their academic advisor if they wish to consider this option.

TRANSFER STUDENTS WITH AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE FROM A UW SYSTEM INSTITUTION OR WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM SCHOOL

Effective summer/fall 2012, all new transfer students with an associate's degree from either a UW System (UWS) institution or one of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) schools that award a liberal arts associate’s degree (i.e., Madison College, MATC-Milwaukee, Nicolet, Chippewa Valley, Western) will have their University General Education Requirement (UGER) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatetestudytext) breadth requirements satisfied in all undergraduate schools/colleges on the UW–Madison campus. L&S undergraduates should be aware that they may need to complete additional coursework to satisfy L&S breadth (p. 37) and other degree requirements. Students should consult their DARS and speak with their undergraduate advisors if they have additional questions regarding satisfying L&S requirements.

WTCS transfer students should be aware that only liberal arts associate’s degrees that are approved by both WTCS and UW System Administration are eligible for this provision. Students with associate degrees in technical fields will not have their UGER breadth requirements satisfied.

UWS and WTCS transfer students with a qualifying liberal arts associate’s degree are EXEMPT from meeting the following University General Education Breadth requirements:

- Natural Science—two (2) courses for a total of 6 credits
- Humanities/Literature/Arts—6 credits
- Social Studies—3 credits

Students will still be required to meet other University General Education Requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatetestudytext).

Please note: Students in the College of Letters & Science must meet the L&S breadth requirements (p. 37) with specific transfer courses or courses taken in residence.

COURSES AND ENROLLMENT

AUDIT

A student may enroll in a course (i.e., a lecture course) on an audit basis only with prior consent of the instructor of the course. As an auditor, the student is considered a passive learner and may not recite in class or take examinations. Courses with laboratory or performance skills may not be audited. Regular class attendance is expected. Courses audited carry no degree credit and are not graded. The credit value of courses carried on an audit basis is included in the semester/term program load for purposes of determining fees and maximum credits carried. Courses carried on an
audit basis may have an impact on students applying for scholarships or other forms of financial assistance. Students should contact the unit/agency administering the scholarship or Student Financial Services for more guidance. Students should also contact their insurance company to determine whether auditing a course (or courses) will have an impact on their coverage. See What does it mean to audit a course? (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=26734) for more details.

L&S undergraduate students who wish to change their registration in a course from a credit basis to an audit basis must do so within the first four weeks of the semester by submitting a Course Change Form (available at Course Change Request (https://registrar.wisc.edu/course_change_request.htm) to Suite 110 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive. (Course Change Requests can be accessed through an individual’s Student Center in My UW (https://my.wisc.edu) under: Course Enrollment/Term Information/Course Change Request.) Students will not be able to submit or cancel a request to audit a course after the fourth (4th) week of the fall or spring term. Please note that the audit deadline differs for summer and modular session courses.

- For modular and summer session courses, audit requests must be submitted by the Friday of the week in which the session is one-fourth completed. More specific information about deadlines can be found at modular courses (https://registrar.wisc.edu/modular) on the Registrar’s website.
- Audited courses, denoted as such by "AU" in place of a number of credits, are graded either "S" (Satisfactory) or "NR" (No Report) or "NW" (No work). AU is not a grade.
- Audits may affect a student’s eligibility for financial aid (including Social Security and Veterans’ benefits). Students should consult an advisor in the Office of Student Financial Aid (https://financialaid.wisc.edu) for more detailed information.
- Students with questions about their Veteran benefits and taking courses on an audit basis should contact the Veteran Services & Military Assistance Center (http://veterans.wisc.edu).

**BREADTH COURSES**

**Natural Sciences (Breadth designations B, N, P, W, X, or Y)**

Courses with the natural sciences (which include studies in the physical and biological sciences) designation focus on knowing the world through scientific inquiry— assembling objective information that can be used to explain observed natural phenomena in a way that is thorough and verifiable. Laboratory components give students firsthand experience in methods of scientific research. These courses help students see both the explanatory and creative processes in science that are transforming our world.

**Arts & Humanities (Breadth designations H, L, X, or Z)**

Courses with the "arts and humanities" designation focus on exploring the human condition and appreciation for the complexities of their own and other people's perspectives. Employing analytical, critical, and interpretive methods, these courses teach a wide array of skills necessary to understand and analyze past, present, and future of the world around us. Literature courses (labeled with an “L” designation) are a subset of Humanities courses; they may be used to meet Humanities requirements or specific Literature requirements if students have them.

After completing an Arts & Humanities course, a student should be able to:

- comprehend and employ various approaches to interpreting and creating cultural artifacts such as works of art, literature, music, architecture, philosophy, film, etc.
- demonstrate knowledge of major movements, trends, or events in the development of world cultures
- demonstrate an appreciation of the complexities of the interpretative process within historical and cultural contexts
- apply critical approaches to the works and alternative ways of considering them
- empathize, think critically about, and appreciate the complexities of their own culture and larger global community.

**Literature (Breadth designation L)**

Courses with "literature" designation focus on the reading and interpretation of texts in multiple genres, including fictional and nonfictional prose, poetry, and drama, as well as digital media, from a range of cultures, in translation or in their original languages. They teach skills of literary analysis while examining the relation between the texts and the cultures, historical periods, and ideas that produced them. These courses are a subset of Humanities and may be used to meet either Humanities requirements or specific Literature requirements if students have them.

**Social Sciences (Breadth designations S, W, Y, Z)**

In the social sciences, students learn other ways to understand humanity. Courses in this area are found in a wide range of fields that share a common focus on the systematic study of personal interactions, and the interactions of society and institutions. These fields use quantititative and qualitative research strategies to look at the variety and scale of these interactions, and in these courses, students learn how to formulate research questions and determine what techniques are best used to answer those questions.

These "ways of knowing" the world around us intersect and overlap, and the ideas presented in one area will often inform and transform what we know or think about what we know about the others. Taken as a whole, the
broadth requirement is intended to help UW–Madison graduates appreciate the many and complex ways to understand the world around us. By these means, students develop skills that help them make informed decisions in a wide range of political, economic, and social contexts, to think critically about the world, to better understand humanity, and to behave in socially responsible ways.

Note that graduate courses do not count toward the L&S undergraduate intermediate/advanced level or breadth requirement and will not be approved to count for L&S breadth/level based on a student’s academic interests or graduation needs if a student is approved to take a graduate-level course.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Students who intend to complete a certificate program in Letters & Science are encouraged to meet with the certificate advisor as soon as possible to determine eligibility requirements that may apply. Admission to a certificate program (http://guide.wisc.edu/explore-majors) requires meeting with the advisor to declare the specific certificate program. Students should use a degree audit (DARS (https://registrar.wisc.edu/dars-student)) to monitor their progress in completing their certificate(s) since DARS is the official document used to certify completion of certificate programs. Students who decide not to complete the program after being admitted must cancel the certificate declaration with the certificate advisor. See DARS (https://registrar.wisc.edu/dars_student.htm) for more information.

Although most L&S certificates must be completed before students earn their undergraduate degrees, there are a few certificates that are available to L&S undergraduate students after they graduate. For students who have substantially completed a certificate at UW–Madison (at least 12 credits) and may need one or two courses to complete the certificate, they may do so immediately after completion of the bachelor’s degree by enrolling in the course as a University Special (nondegree) student (https://acss.s.wisc.edu/apply).

The following certificates may be awarded only to students who were declared in the certificate program at the time of graduation from UW–Madison and who completed a substantial amount of the work in the program (at least 12 credits) while enrolled as an undergraduate here. Students must complete the requirements for the following certificates within 12 months of graduation.

- Archaeology (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/anthropology/archaeology-certificate)
- East Asian Studies (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/institute-regional-international-studies/east-asian-studies-certificate)
- Mathematics (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/mathematics/mathematics-certificate)
- Criminal Justice (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/center-law-society-justice/criminal-justice-certificate)
- Medieval Studies (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/history/medieval-studies-certificate)
- Religious Studies (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/religious-studies/religious-studies-certificate)

For the following certificates students must hold a baccalaureate degree (other conditions may apply as noted above) if they wish to earn these certificates after graduation:

- American Indian Studies (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/american-indian-studies/american-indian-studies-certificate)
- Computer Sciences (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/computer-sciences/computer-sciences-certificate) (may not have a major in computer sciences or a degree in electrical and computer engineering)
- Folklore (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/comparative-literature-folklore-studies/folklore-certificate) (admission to program is suspended)
- German (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/german-certificate)
- Gender and Women’s Studies (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/gender-womens-studies/gender-womens-studies-certificate)
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/teaching-english-speakers-other-languages-certificate)

Students are advised of the following details regarding certificate programs:

- Some certificate programs may require or encourage students to take courses that are not designated as Liberal Arts and Science courses. These courses do not count toward satisfaction of the requirement that students complete 108 credits in Liberal Arts and Sciences.
- Students may elect to count these credits among the allowed 12 free elective credits in the degree but should also be mindful of the fact that these courses will not count toward fulfilling breadth or level within L&S.
- An exception will not be made to count non Liberal Arts and Science courses for breadth and level if a student is using these credits to fulfill a certificate program and/or trying to fulfill other major/degree requirements.
- Completion of some certificate programs may require students to take more than 12 non–Liberal Arts and Sciences credits. Students may not count more than 12 non–Liberal Arts and Sciences credits toward their L&S degree under any circumstances.
- Certificate programs are optional and are not required for graduation. Because failure to complete a certificate program will not affect eligibility to
graduate, students should understand that, unless the certificate program is allowed to grant awards to University Special students, they must complete all certificate requirements before graduation or they will not be able to complete the certificate program at a later date.

- Course work being taken to satisfy certificate requirements should not be taken on a pass/fail basis. Students should consult the advisor for the particular certificate program for more information about taking classes to satisfy certificate requirements.

## Class Attendance Policy

It is expected that every student will be present at all classes. Students are required to be present at the opening of the term and to remain until the work of the term (which includes the final examination period) is completed. Note that any excused or unexcused absences may have a negative impact on a student’s final grade in a course. See the faculty senate approved class attendance policy (https://secfac.wisc.edu/governance/faculty-legislation/ii-108-class-attendance-policy), class attendance guidance (https://doso.wiscweb.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/273/2017/09/Class-Attendance-2.pdf), and what is the class attendance policy for students at UW–Madison (https://kb.wisc.edu/is/page.php?id=24628) for more details. Additional information can be found at what is the UW–Madison policy regarding accommodating religious observances and making up exams/assignments (https://kb.wisc.edu/page.php?id=21698).

It is against university policy for a student to attend classes without being enrolled. Student should be aware that instructors may require enrolled students to attend scheduled meetings of a class and/or to participate in other course-related activities, including online learning. Students are responsible for materials present in such meetings or activities. Because courses are designed and conducted in diverse ways, instructors are expected to inform students in writing at the beginning of each course if there are specific expectations for attendance/participation. This includes whether any component of the grade for the class is based on such attendance/participation.

## Concurrent Registration and Enrollment at UW–Madison and Another Institution

The College of Letters & Science recognizes that in some circumstances, courses offered by other institutions of higher learning (e.g., Madison Area Technical College [Madison College], Edgewood College, etc.) can complement the course of study offered by the residence program at UW–Madison. Permission is required to be enrolled at UW–Madison while also taking a class at another institution. This permission must be obtained before enrolling in the course at the other institution.

Any student interested in being concurrently enrolled for the fall or spring semester must demonstrate that special circumstances are involved. Please note that simple preference or convenience is not considered a strong reason for getting permission to be concurrently enrolled. It is strongly recommended that students not use concurrent enrollment as a means by which particular degree or major requirements are taken entirely out of residence. Students who are granted permission to be concurrently enrolled are bound by the L&S regulation that students cannot take more than 18 credits in either the fall or spring term (the maximum credit load for the summer session is 12).

To obtain special permission to be concurrently enrolled, refer to concurrent enrollment request form (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/policies-forms/concurrent-enrollment/concurrent-enrollment-request-form).

- An L&S undergraduate student requesting concurrent enrollment should be beyond the first year of college and have a UW–Madison cumulative GPA of at least 2.500
- Permission for concurrent enrollment should be obtained before enrolling in the outside institution’s course and prior to the 3rd week of classes (fall or spring term).
  - For the fall term, the deadline to request to be concurrently enrolled is Friday of the second week of the term.
  - For the spring term, the deadline to request to be concurrently enrolled is Friday of the second week of the term.
- Students requesting permission to be concurrently enrolled should demonstrate that special circumstances are involved. Simple preference or convenience is not a valid reason for granting permission to take an outside course concurrently with a residence program at UW–Madison.
- Students who are given permission to be concurrently enrolled are bound by the College of Letters & Science enrollment regulation of 18 credits maximum (which includes the total number of credits taken at both UW–Madison and the non-residence institution). If a student will exceed 18 credits in either the fall or spring term, the student must fill out the credit overload form (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/policies-forms/credit-overload/credit-overload-form).
- Students may never receive credit for more than 20 credits in either the fall or spring term. In addition, a student may never receive more than 12 (13 with dean’s permission) during the summer term.
- Courses taken through the UW Extension/ UW Independent Learning program are considered concurrently enrolled when students enroll in one of these classes while also taking classes at UW–Madison. When permission to take a course through Independent Learning is granted, the course(s) must be completed during the UW semester/term in which the course was authorized to be taken.
  - For example, a student who receives permission in fall 2019 to take a course through Independent Learning while also enrolled at UW–Madison must complete this course by the end of the fall 2019 term.
• It might be possible to get a UW–Madison Division of Extension Independent Learning Tuition Waiver (https://lssaa.wiscweb.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/144/2017/04/UW-Extension-Independent-Learning-Form.pdf) for a course taken through Independent Learning during the fall or spring term. Please refer to concurrent enrollment and guidelines for a tuition waiver (https://registrar.wisc.edu/guidelines-for-tuition-waivers/#guide) for more information about the criteria to qualify for a tuition waiver for UW–Madison Division of Extension courses and the tuition waiver form.

• If the Independent Learning course being taken puts a student above 18 credits during the fall or spring term, the student will need to pay for the extra credits not covered by the tuition waiver.

• All students must pay an administrative fee to take an Independent Learning course, even if the student receives a tuition waiver. More information about fees and the tuition waive can be found at il.wisconsin.edu or by calling 1-877-UW-LEARN (895-3276)

• General questions about taking courses through Independent Learning can be directed to il@uwex.edu.

To request permission to be concurrently enrolled, a student must fill out the following concurrent enrollment request form (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/policies-forms/concurrent-enrollment/concurrent-enrollment-request-form).

COURSE LEVEL

Each L&S course and each approved non-L&S course that satisfies the L&S liberal arts and science (LAS) requirement have been evaluated for level. Course levels are indicated with each course listed in this. Only courses that indicate level after the course designation category for a course will count toward level in L&S for students. Note that graduate courses do not count toward the L&S undergraduate intermediate/advanced level requirement and will not be approved to count for L&S breadth/level based on a student’s academic interests or graduation needs if a student is approved to take a graduate-level course.

Elementary

Elementary-level courses are usually designed with first-year students (freshmen) and second-year students (sophomores) in mind with either very little or no prior knowledge of the discipline. However, these courses may also be suitable for third-year students (juniors) and fourth-year students (seniors) with limited background in the discipline. Elementary-level courses may act as a stepping stone for more advanced-level work or may, or may also be an ends in themselves by providing breadth, enrichment, or general knowledge. Elementary-level courses typically have one or more of the following characteristics:

• Breadth: Students gain some basic understanding of the extent of a field or disciple. Students may also have the opportunity to learn how one field fits into or relates to other fields.

• Foundation: Students become acquainted with principles, terms, methods, and perspectives of a discipline or professional field, as a basis for more advanced or specialized study.

Intermediate

Intermediate-level courses may be best defined in relation to elementary and advanced-level work. They are a step beyond elementary-level courses that prepare students for more advanced work. Courses at this level are typically taken by second year students (sophomores) with some familiarity and knowledge of the discipline. Expectations of student performance may include making connections between basic terms and concepts within the discipline, and developing written and oral communication skills specific to the discipline.

• These courses typically require more preparation than elementary-level courses and less preparation than advanced-level coursework (and should have defined prerequisites).

• Intermediate-level courses are beyond the introduction of the discipline and the entry level of more general liberal arts skills, but are not yet as highly specialized or in-depth as advance-level work.

Advanced

Advanced-level courses are usually designed with juniors or seniors in mind, although these courses may also be appropriate for advanced-level students with lower class standing (i.e., freshmen and sophomores). They typically have one or more of the following characteristics:

• Depth/Focus: Students engage with in-depth study of a discipline’s theories and methods, developing an understanding of the applications and limitations of them. Courses typically require significant independent thinking on the part of the student or may offer opportunities for research.

• Specialization: Students develop specific intellectual and professional abilities that will enable them to be successful in a field or professional practice.

• Refinement of Liberal Arts Skills: Students build upon “entry study Liberal Arts skills” noted above, applying these skills more discerningly or in more challenging contexts.

• Integration: Students integrate knowledge gained form earlier studies such as a capstone experience.

CREDIT AND NO CREDIT COURSES

Some courses are designated as being offered on a Credit/No Credit basis. Credit/No Credit courses are designated in the Guide under Courses. The transcript for the course will indicate either CR (meaning the student earned credits for the
course) or N (meaning the student did not earn any credit for the class). Students may not take such courses on any other basis.

CROSS-LISTED COURSES

Cross-listed courses are courses offered under more than one department heading. Cross-listed courses (i.e., courses offered by more than one department) will be assigned the same number in each department in which it is offered (e.g., African 277, which is cross-listed with approximately five majors/departments (AFROAMER, ANTHRO GEOG, HISTORY, POLI SCI, SOC)). The courses will carry identical L&S course attributes (breadth and level), will have the identical Guide descriptions in each listing, and will have identical course prerequisites. All cross-listed courses:

1. Must be approved by the University Curriculum Committee (all departments must submit a letter of support)
2. Must have the same Course Guide number (e.g., Biology 151, Botany 151, and Zoology 151)

Students completing two majors may count cross-listed courses (i.e., courses listed in both major departments) in partial satisfaction of the requirements for both majors. For more information, see w (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21663)hat is a cross-listed course? How is it different from a "meets-with" course? (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21663)

DEADLINES

If an L&S student wishes to drop a course (or courses), this means that the student will drop one or more classes from a specific semester or term while still staying enrolled in at least one course. For more information about dropping a course, see what does it mean to drop a course? (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21705). Students should always consult the drop deadline for each term.

- Information about the drop and withdrawal deadlines for the fall and spring terms is located at Dates & Deadlines (https://registrar.wisc.edu/dates) on the Registrar's website.
- Modular course deadlines are different from the regular drop deadlines in the fall or spring term. Information about these deadlines are located at modular courses (https://registrar.wisc.edu/modular).
- For summer drop deadlines, students should consult the Key Deadlines information on the Registrar's homepage under Dates & Deadlines (https://registrar.wisc.edu/dates) and Guidelines for Summer Enrollment Actions (https://summer.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/key-deadlines.pdf).

Students on F-1 or J-1 student visas are required by regulations governing their status to enroll in a minimum of 12 credits during the fall and spring terms. If an L&S undergraduate student on an F-1 (or J-1) student visa wishes to drop below full-time status (fewer than 12 credits), the student must obtain permission from International Student Services (ISS). For more information about full-time enrollment for international students, see important immigration reminders from ISS (https://iss.wisc.edu/important-immigration-reminders-from-iss), full time enrollment (https://iss.wisc.edu/students/current-students/f1-information/full-time-enrollment), and reduced course load (https://iss.wiscweb.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/174/2017/05/Reduced-Course-Load-Application.pdf).

L&S students who are athletes and need to drop below 12 credits must speak with their athletic advisor at the Fetzer Center (https://uwbadgers.com/sports/2015/08/21/ GEN_20140101255.aspx) to drop below full-time status during the academic year. NCAA regulations require student athletes maintain full-time status (a minimum of 12 credits) during the fall and spring terms.

If a student wishes to drop all of his/her classes and not stay enrolled in any classes for a specific semester or term, the student will need to formally withdraw from the semester. For more information about withdrawing, see what does it mean to withdraw from the university (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21703).

DIRECTED OR INDEPENDENT STUDY

Directed/Independent Study offers the student an opportunity to work with a faculty member on an individual study program. A student who is stimulated by a particular concept or problem encountered in a course can pursue and develop that interest in depth through a Directed Study project. Such individualized study can make a valuable contribution to a student's educational experience.

- Directed/Independent Study courses cannot be used to fulfill any UW–Madison General Education Requirements (GER) (http://www.ls.wisc.edu/gened) or L&S breadth requirements (p. 37) under any circumstances.
- Directed/Independent Study courses may not be taken on a pass/fail or audit basis.
- L&S undergraduates are not permitted to take graduate level directed study (courses numbered 799, 899, and 999) under any circumstance.

Directed Study courses are made available by departments on the basis of a student’s preparation and motivation and a faculty member’s willingness to accept the student in such an endeavor. See L&S Undergraduate Directed/Independent Study Course Guidelines (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=20133) for more detailed information.

Departments may offer Directed Study at the elementary, intermediate, or advanced level under the following course numbers:

- 198 or 199. Directed Study courses numbered 198 or 199 have a credit range of 1 to 3 credits, are considered elementary level, and are intended for freshmen and sophomores, though, in exceptional cases, juniors and seniors may be appropriately admitted if the nature of the course so allows.
• **298 or 299.** Directed Study courses numbered 298 or 299, including supervised reading in foreign languages and in subjects related to students’ major fields, have a credit range of 1 to 3 credits and are considered intermediate level.

• **698 or 699.** Directed Study courses numbered 698 or 699 (and other courses with numbers ending in 98/99, between 398 and 699) have a credit range of 1 to 6 credits, are considered advanced level, and are offered primarily for juniors and seniors. However, in unusual cases, freshmen and sophomores with exceptional preparation and motivation may be admitted. At this level, it is a prerequisite to have had previous or concurrent exposure to the subject on an intermediate level.

Directed Study courses with a number ending in 98 (e.g., 198, 698) are carried on a Credit/No Credit (Cr/N) basis. No grades are awarded for these courses. The student earns credit for the course if the instructor is satisfied with the work the student has performed. If not, there is no Failure; the student simply is not awarded any credit for the course. Not all departments offer Directed Study courses on a Cr/N basis. Courses ending in 99 are graded. (See Grades and GPA [https://registrar.wisc.edu/grades_and_gpa.htm] for more information)

Prior to registration and before the end of the second week of classes, students are responsible for making all arrangements with the faculty member who agrees to direct their work. The student and faculty member should prepare a study plan, determine the time and place for regular meetings, the number of credits to be earned, and how to enroll in the course.

### Notes:

- Directed Study courses do **not** satisfy basic or breadth requirements. Thus, Directed Study courses **cannot** be used to fulfill any degree requirements such as B.A./B.S. Foreign Language, General Education Requirements (Comm A, Comm B, QR A, QR B, Ethnic Studies), or L&S Breadth (Humanities, Natural Science, Social Science).

- Directed Study courses may generally be repeated for credit if course content is not duplicated.

- **Undergraduate students cannot take or earn degree credit for graduate-level Directed Study, Independent Reading, Independent Study, or Individual Enrollment courses (e.g., 799, 899, 999).**

- All Directed Study courses (graded or not) count toward the maximum number of credits that may be counted in the major if taken in the major department.

- Many majors strictly limit the number of Directed Study credits that can be earned in the major.

- Directed Study courses are not intended as placeholder credits for registration purposes, and students with special rules for full-time status should consult the undergraduate deans before enrolling in Directed Study courses after the enrollment period.

Directed Study courses taken in non-L&S departments may be counted as Liberal Arts and Science (C) courses provided that they are offered at the 300-or-above level. Because these experiences are intended to provide intensive, one-on-one experiences with faculty, departments are not allowed to use Directed Study courses to teach group instruction courses.

### DROP NOTATION

The Drop (DR) notation appears on students’ records if they drop a class or classes after the last day to drop courses or withdraw without a DR or W grade notation appearing on students’ transcripts. For the specific deadline for dropping classes so a DR will not appear on a student’s records, see Deadlines at a Glance (http://www.registrar.wisc.edu/spring_deadlines_at_a_glance.htm) on the Office of the Registrar website. Please note that L&S does not backdate drops to erase them from a student’s academic records or extend the drop deadline so that the DR will not appear.

The drop notation will only show that a student has dropped a course(s) before the official drop deadline. A "DR" on a student’s academic record does not have any negative implications for students when they are applying to graduate schools or seeking employment. The “DR" was instituted as a means to document when a course was dropped after the first eight days in the fall and spring semesters (or the appropriate period during the summer session or module courses).

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

The study of a foreign language contributes in an important way to a broad education for today’s students, who live in a world where the overwhelming majority of people do not speak or read English and where much of the knowledge that is disseminated may never appear in English. Knowledge of a foreign language is important for an appreciation of the culture of the people using that language, and it also helps students to understand the structure and complexities of their own native language. Students with sufficient preparation may be able to use the foreign language for study in their chosen discipline.

To be admitted to the University of Wisconsin–Madison, students must have completed the second-year level of a single foreign language (or American Sign Language) in high school. On extremely rare occasions, students may be admitted with a foreign language deficiency, but they will be required to make up that deficiency by the time they earn their 60th degree credit, or they will not be allowed to continue.

All students working for a B.A. or B.S. degree in the College of Letters & Science must fulfill the foreign language requirement in order to graduate. Students with certain disabilities may apply for a substitution to the foreign language requirement by submitting required documentation to the College Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee. (See foreign language substitution package [https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/foreign-language-substitution-package]. For more information, contact L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services, 608-262-0617, or the McBurney Disability Resource Center, 608-263-2741, TEXT: 608-225-7956.)

In meeting the foreign language requirement, students may combine high school and college work as appropriate. This
will allow a student to make full use of high school work in more than one foreign language, or will facilitate the study of a second foreign language that may not have been available in high school. Students who have learned a foreign language in a nonacademic setting may meet the foreign language requirement by successfully completing the appropriate level language course at the university or by successfully completing an appropriate attainment examination if authorized by the appropriate language department. **Students do not fulfill the L&S foreign language BA or BS requirement by simply taking a placement test and attaining a certain placement in a course.**

**Foreign language requirements for the B.A. and B.S. degrees differ.**

For the **B.S. degree**, the foreign language requirement may be met by completion of the third level (unit) of a foreign language in high school, or the equivalent third-semester-level college work. For example, a student can satisfy the B.S. foreign language degree requirement if s/he has:

- completed 3 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., French, Spanish, etc.); or
- completed the 3rd semester of one college-level language (e.g., ANTHRO/LACIS 363, SCAND ST 201, SLAVIC 207, SPANISH 203, etc.)

For the **B.A. degree**, the foreign language requirement may be met in one of two ways: (1) completion of the fourth level (unit) in one language, or (2) completion of the third level (unit) in one language **and** completion of the second level (unit) in another language. For example, a student can satisfy the B.A. foreign language degree requirement if s/he has:

- completed 4 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., French, German, etc.); or
- completed 2 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., Spanish) **and** the 3rd semester/level of a second foreign language (e.g., ASIALANG 203, HEBR-MOD 201, etc.) at the college level; or
- completed 3 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., Chinese) **and** the 2nd semester/level of a second foreign language (e.g., ASIALANG 128, GERMAN 112, LATIN 104, etc.) at the college level

Students who intend to enroll in a foreign language in which they have had previous non-college instruction must take the UW System placement test in that language.

**Notes:**

- Students proficient in an American Indian language may be able to use this language to satisfy the foreign language requirement. The American Indian Language Committee will make arrangements to test and/or certify a student’s level of proficiency. Students should contact an L&S academic dean for further information.
- Students may take an examination to meet all, or part of, the college foreign language requirement in languages not taught on this campus only if there is a current UW–Madison faculty member qualified to administer and evaluate an examination to determine a student’s competence in the language and level of proficiency. (The UW–Madison faculty member’s department must also support and endorse the administering of this special examination.) No degree credits are earned for this examination, but level of proficiency established will be accepted toward the foreign language requirement.
- Some languages (e.g., American Sign Language) are taught only through the second semester at UW–Madison. Students may, however, count UW–Madison approved transfer courses beyond this level toward the foreign language requirement and/or satisfy the foreign language requirement by examination in these languages. Substitutions to the foreign language requirement are available for L&S students with certain disabilities that make a course substitution appropriate. **Extensive and very specific documentation is required from students and disability specialists if individuals wish to be considered for an L&S foreign language substitution package.**

**GRADUATE COURSES**

All courses numbered 700 and above are graduate courses and considered advanced (A). **Enrollment in these courses is strictly limited to only graduate-level students. L&S undergraduates who, on the rare occasion, are permitted to enroll in graduate level courses and receive passing grades in these classes will be awarded undergraduate degree credit. L&S undergraduate students **SHOULD NOT enroll (or be permitted to enroll) in graduate courses if they are not making satisfactory progress toward their undergraduate degree or if taking graduate-level courses would delay their time to graduation.**

- L&S students who receive permission to enroll in L&S graduate courses may count those credits toward completion of their Liberal Arts and Sciences credit requirement. These credits may be used to satisfy the requirements related to mastery of intermediate/advanced level work, but since these courses do not carry breadth designations, they **do not** satisfy breadth requirements.
- Graduate-level courses **cannot** be used as required coursework for a student’s undergraduate major or degree requirements.
- L&S students who enroll in **non-L&S** graduate courses may count those credits as part of their free electives in the degree. **These credits may not be used to satisfy breadth or level requirements.**
- Grades earned by undergraduates who complete graduate courses will be included in all relevant grade point average calculations (see Quality of Work Requirements (p. 35) for the list of areas in which these averages are calculated). Most graduate courses restrict enrollment to students who have graduate standing, or who have received the instructor’s consent to enroll.
- Students can count up to seven (7) credits of graduate-level coursework earned as an undergraduate toward future graduate studies.
- Undergraduate students cannot take or earn degree credit for graduate-level Directed Study, Independent Reading, Independent Study, or Individual Enrollment courses (e.g., 799, 899, 999).

Provided that an instructor wishes to allow undergraduates to enroll in a graduate course, students who wish to enroll in the courses should meet with the instructor, who can evaluate whether or not the student should be allowed to register. This decision is made at the instructor's discretion, based on such considerations as whether or not the student has met course prerequisites, is prepared to perform graduate-level work in the course, and is likely to successfully complete the course. Instructors are not obligated to accommodate undergraduate student requests to enroll in graduate-level courses. Furthermore, it should be noted that all students in graduate-level courses are expected to be held to a similar performance standard with respect to quality, quantity, and type of work performed.

### HISTORICAL COURSE DESIGNATIONS AND BREADTH REQUIREMENTS

All L&S undergraduate students are required to fulfill the L&S Breadth of Exploration in the Liberal Arts and Sciences. The L&S Breadth includes:

- Humanities: 12 credits (of which 6 credits must be Literature credit)
- Social Science: 12 credits
- Natural Science: 12 credits

**NOTE:** Although all L&S undergraduates must complete a minimum of 12 natural science credits in order to graduate, there are differences between the B.A. and B.S. natural science breadth requirement.

**Bachelor of Arts** (B.A.) candidates must complete a minimum of one (1) 3-credit Biological Science course and one (1) 3-credit Physical Science course. The additional 6 credits can be any combination of natural, biological or physical science credits to bring the total to 12 credits.

**Bachelor of Science** (B.S.) candidates must complete a minimum of 6 credits of Physical Science and 6 credits of Biological Science.

Only those courses that have both a specific Breadth designation and "C" in the "L&S Credit Type" section of the former Course Guide (http://public.my.wisc.edu) under Additional Info or in the current Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses) with breadth in the course designation section count toward the breadth requirement. The following types of courses do not count toward the breadth requirement:

- elementary-level courses in mathematics
- elementary- and intermediate-level courses in foreign language or courses in conversation and composition in a foreign language
- English composition
- directed study/independent study courses

- practical and skill courses such as elementary-level courses in journalism, public speaking, acting, and theater production; courses in art; and courses in music performance

- free elective coursework

The following types of courses are inappropriate for satisfying the breadth requirement, and so lack breadth designation:

- courses that are highly specialized or narrowly pre-professional in nature; and
- internships, practicums, directed study, tutorials, senior theses, and other courses whose content is negotiated between students and faculty on an individual basis.

Courses designated as Natural Science (N) partially satisfy the natural science requirement but not the specific physical or biological sciences course requirements. If a course can meet more than one breadth designation, students may select the division in which they want that course to count for purposes of the breadth requirement; however, the course may be counted only once and in only one division.

The following is a list of symbols located in the “geBLC” column of the former Timetable, the UW–Madison Transfer Equivalency Database (TED) (http://www.admissions.wisc.edu/transfer/ted), and the Transfer Information System (TIS) (http://tis.wusa.edu). These symbols are still used to designate course attributes in L&S. The symbols are as follows:

Letters in the "g" column (or the Gen Ed designation in the "Gen-Ed" section of the Course Guide under Additional Info) identify a course which counts toward either the Communication requirement or the Quantitative Reasoning requirement for general education as follows:

- a—course counts toward the Communication Part A requirement.
- b—course counts toward the Communication Part B requirement.
- q—course counts toward the Quantitative Reasoning Part A requirement.
- r—course counts toward the Quantitative Reasoning Part B requirement.

The symbol "e" in the "e" column (or "yes" in the "Ethnic" section of the Course Guide under Additional Info) identifies a course that counts toward the L&S Ethnic Studies requirement.

Symbols in the "B" column (or the breadth designation in the "Breadth" section of the Course Guide under Additional Info) show how courses count in meeting the breadth requirement for the L&S B.A./B.S. degrees.

- B—Biological Science. Counts toward the Natural Science requirement.
- H—Humanities
- I—Interdivisional. Does not satisfy any breadth requirement
- L—Literature. Counts toward the Humanities requirement
All ESL courses completed in residence, and all credit earned in those courses, will appear on students’ transcripts. ESL courses numbered below 118 are not considered Liberal Arts and Science courses, but may be counted among L&S students’ free electives in the degree. To learn more about the 108 Liberal Arts and Science credits L&S students are required to take, see the College of Letters & Science Requirements information (p. 37).

Degree Requirements

In general, international students must complete the same degree requirements as any other entering student. The College of Letters & Science makes some exceptions to this policy. For instance the College may waive the foreign language requirement for the B.A. and B.S. degrees for students who are native speakers of a foreign language.

For the purpose of exemption from the foreign language requirement, a “native speaker” is a student who graduates from or completes a major portion (the equivalent of at least five semesters) of a secondary school in a non-English-speaking school system.

Exemption is not automatic. Students who believe they may qualify for an exemption should contact the Office of Admissions and Recruitment or an L&S academic dean to determine how their language background may be applicable toward the foreign language requirement.

Students whose native language is not English may not receive degree credit for work in their native language through Credit by Examination except for literature credit.

Special Advisor

International students can receive advising information from their department advisors. International Student Services (ISS) (https://iss.wisc.edu) (716 Langdon Street, Room 217 Red Gym, 608-262-2044; iss@studentlife.wisc.edu) can also offer assistance and advising in non-curricular matters such as visa-related issues.

LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCE COURSES

Courses that have been approved as Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) classes are expected to encourage students in one or more of the three “habits of the mind” of liberal arts education, as specified by the College of Letters & Science. These include:

1. Skilled written and verbal communication, excelling in formulating and expressing a point of view, reflecting and questioning current knowledge through reading, research and consideration of the views of others.
2. The ability to draw flexibly upon and apply the modes of thought of the major areas of knowledge.
3. Knowledge of our basic cultural heritage as a multifaceted and often contested history.
PASS/FAIL

Any L&S undergraduate student in good academic standing is eligible to take one (1) course per term/semester on a pass/fail (S/U) basis. For the College of Letters & Science, good academic standing means that a student does not have one of the following statuses:

- probation
- strict probation
- continued probation
- continued strict probation
- dropped status

For information about probation, see probation rules (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/policies-forms/probation/probation-rules).

- Undergraduates may carry only one course on a pass/fail basis per term (fall, spring, summer) and a maximum of sixteen (16) credits during their entire undergraduate career.
- First-semester freshmen and transfer students without an established UW–Madison GPA are eligible to take one (1) course for pass/fail in their first term at UW–Madison.
- Summer sessions collectively count as a single term. Thus, a student can only take one (1) course on a pass/fail basis during the summer.

Any student who takes a pass/fail course must earn at least a C to receive credit for the course. Final grades for these courses will be indicated as satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U) without any computation of grade points for those courses into the semester or cumulative grade point average. The grade of S shall be recorded by the registrar in place of instructors’ grades of A, AB, B, BC, or C. The grade of U will be recorded by the Registrar's Office in place of instructors’ grades of D or F. Neither the S nor the U is used in computing the grade point average. The pass/fail option is the student’s choice and the instructor reports the grade without knowing whether or not the student is taking the course on a pass/fail basis.

For more information, see What does it mean to take a course pass/fail? (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21102)

Notes:

- Students must submit (or cancel) pass/fail requests via their Student Center link (https://login.wisc.edu/?appurl=my.wisc.edu/portal) by the end of the fourth week of fall and spring semesters. (For modular and summer session courses, pass/fail requests must be submitted by the Friday of the week in which the session is one-fourth completed).
- Students may not cancel or add the pass/fail option after the deadline for submitting Pass/Fail Option Forms.
- All requests to add or cancel pass/fail must be submitted via the Course Change request in the Student Center by the appropriate deadline.
- For more information about the pass/fail process, refer to what does it mean to take a course pass/fail (http://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21102) and Pass/Fail Option (http://registrar.wisc.edu/pass_fail_option.htm).
- Students cannot cancel a pass/fail request after the deadline if they need the course to fulfill a major or degree requirement at a later date. It is the student's responsibility to determine whether or not s/he can take a course on a pass/fail basis.
- Pass/Fail and Course Change Requests can be accessed through a student’s Student Center in My UW (http://my.wisc.edu) by clicking Course Change Request via Course Enrollment, Term Information. For more information about requesting the pass/fail option, refer to Pass/Fail Option (http://registrar.wisc.edu/pass_fail_option.htm) on the Registrar’s website.
- Only elective work may be carried on a pass/fail basis. Thus, pass/fail cannot be declared or used to fulfill the following requirements:
  - Breadth (humanities, literature, social science, natural science)
  - Foreign language (prior to fulfilling the B.A. or B.S. foreign language requirement)
  - Math
  - Ethnic Studies
  - General Education Requirements (Comm A, Comm B, QR A, QR B)
  - Major requirements
- L&S undergraduates may take courses in their major or major department for pass/fail after fulfilling their major requirements. However, any coursework taken for pass/fail in the major or major department will not count toward fulfilling any requirements. Students are strongly encouraged not to take coursework in their major program without first consulting with their undergraduate advisor.
- Courses carried on a pass/fail basis cannot fulfill any other college requirements except for the 60 intermediate/advanced level credits and 108 Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) credits needed to graduate.
- Directed Study courses may not be taken on a pass/fail basis.
• Pass/fail work may not be used as part of the coursework offered in satisfaction of the individual major.
• Students may not take foreign language courses on a pass/fail basis until the foreign language requirement for their degree program has been satisfied.
• Students pursuing certificate programs should check with the certificate advisor(s) about policies concerning pass/fail for certificate program courses since many certificate programs do not allow coursework to be taken for pass/fail.

For further information, deadline dates, and instructions for registration stop by the College of Letters & Science Academic Deans’ Services in Suite 110 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive, or call 608-262-0617 for more assistance.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL COURSES

Pre-Medicine is not a major
College of Letters & Science students who wish to prepare for a career in medicine should enroll in courses which lead to completion of degree requirements in any major and simultaneously fulfill the pre-medical requirements of the medical school of their choice. Students considering a pre-medical program should go to the Center for Pre-Health Advising where they will receive information and advice as needed. See Center for Pre-Health Advising (http://www.prehealth.wisc.edu) for more information.

See coursework (https://prehealth.wisc.edu/coursework) for information about courses that support the required and suggested coursework for medical school and other health professional programs. Students should keep in mind that this is a general guideline and requirements differ among medical schools.

• UW–Madison School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH), prerequisites can be found at MD Program Admissions (http://www.med.wisc.edu/education/md/admissions/premedical-requirements/110).
• For students planning to take the MCAT, see frequently asked questions (FAQ) (http://www.med.wisc.edu/education/md/admissions/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/108) at MD Program Admissions for an academic planning guide.

Pre-Law
Pre-law is not a major at UW–Madison. For more information for students who are considering, preparing for, or applying to law school, please refer to the Center for Pre-Law Advising (https://prelaw.wisc.edu) for more information.

Pre-Veterinary Medicine
Pre-veterinary medicine is not a major at UW–Madison. Students interested in pursuing a career in veterinary medicine are encouraged to choose a major of interest that can be pursued simultaneously while completing the 60 credits of required coursework. Students may select an academic major in any school or college to be eligible for admission. One major does not have an advantage over another with respect to admission to veterinary school. For more information about pre-veterinary medicine and planning coursework, contact the Academic Affairs Office, School of Veterinary Medicine, Room 2268, 2015 Linden Drive, 263-2525, or the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Room 116 Agricultural Hall.

PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK BACKGROUND
The College of Letters & Science recognizes that some courses that meet general degree requirements (e.g., language, math, ESL) require prior knowledge in that subject. For purposes of distinguishing between necessary prerequisites and electives, coursework that is regarded as prerequisite to courses meeting general degree requirements is considered “necessary” and not purely elective.

REGISTRATION CHANGES
Students may make changes in their registration (add and/or drop courses, change sections in a course, or change the number of credits in a course) via their Student Center in My UW according to the deadlines published by the Office of the Registrar (http://www.registrar.wisc.edu/schedule_of_classes.htm) each semester and summer session. For more specific information about this process, please refer to Course Change Request (http://registrar.wisc.edu/course_change_request.htm). Students are strongly encouraged to check their current registration and verify they are properly enrolled in the correct courses using My UW (http://my.wisc.edu). For general questions about this process, contact your undergraduate advisor or L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services at 608-262-0617.

Students who enroll for a course must either complete the course or drop it by the deadline for dropping courses.

REPEAT OF COLLEGE COURSES NOT FOR CREDIT
(RETAKING PASSED COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSES ON A REFRESHER BASIS)
Credit will not be granted for the same course twice. Students who wish to refresh their knowledge may repeat courses, but not for credit. All instances of that course will calculate in the semester GPA and in the university cumulative GPA. Repeated courses do not calculate in L&S requirements for quality of work (p. 35) (GPA minimums for Intermediate/Advanced work and GPA requirements in the major).

Credits carried on a refresher basis count toward the maximum credits permitted each term. Grades in refresher-basis courses count only in the university grade point average, which may be significant in determining a student’s probationary status and eligibility to continue. Repeating a course will not remove the prior grade(s) earned for that course from the student’s record. Please refer to is it possible to retake a course that I have already passed or received degree credit for (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21934).

Transfer students must be particularly careful to avoid taking courses on the Madison campus that duplicate courses taken at another institution. Credit will not be given twice for the same or similar courses, nor will credit be given for
a lower level course in a sequence if students have already received credit for a higher level course in that sequence (e.g., a student who has received credit for Math 221 could not take Math 112 for credit). Students should carefully check the Evaluation of Transfer Credits prepared by the Office of Admissions and Recruitment and should consult an advisor or academic dean before enrolling.

First-year students (freshmen) should also be mindful of the fact that they will not receive credit again for any course(s) they have already received credit for via AP or college courses they took during high school and transferred to UW–Madison.

**REPEAT OF HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE COURSEWORK FOR CREDIT**

Students who enter the College of Letters & Science with degree credit for academic work will not receive additional degree credit for repeating that course, for taking an equivalent course, or for taking a lower-level course in a sequence after completing a higher course in that sequence (e.g., a student who has received credit for Math 221 could not take Math 112 for credit). See [i](https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21934) for it possible to retake a course that I have already passed or received degree credit ([https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21934](https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21934) for more information.

**WITHDRAWAL**

Withdrawal from school means dropping all courses currently in progress for the term in which the withdrawal is processed. Before the first day of classes in a term, students may remove themselves from classes by dropping all of their courses via My UW–Madison. Detailed information about the withdrawal process for L&S undergraduates can be found at withdrawing from semester/term ([http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/policies-withdrawal.htm](http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/policies-withdrawal.htm)).

After the first day of classes and through the withdrawal deadline published in the Deadlines at a Glance section on the registrar’s website ([http://registrar.wisc.edu](http://registrar.wisc.edu)), L&S undergraduate students may cancel their enrollment (withdraw from the term) by going to their Student Center in My UW and accessing the Term Withdrawal tab under Course Enrollment. For more detailed information, refer to canceling your enrollment -withdrawals ([https://registrar.wisc.edu/canceling_your_enrollment_withdrawal_info.htm](https://registrar.wisc.edu/canceling_your_enrollment_withdrawal_info.htm)). Additional information about the withdrawal process can be found at what does it mean if I withdraw from the term ([https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21703](https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21703)).

Students who find it necessary may withdraw at any time during the first 12 weeks of a semester without needing special permission to return for a later term. Summer deadlines for withdrawal are published in the summer by the Office of the Registrar ([http://registrar.wisc.edu](http://registrar.wisc.edu)). Students are encouraged to confer with a dean regarding the possible effects of withdrawal upon their academic work.

Students who have neglected their classes, or who have earned unsatisfactory grades, or who have a pattern of withdrawals may need permission of an academic dean to return at a later date.

Letters & Science undergraduate students wishing to withdraw after the deadline must obtain permission from an academic dean by setting up an individual appointment through L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services ([608-262-0617](tel:608-262-0617)). Failure to obtain this permission results in the recording of Failures for all courses.

**CREDITS**

**CREDIT LOAD**

**Full-time student status (12–18 credits).** The usual study load of a student is about 15 credits per semester/term, with an ordinary range of 12 to 18 credits. Please note that international students and athletes must be enrolled for a minimum of 12 credits in the fall and spring semesters/terms. For more information, please contact International Student Services ([http://www.iss.wisc.edu](http://www.iss.wisc.edu)) or the Fetzter Student Athlete Academic Center ([http://www.uwbadgers.com/facilities/fetzer-center.html](http://www.uwbadgers.com/facilities/fetzer-center.html)) ([608-262-1787](tel:608-262-1787)).

- For students receiving financial aid, federal regulations require any student receiving financial assistance to maintain academic progress and be working toward a degree. See satisfactory academic progress ([http://www.finaid.wisc.edu/259.htm](http://www.finaid.wisc.edu/259.htm)) for more details.

**Light load (fewer than 12 credits).** A program of fewer than 12 credits may be carried without the specific authorization of an academic dean. However, students are encouraged to consult their undergraduate advisor or an academic dean regarding the decision to carry a light load. A light load may affect a student's eligibility for financial aid (including Social Security and Veterans' benefits), dependent health insurance, international student visa status, University Housing accommodations, or athletic eligibility. Several terms with a course load of fewer than 12 credits will also have an impact on a student's graduation progress.

**Heavy load (19 or 20 credits).** Students who have a cumulative GPA of 3.000 or better at the University of Wisconsin–Madison may enroll for 19 or 20 credits during the fall or spring term with permission from an academic dean in L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services ([http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/credit-overload.htm](http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/credit-overload.htm)). Additional fees per credit are assessed for all credits above 18. Under no circumstances may a student carry more than 20 credits in one semester.

- See credit overload/heavy program ([https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21177](https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21177)) for more information.

- L&S students who wish to take an overload and qualify to take 19 or 20 credits should fill out the Credit Overload Request ([http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/credit-overload.htm](http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/credit-overload.htm)). For more assistance, please stop by 110 Ingraham Hall, or call [608-262-0617](tel:608-262-0617) during regular business hours.

**Summer Sessions Credit Load (a maximum of 12 credits).** In general a student may carry one (1) credit per week of instruction during the summer session. The overall limit for summer work is 12 credits (or 13 with special permission).
The credit limit per summer session is the number of weeks of the session. Thus, a student can earn only 3 credits in a 3-week summer session. A student needs permission from an academic dean to carry one (1) additional credit per weeks in a session (e.g., four (4) credits in a 3-week session). An academic dean’s permission usually requires a 3.000 cumulative GPA.

Students must carry courses for the number of credits assigned to the courses in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses).

For more information regarding credit load, see what is the common credit load for L&S undergraduate students during the semester (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=26734).

CREDIT BY COURSE EXAMINATION/RETROACTIVE CREDITS (RETROCREDITS)

The College of Letters & Science will award degree credit for foreign language work successfully completed in high school under certain circumstances and if an additional foreign language course is taken at UW–Madison. In no case can a student earn retroactive credits simply by taking a placement test or other exam. A student must take the appropriate UW–Madison language class at UW–Madison to earn retroactive credits.

Students who qualify for retrocredits after completing the appropriate language course on the UW–Madison campus will automatically receive retrocredits approximately two to three months after all grades have been posted for all students. This benefit is available to freshmen (first-year students), and can be exercised when the following conditions are met:

- The course must be a student’s first course at the college level in the language. This does not include college-level coursework taken prior to graduating from high school, but does include courses transferred from another institution where a student was working towards an undergraduate degree or coursework a student completed after graduating from high school.
- The course must be designated appropriate for earning retroactive credits. These courses are designated with the Foreign Language Level attribute of 2, 3, 4, and 5 in the Guide under Courses (see course designation).
- A student must take the course before he/she has earned 30 degree credits. This does not include AP, CLEP, IB, or other college credit earned in high school, nor does it include retroactive credits earned in another language. It does include courses transferred from another institution where you were working toward a degree.
- A student must earn a B or better in the class.

If a student meets all of the conditions listed above, retroactive credits should appear automatically on a student’s transcript by the beginning of the following semester (e.g., if the language was completed in the fall term, the retroactive credits should appear on a student’s record by the beginning of the spring term). If retroactive credits do not appear on a qualified student’s records by the end of the fourth week of the following term, the student should fill out a Retroactive Language Request Form (http://languages.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/docs/RETROACTIVE%20LANGUAGE%20CREDIT%20REQUEST%20FORM.pdf) and submit that form to the office of the academic dean at the student’s particular school or college. For students earning an undergraduate degree in the College of Letters & Science, the form should be delivered to L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (http://saas.wisc.edu/deans-services.htm). Non-L&S degree-seeking candidates should speak with the undergraduate academic service unit in the school or college for more guidance.

- Retroactive credits (retrocredits) will not automatically be posted for students who have already earned retrocredits. If a student is still eligible to earn retrocredits and wishes to receive retrocredits for another language(s), the student will need to fill out the Retroactive Language Request Form (http://languages.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/docs/RETROACTIVE%20LANGUAGE%20CREDIT%20REQUEST%20FORM.pdf) and deliver it to the L&S Academic Deans’ Services Office in 110 Ingraham Hall if the student is an L&S undergraduate. For further information, contact L&S Academic Deans’ Services at 608-262-0617.

Please note:

- Native speakers of a language are not eligible to earn retroactive credits in that language.
- Students can earn retrocredits in more than one language as long as they are within the 29-credit limit and meet the other requirements listed above to earn retrocredits.
- Retroactive credits (retrocredits) will not be posted automatically for students who have already earned retrocredits. If students are still eligible to earn retrocredits and wishes to receive retrocredits for another language(s), they will need to fill out the Retroactive Language Request Form (http://languages.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/docs/RETROACTIVE%20LANGUAGE%20CREDIT%20REQUEST%20FORM.pdf) and deliver it to L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services in 110 Ingraham Hall to be reviewed if they are an L&S undergraduate student.
- Retrocredits can only be earned for the first four semesters/levels of a language sequence. For example, a student who tests into SPANISH 311 can earn a maximum of sixteen retrocredits (SPANISH 101, SPANISH 102, SPANISH 203, and SPANISH 204). The maximum number of credits earned will be impacted if the student already has AP credits for a particular course.
- Effective summer 2019, the maximum number of retrocredits a student can earn in the Chinese/Japanese language sequence is sixteen (16) credits. For example, a student who tests into ASIALANG 301 and successfully completes


CREDIT BY DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATION

The College of Letters & Science allows degree credit, as well as placement credit, for the mastery of some L&S coursework as demonstrated by appropriate achievement tests. The intent of these examinations is to increase opportunities for obtaining degree credit for college-level work done in high school or elsewhere.

Credit may be earned on the basis of an examination given by a department when a student has demonstrated possession of knowledge equivalent to what would be learned in a specific course taught in that department. The credit given is for knowledge possessed by the student regardless of where they have gained that knowledge. Examinations for credit must be administered as soon as possible, but in any case before the end of the student's first semester in residence following the experience that provided the knowledge to be tested.

Any department wishing to do so may give degree credit by examination for any of its elementary- or intermediate-level courses other than Honors courses and Directed Study.

Students who wish to establish credit by department examination must take a separate examination for each course in which credit is sought.

Departments will indicate which, if any, of their courses covering work that may have been taken in high school may permit degree credit on the basis of appropriate national tests taken in high school. In addition, general degree and specific subject credit may be obtained by examination under the College Level Examination Program (CLEP). (See College-Level Examination Program (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#admissiontext).)

In no case may students receive degree credit more than once for the same college-level work. If degree credit is obtained for a given course by taking an examination, the student may not enroll in the course for degree credit, and vice versa.

Credits earned by examination do not count toward the residence requirement. Students are encouraged to take departmental examinations for credit prior to earning 90 degree credits (including the semester in which the 90th credit is earned) in order to avoid complications with the residence requirement. It is possible for students to fulfill all or part of the college foreign language requirement without receiving credit.

The provision for credits by examination offers students an opportunity to complete the baccalaureate degree requirements in less than four years should they so desire. Students wishing to take examinations to earn credit should contact the department office.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

English as a Second Language

Students for whom English is a second language must have a facility in English adequate for university work. Results of the UW–Madison English proficiency assessment test (MSN-ESLAT) may require students to take one or more English as a Second Language courses. English language proficiency is met by completing ESL 118. Students who are placed into ESL courses and who also need to take a course in residence to complete the General Education Communication Part A requirement may only take ESL 118 to meet that requirement. An exempt score on the MSN–ESLAT will satisfy both the English language proficiency requirement and the Communication A requirement. Because students who take ESL courses are frequently retested, it is possible to earn an exempt score upon completion of any of ESL 114, ESL 115, ESL 116, or ESL 117. Additional information can be found at can an L&S graduate earn degree credit for more than one ESL course (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=85642).

All ESL courses completed in residence, and all credit earned in those courses, will appear on students' transcripts. ESL courses numbered below 118 are not considered Liberal Arts and Science courses, but may be counted among L&S students’ free electives in the degree. To learn more about the 108 Liberal Arts and Science credits L&S students are required to take, see the College of Letters & Science Requirements information (p. 37).

Degree Requirements

In general, international students must complete the same degree requirements as any other entering student. The College of Letters & Science makes some exceptions to this policy. For instance the College may waive the foreign language requirement for the B.A. and B.S. degrees for students who are native speakers of a foreign language.

For the purpose of exemption from the foreign language requirement, a “native speaker” is a student who graduates from or completes a major portion (the equivalent of at least five semesters) of a secondary school in a non-English-speaking school system. Exemption is not automatic. Students who believe they may qualify for an exemption should contact the Office of Admissions and Recruitment or an L&S academic dean to determine how their language background may be applicable toward the foreign language requirement.

Students whose native language is not English may not receive degree credit for work in their native language.
**INSTITUTIONS’ TRANSFER CREDIT LIMITATION**

**NON-DEGREE-GRANTING ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS’ TRANSFER CREDIT LIMITATION**

Of the credits required for graduation, not more than 72 may be carried at non-degree-granting accredited institutions. However, of the last 60 credits earned before graduation, not more than 12 may be carried at these non-degree-granting accredited institutions.

**FREE ELECTIVES**

If a student so chooses, he or she may count for degree credit up to 12 credits “freely chosen” from many non-L&S, UW–Madison-approved courses. These courses are referred to as “free electives in the degree.” These courses may be selected from any UW–Madison subject listing in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses), and are not designated as courses in the Liberal Arts and Sciences. Thus, these courses do not carry breadth or level in L&S.

Credit earned in these courses apply to the degree requirements in the following ways:

- Courses taken as free electives in the degree may be carried and will appear on the transcript showing credits, grade, and grade points.
- These credits will count as part of the semester load and will count toward satisfaction of the minimum progress requirements.
- These credits and grade points will be included in calculating a student’s semester and cumulative grade point average.
- Free electives in the degree cannot be used to satisfy the L&S requirement that students complete a substantial portion of their degree credits in intermediate and advanced work.
- Courses that are taught in L&S departments but not designated as Liberal Arts and Science courses (e.g., Music and Music Performance courses numbered 099 and below) may be counted for credit as free electives in the degree. (For B.A./B.S. Music majors, Music and Music Performance courses numbered 099 and below that are not required for the major may be counted as free electives.) Students with questions regarding a particular course offered by a school or college outside L&S as it relates to the requirement to complete 108 Liberal Arts and Science credits should consult an academic dean before registration.

**NON-L&S COURSES AND L&S DEGREE CREDIT**

**Liberal Arts and Science Courses**

The College of Letters & Science has long recognized that courses offered by other units of the university provide valuable and appropriate learning experiences for students pursuing a degree offered by the college. The college has approved many of these courses for L&S students to take for degree credit, and after careful review, has determined that these courses are Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) courses. These courses are designated as such in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses). LAS courses count toward the L&S degree requirements, including requirements related to breadth and level.

**Non-L&S Courses Cross-listed with L&S Departments**

A course offered in the College of Letters & Science that carries the C designation and which is crosslisted with a department in another school or college is considered a Liberal Arts and Science course. Such courses are designated as counting for Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) credit in L&S within the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses). As LAS courses, they may be counted as part of the major and count as part of the 108 Liberal Arts and Science credits required for an L&S degree.

**Non-L&S Courses Required for L&S Majors**

Courses taught in departments located in schools or colleges other than L&S, but which are required for completion of an L&S major, are considered Liberal Arts and Science courses. Such courses will either be designated as Liberal Arts and Science courses in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses), or their Liberal Arts and Sciences status will appear in the DARS degree audit. In both cases, these courses count as part of the 108 L&S credits required for a degree.

**Free Electives in the Degree**

If a student so chooses, he or she may count for degree credit up to 12 credits "freely chosen" from many non-L&S, UW–Madison-approved courses. These courses are referred to as "free electives in the degree." These courses may be selected from any UW–Madison subject listing in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses), and are not designated as courses in the Liberal Arts and Sciences. Also refer to free electives (https://kb.wisc.edu/is/page.php?id=23921).

**DEGREES**

**ASSOCIATE DEGREE POLICY**

Effective summer/fall 2012, all new transfer students with an associate's degree from either a UW System (UWS) institution or one of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) schools that award a liberal arts associate’s degree (i.e., Madison College, MATC—Milwaukee, Nicolet, Chippewa Valley, Western) will have their University General Education (UGER) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatetestudytext) breadth requirements satisfied in all undergraduate schools/colleges on the UW–Madison campus. Students pursuing their
undergraduate degrees in the College of Letters & Science may need to take additional coursework to fulfill the L&S breadth requirements (p. 37). Students should consult with their undergraduate advisor(s) if they have additional questions.

WTCS transfer students should be aware that only liberal arts associate’s degrees that are approved by both WTCS and UW System Administration are eligible for this provision. Students with associate degrees in technical fields will not have their UGER breadth requirements satisfied.

UWS and WTCS transfer students with a qualifying liberal arts associate’s degree are EXEMPT from meeting the following University General Education Breadth requirements:

- Natural Science—two (2) courses for a total of 6 credits
- Humanities/Literature/Arts—6 credits
- Social Studies—3 credits

Students will still be required to meet other University General Education Requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext).

Please note:

- Students in the College of Letters & Science must meet the L&S breadth requirements (p. 37) with specific transfer courses or courses taken in residence.

DEGREE AND DIPLOMA INFORMATION

The College of Letters & Science offers the following degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture*
- Bachelor of Music*
- Bachelor of Arts–Journalism*
- Bachelor of Science–Journalism*
- Bachelor of Social Work*
- Bachelor of Science–Applied Mathematics, Engineering and Physics*

*These specialized degree programs have requirements for completion distinct from the L&S BA/BS requirements. Students who complete these requirements are awarded these degrees in lieu of the general Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science. More L&S degree information is available at Degrees/Majors/Certificate (p. 1).

A UW–Madison undergraduate diploma lists only the degree title. Diplomas do not list major(s) or certificate(s) students complete as undergraduates. Major and certificate information can be found on a student’s official UW–Madison transcript.

- If a student is completing a bachelor of science degree with majors in history and economics, the degree on the student’s diploma will be Bachelor of Science.

- If a student is completing a bachelor of arts degree, majoring in psychology and journalism, the degree on the student’s diploma will be Bachelor of Arts–Journalism.

SECOND UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Students are not permitted to earn two undergraduate liberal arts degrees. Students interested in earning a second undergraduate degree must consult an academic dean in the College of Letters & Science Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (608-262-0617; Suite 110 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive).

Please note that students who already have a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in general are not able to earn another B.A. or B.S. since two-thirds of their coursework for the second degree will be the same. Thus, a student who has a liberal arts degree with a science major is usually not considered a likely candidate for a second degree in the College of Letters & Science if the student wants to come back to do a second liberal arts degree in another humanities, social science, or natural science major. Students who have earned a music degree (MUS), for example, might be able to earn a B.A. or B.S..

Students admitted as candidates for a second undergraduate degree are subject to the L&S Academic Probation and Drop system. Requirements for admission to candidacy for a second degree are:

1. An undergraduate degree earned at UW–Madison or elsewhere. The second degree must be substantially different from the first degree. In other words, a student who has a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree would not be able to earn another B.A. or B.S. degree. Thus a student who already has a liberal arts degree with a liberal arts major such as Chemistry or History is not considered a likely candidate for a second liberal arts degree in the College of Letters & Science (L&S) if the student wants to come back to do a second liberal arts degree with another major offered within L&S such as Computer Science, Economics, Mathematics, or Spanish. (Also, students who started an additional major but did not declare it prior to graduating are not eligible to return as a second-degree student to finish up coursework for the 2nd or additional major.)

2. Satisfaction of all basic admissions requirements to UW–Madison, including geometry.

3. Submission of transcripts from all schools attended (especially if the first degree was not earned a UW–Madison). One set of transcripts must be sent to the Office of Admissions and Recruitment at UW–Madison and a second set of transcripts must be brought to the meeting with the academic dean in L&S Undergraduate Academic Services.

4. Minimum of 3.000 GPA on first undergraduate degree program. Coursework at all colleges attended (including UW–Madison, if applicable) is used to calculate this GPA.
5. An L&S academic dean will check for math and foreign language deficiencies.

6. Admission to the proposed major (a letter of support from the department confirming a student has met all basic entrance requirements to the major and is eligible to declare if admitted for a second undergraduate degree). Please note that obtaining an endorsement from the department does not guarantee acceptance for a second undergraduate degree if the student does not meet the other criteria listed above. If a student is lacking admission to or recommendation from the major department, the student could register as a University Special student but may not register in the College of Letters & Science.

7. Written permission from an L&S academic dean.

To earn a second undergraduate degree from UW–Madison, students must:

1. Satisfy all Letters & Science degree requirements.
2. Satisfy all Quality of Work requirements.
3. Complete at least 30 credits in Letters & Science at UW–Madison after the first degree has been awarded, regardless of whether or not the first degree was an L&S degree. Note that the second degree must be significantly different from the first.
4. Complete a minimum of 108 Liberal Arts and Science credits which may include courses completed during the student’s first degree program.

SENIOR THESIS

Any senior who so desires may write a senior thesis. A thesis may not carry less than 4 or more than 8 credits and must be carried over a two-semester period. A senior thesis must represent treatment of some phase of the student’s work in the major; the subject requires approval by the student’s advisor and the faculty member in charge of the field of concentration (usually the department chair). Thesis students enroll for thesis course numbers 691 and 692 (students in the Honors Program enroll in 681 and 682 for a minimum of 6 credits and a maximum of 8 credits in total).

- Students must complete both 691 and 692 or 681 and 682 of the two-semester course sequence. A student cannot substitute one of the sequence courses with a directed study or other course.
- The two-semester course sequence must be in the same department (e.g., ANTHRO 691 and ANTHRO 692).
- Students cannot take the two-semester course sequence in one semester or term.

Students enrolled in a 691/692 or 681/682 senior thesis sequence will receive a grade of "P" (Progress) for the first half of the senior sequence (691 or 681) until they complete both semesters. This designation of "Progress" is a temporary grade used only for courses that span more than one semester/term (typically a senior thesis). When the course is completed, a final grade replaces the P for each term. The "P" grade does not count for credit until it is replaced by a final grade.

EXAMS

COLLEGE-LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM (CLEP)

The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) enables those students who have attained college-level competency outside the classroom to take examinations for college credit or placement. The General Examinations measure undergraduate achievement in five basic areas of liberal arts education:

- English composition
- Humanities
- Mathematics
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences/History

The Subject Examinations measure achievement in undergraduate courses. Both sets of examinations are aimed at the public-at-large, returning service personnel, and entering freshmen. Credit will be granted for the General Examination according to the criteria established ONLY to freshmen before they have earned more than 15 degree credits in a residence program or elsewhere. Only a limited number of departments accept CLEP Subject Examination credits. A continuing student with no more than 15 completed degree credits may register for the General or Subject Examination(s) by contacting the Office of Testing and Evaluation Services, 608-262-5863. For further information, consult L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services at 608-262-0617 or the Office of Admissions and Recruitment (https://www.admissions.wisc.edu/apply/freshman/apib.php), 608-262-3961.

EXAMINATIONS FOR PLACEMENT

English

All students must take English placement tests to determine level of competence unless competence has been successfully demonstrated prior to enrollment through coursework (including AP and IB credits). On the basis of their test scores, most students will be required to enroll in and successfully complete a Communication Part A course. This course should be completed within a student’s first 30 credits after enrollment.

Non-native speakers of English assigned to courses in English as a Second Language on the basis of their English as a Second Language (ESL) assessment test should see International Students and Non-Native Speakers of English (p. 18).

Foreign Language

Students at UW–Madison who plan to resume the study of a foreign language begun in high school must take the UW System placement examination in that language and consult the foreign language department advisor for appropriate course placement.

Before enrolling in a level either higher or lower than the level of placement indicated by the examination, students should consult the foreign language
department advisor. Without regard to any work taken in high school, students may enroll for degree credit in any course offered for degree credit by the college, provided they meet its prerequisites and provided they have not already received college credit for this course or an equivalent course or a higher level course in the same subject by course completion or examination.

This placement procedure permits students who are not confident about their high school foreign language work to retake that work in college before proceeding to more advanced study of that language. Students who feel they are ready to work at a higher level than that indicated by the placement test may do so. In no case may students receive degree credit more than once for the same level college work.

Mathematics
Entering freshmen are required to complete the appropriate placement test in mathematics. This test determines minimum math competency and placement. Students who do not demonstrate minimum competency in math will be required to complete additional non-degree-credit math courses within the first 30 credits after enrollment.

The results of the placement test in mathematics are binding. Students continuing in mathematics must enroll in the level of mathematics course that is indicated by the examination. However, students who feel their placement examination results are not valid or appropriate may appeal the placement by conferring with the undergraduate advisor in the mathematics department. If the advisor agrees, the student may carry a course below or above the placement indicated for degree credit provided previous college credit has not been granted by course completion or examination.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS (ACADEMIC SUMMARY PERIOD)
Following the regularly scheduled instructional period each semester is an eight-day summary period. Usually the first day of the summary period is for individual study and review, and no classes or exams are to be scheduled during this designated period. The last seven days are prescheduled to include one two-hour summary block for each course of two or more credits. This two-hour block shall be used for an examination or for other instructional activities as deemed appropriate by the instructional unit offering the course. During the two weeks preceding the summary period, examinations covering the content of the entire course cannot be given. Take-home examinations are due at the scheduled two-hour block.

Faculty policy prohibits giving or taking final examinations earlier than the time assigned in the Course Guide. Students may arrange a make-up examination at a later date only if the professor is willing and if there is a valid reason for missing a final examination. (See the Guide entry “Incompletes (p. 28)” below.)

Students are required to attend all of their final exams. Leaving prior to the final examination period and not taking finals will have a negative impact on a student’s final grade in a course or courses. See class attendance policy (https://kb.wisc.edu/is/page.php?id=24628) for more information.

MIDTERM EXAM POLICY INFORMATION
Information about midterm evening exam policy along with fall, spring, and summer term final exam policy can be found at midterm and final exam policy information (https://registrar.wisc.edu/documents/exam_policy.pdf) on the Registrar’s website. Additional information can also be located at midterm grades (https://registrar.wisc.edu/mid_term_grades.htm) and upcoming final exam periods (https://registrar.wisc.edu/midterm_and_final_exam_information_faculty.htm).

• It is implicitly understood that no exams, papers, or assignments will be required during any break period (e.g., spring break) or major holiday.

GRADES
AUDIT
A student may enroll in a course on an audit (AU) basis only with prior consent of the instructor of the course. As an auditor, the student is considered a passive learner and may not recite in class or take examinations. Courses with laboratory or performance skills may not be audited. (L&S undergraduate students are not allowed to audit classes required for their major or degree with the purpose of getting some background prior to formally enrolling in the courses). Regular class attendance is expected. Courses audited carry no degree credit and are not graded. The credit value of courses carried on an audit basis is included in the semester/term program load for purposes of determining fees and maximum credits carried.

Courses carried on an audit basis may have an impact on students applying for scholarships or other forms of financial assistance. Students should contact the unit/agency administering the scholarship or Student Financial Services for more guidance. Students should also contact their insurance company to determine whether auditing a course (or courses) will have an impact on their coverage. See w (https://kb.wisc.edu/is/page.php?id=26734) hat does it mean to audit a course (https://kb.wisc.edu/is/page.php?id=26734) for more details.

L&S undergraduate students who wish to change their registration in a course from a credit basis to an audit basis must do so within the first four weeks of the semester by submitting a Course Change Form (available at Course Change Request (https://registrar.wisc.edu/course_change_request.htm) ) to Suite 110 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive. (Course Change Requests can be accessed through an individual’s Student Center in My UW (https://my.wisc.edu) under: Course Enrollment/Term Information/Course Change Request.) Students will not be able to submit or cancel a request to audit a course after the fourth week of the fall or spring term.

• Audited courses, noted as such by “AU” in place of a number of credits, are graded either
"S" (Satisfactory) or "NR" (No Report) or "NW" (No Work). **AU is not a grade.**

- For modular and summer session courses, audit requests must be submitted by the Friday of the week in which the session is one-fourth completed.
- Audits may affect a student's eligibility for financial aid (including Social Security and Veterans' benefits). Students should consult an advisor in the Office of Student Financial Aid (http://www.finaid.wisc.edu) for more detailed information.
- Students with questions about their Veteran benefits and taking courses on an audit basis should contact the Veteran Services & Military Assistance Center (http://veterans.wisc.edu).

**CREDIT/NO-CREDIT COURSES**

A limited number of courses on campus are offered on a Credit/No Credit basis. Please note that Credit/No Credit is not the same as Pass/Fail. At the completion of the course the student is given a grade of CR or NR rather than a letter grade (A, AB, B, BC, C, D, F). A grade of CR will give a student credit but will not have any grade points associated with it to be figured into the grade-point average calculation.

A grade of N will award no degree credit. Credit/No Credit courses are identified in the Class Search—Class Details page as a Grading basis of "Credit/No Credit".

**FAILURES**

Students who have earned a grade of F may repeat the failed course in residence. The original grade of F remains permanently on a student's record and is averaged into the semester and overall grade point average (GPA). The failure will be counted as zero grade points per credit in computing the GPA. If a student repeats the failed course, the course will appear on the student's transcript twice with the original grade of F recorded and the new grade also recorded. Both grades will be counted in determining all applicable quality of work requirements. **Multiple failures in the same course all count in the GPA and will appear on a student's permanent records.** See can I retake a course that I have failed (https://kb.wisc.edu/is/page.php?id=21933) for more details.

A course failed in residence at UW–Madison may be repeated for credit at any other educational institution. However the new grade earned out of residence will not have an impact on the student's UW–Madison GPA.

**GRADE CHANGE AND APPEAL**

In accordance to current faculty policy and in an effort to main both equity and consistency, final term grades can be changed only because of "clerical error". Students **cannot** petition to improve a course grade by offering to rewrite a paper, turn in additional work, or retake a final exam (or exams). The only exception would be if:

1. the option to improve a grade is available to all students in a given course, **AND**
2. this option is stated explicitly in the course syllabus

A change of grade is allowed only if there has been a clerical error. If an L&S undergraduate student believes a clerical error has been made in the awarding of the final grade for a course, the student should first meet with the instructor of the course to determine whether such an error has occurred. Requests for a change of grade must be signed by both the instructor of the course and the chair of the department. Students who believe they have been unfairly graded in a course should follow the appeal procedure established by the department in which the course grade was given.

The appeal procedure typically requires the student to first meet with the instructor of the course to discuss the issue, followed by a meeting with the department chair or department committee. If the issue is still unresolved after the department appeal procedure is completed, the student’s last recourse would be to appeal to one of the Associate Deans in the College of Letters & Science based on the discipline of the course in question. Appeals of final grades must be initiated within the semester immediately following the term in which the course is taken. For more information, see What is the process for appealing a grade for an L&S undergraduate student? (https://kb.wisc.edu/is/page.php?id=28334)

**GRADING SYSTEM**

The general quality of a student's work is expressed in terms of a grade point average (GPA). It is based on the total number of credits earned, whether passed or not. Semester/term grades are reported by letter only (A, AB, B, BC, C, D, F); plus and minus signs are not authorized. The highest possible GPA is 4.000, representing A grades in every course; the lowest possible is 0.000.

For more detailed information, see valid instructor assigned grades (http://registrar.wisc.edu/valid_instructor_assigned_grades.htm).

For more information on the grading system, also see the section on undergraduate grades and grade point average (GPA) (http://registrar.wisc.edu/grades_and_gpa.htm) on the registrar's website.

**INCOMPLETES**

A grade of incomplete (I) may be reported for a student who has been enrolled in a course with a passing grade until near the end of the semester/term and then, due to illness or some other unusual and substantiated cause beyond the student’s control, has been unable to take or complete the final examination (or to complete some limited amount of term work). An Incomplete is not given to a student who stays away from a final examination unless the student proves to the instructor that he or she was prevented from attending as indicated above. In the absence of such proof the grade reported will be an F. Even when a student can provide verifiable documentation, a student may still earn a grade of F if the quality of the student’s work convinces the instructor that the student cannot successfully pass the course.

Any subject taken by an L&S undergraduate student marked Incomplete must be completed by the end of the fourth week of classes of the student’s next semester in residence at the University (exclusive of summer sessions) or it will lapse into a Failure. If an instructor grants an extended incomplete (EI), a grade change will need to be filed by the instructor, approved by the chairperson of the department, and forwarded to L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services in 110 Ingraham
Hall. In such cases the grade of I is replaced with the grade of extended incomplete (EI).

**NOTE:** Extended Incompletes (EI) must be removed and replaced with the final grade by the last day of classes prior to the start of final exams or they will lapse into Failures.

Incompletes incurred in the last semester in residence at UW–Madison may not be removed after five years of absence from the University without special advance permission from L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services. Such Incompletes must remain on the record with grades of permanent incomplete (PI) and do not lapse into failures.

If a student enrolls with an Incomplete grade from a previous semester and is dropped later in the term because the Incomplete has lapsed to an F or has been changed to a low grade, the student will be withdrawn with an effective date within the refund period closest to the time of the student’s actual withdrawal if the student has not been granted permission to continue by an L&S academic dean.

For further information, see What does it mean if my instructor gives me a grade of incomplete? (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21330) on the L&S website and Incompletes (https://registrar.wisc.edu/incompletes) on the registrar’s website.

**NO WORK GRADE**

Students will receive a grade of No Work (NW) on their official records if they enrolled in a course and then never attended. Instructors may award this grade only when the instructor has no evidence that the student ever attended or submitted any work. Any student who does attend for part of the semester/term and then stops participating is not eligible to receive a grade of NW. The No Work notation does not have an impact on a student’s semester/term or cumulative GPA. For more information, see Valid Instructor Assigned Grades (http://registrar.wisc.edu/valid_instructor_assigned_grades.htm).

A course failed in residence at UW–Madison may be repeated for credit at any other educational institution; however the new grade earned out of residence will not have an impact on the student’s UW–Madison grade point average (GPA).

**PASS/FAIL**

Any L&S undergraduate student in good academic standing is eligible to take one course per term/semester on a pass/fail (S/U) basis. For the College of Letters & Science, good academic standing means that a student does not have one of the following statuses:

- probation
- strict probation
- continued probation
- continued strict probation
- dropped status

For information about probation, see academic probation and drop (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#enrollmentandrecordstext).

- Undergraduates may carry only one course on a pass/fail basis per term (fall, spring, summer) and a maximum of sixteen (16) credits during their entire undergraduate career.
- First-semester freshmen and transfer students without an established UW–Madison GPA are eligible to take one (1) course for pass/fail in their first term at UW–Madison.
- Summer sessions collectively count as a single term. Thus, a student can only take one (1) course on a pass/fail basis during the summer.

Any student who takes a pass/fail course must earn at least a C to receive credit for the course. Final grades for these courses will be indicated as satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U) without any computation of grade points for those courses into the semester or cumulative grade point average. The grade of S shall be recorded by the registrar in place of instructors’ grades of A, AB, B, BC, or C. The grade of U will be recorded by the Registrar’s Office in place of instructors’ grades of D or F. Neither the S nor the U is used in computing the grade point average. The pass/fail option is the student’s choice and the instructor reports the grade without knowing whether or not the student is taking the course on a pass/fail basis.

For more information, see What does it mean to take a course pass/fail? (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21102)

**Notes:**

- Students must submit (or cancel) pass/fail requests via their Student Center link (https://my.wisc.edu) by the end of the fourth (4th) week of fall and spring terms. (For modular and summer session courses, pass/fail requests must be submitted by the Friday of the week in which the session is one-fourth completed).
- Students may not cancel or add the pass/fail option after the deadline for submitting Pass/Fail Option Forms.
- All requests to add or cancel pass/fail must be submitted via the Course Change request in the Student Center by the appropriate deadline.
- For more information about the pass/fail process, refer to what does it mean to take a course pass/fail (http://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21102) and Pass/Fail Option (http://registrar.wisc.edu/pass_fail_option.htm).
- Students cannot cancel a Pass/Fail request after the deadline if s/he needs the course to fulfill a major or degree requirement at a later date. It is the student’s responsibility to determine whether or not s/he can take a course on a pass/fail basis.
- Pass/Fail and Course Change Requests can be accessed through a student’s Student Center in My UW–Madison (http://my.wisc.edu) by clicking Course Change Request via Course Enrollment, Term Information. For more information about requesting the pass/fail option, refer to the registrar’s website (http://registrar.wisc.edu/pass_fail_option.htm).
• Only elective work may be carried on a pass/fail basis. Thus, pass/fail cannot be declared or used to fulfill the following requirements:
  • Breadth (humanities, literature, social science, natural science)
  • Foreign language (prior to fulfilling the B.A. or B.S. foreign language requirement)
  • Math
  • Ethnic Studies
  • General Education Requirements (Comm A, Comm B, QR A, QR B)
  • Major requirements

• L&S undergraduates may take courses in their major or major department for pass/fail. However, any coursework taken for pass/fail in the major or major department will not count toward fulfilling any requirements. Students are strongly encouraged not to take coursework in their major program without first consulting with their undergraduate advisor.

• Courses carried on a pass/fail basis cannot fulfill any other college requirements except for the 60 intermediate/advanced level credits and 108 Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) credits needed to graduate.

• Directed Study courses may not be taken on a pass/fail basis.

• Pass/fail work may not be used as part of the coursework offered in satisfaction of the individual major.

• Students may not take foreign language courses on a pass/fail basis until the foreign language requirement for their degree program has been satisfied.

• Students pursuing certificate programs should check with the certificate advisor(s) about policies concerning pass/fail for certificate program courses since many certificate programs do not allow coursework to be taken for pass/fail.

For further information, deadline dates, and instructions for registration stop by the College of Letters & Science Academic Deans’ Services in Suite 110 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive, or call 608-262-0617 for more assistance.

Q GRADE

A “Q” grade is assigned by an instructor when there is a discrepancy between the work completed by a student and the student’s official registration. The Office of the Registrar will post the temporary Q grade/mark to a student’s record until the discrepancy is resolved. A student will receive a Q in one of three situations:

1. a student registers for a variable-credit course and completes the work that is appropriate for a different number of credits;
2. a student registers for Honors credit and does not complete the Honors portion of the work; and
3. a student does not register for Honors but completes the Honors work appropriate for an Honors designation.

In each of the three cases listed above, students will need to work with the instructor to correct the situation before a grade can be reported. The correct grade will need to be forwarded by the instructor to L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services). For more information, see Valid Instructor Assigned Grades (http://registrar.wisc.edu/valid_instructor_assigned_grades.htm).

GRADUATION

DIPLOMA AND DEGREE INFORMATION

A UW–Madison undergraduate diploma lists only the degree title. Diplomas do not list major(s) or certificate(s) students complete as undergraduates. Major and certificate information is located on a student’s official UW–Madison transcript.

• If a student is completing a bachelor of science degree with majors in history and economics, the degree on the student’s diploma will be Bachelor of Science.

• If a student is completing a bachelor of arts degree, majoring in psychology and journalism, the degree on the student’s diploma will be Bachelor of Arts–Journalism.

The following information will appear on an L&S undergraduate student’s diploma:

• Degree Title (e.g., Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music, etc.)
• Degree Conferral Date (e.g., May 10, 2020 for spring 2020 graduates)
• Honors in the Liberal Arts (if a student declares and successfully completes the requirements)
• Honors in the Major (if a student declares and successfully completes the requirements)
• Comprehensive Honors (if a student declares and successfully completes the requirements)

The College of Letters & Science offers the following degrees which will appear on an L&S undergraduate student’s diploma:

• Bachelor of Arts
• Bachelor of Science
• Bachelor of Landscape Architecture*
• Bachelor of Music*
• Bachelor of Arts–Journalism*
• Bachelor of Science–Journalism*
• Bachelor of Social Work*
• Bachelor of Science–Applied Mathematics, Engineering and Physics*

*These specialized degree programs have requirements for completion distinct from the L&S BA/BS requirements. Students who complete these requirements are awarded these degrees in lieu of the general Bachelor of Arts or
Bachelor of Science. More L&S degree information is available at Degrees/Majors/Certificate (p. 1).

FOREIGN LANGUAGE
The study of a foreign language contributes in an important way to a broad education for today's students, who live in a world where the overwhelming majority of people do not speak or read English and where much of the knowledge that is disseminated may never appear in English. Knowledge of a foreign language is important for an appreciation of the culture of the people using that language, and it also helps students to understand the structure and complexities of their own native language. Students with sufficient preparation may be able to use the foreign language for study in their chosen discipline.

To be admitted to the University of Wisconsin–Madison, students must have completed the second-year level of a single foreign language (or American Sign Language) in high school. On extremely rare occasions, students may be admitted with a foreign language deficiency, but they will be required to make up that deficiency by the time they earn their 60th degree credit, or they will not be allowed to continue.

All students working for a B.A. or B.S. degree in the College of Letters & Science must fulfill the foreign language requirement. Students with certain disabilities may apply for a substitution to the foreign language requirement by submitting required documentation to the L&S Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee (DCAC) for review.

B.A. Degree
For the B.A. degree, the foreign language requirement may be met in one of two ways: (1) completion of the fourth unit (level) in one language, or (2) completion of the third unit (level) in one language and completion of the second unit (level) in another language. For example, a student can satisfy the B.A. foreign language degree requirement if s/he:

• completed 4 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., French, German, etc.), OR
• completed the 4th unit of a college language course (e.g., ASIALANG 202, AFRICAN 324, GERMAN 204, SLAVIC 208, etc.), OR
• completed 2 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., Spanish) and the 3rd unit/semester of a second foreign language (e.g., ASIALANG 203, GERMAN 203, GREEK 305, etc.) at the college level, OR
• completed 3 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., Chinese) and the 2nd unit/semester of a second foreign language (e.g., ASIALANG 126, GERMAN 112, etc.) at the college level.

B.S. Degree
For the B.S. degree, the foreign language requirement may be met by completion of the third level (unit) of a foreign language in high school, or the equivalent third-semester-level college work. For example, a student can satisfy the B.S. foreign language degree requirement if s/he has:

• completed 3 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., French, Spanish, etc.), or
• completed the 3rd unit/semester of one college-level language (e.g., AFRICAN 333, ASIALANG 201, FRENCH 203, etc.)

Foreign Language Substitution
The Foreign Language Substitution package (FLSP) is for degree-seeking candidates in the College of Letters & Science (L&S) only who are seeking to fulfill the L&S foreign language requirement and also have a documented disability in foreign language acquisition.

What is a Foreign Language Substitution?
The Foreign Language Substitution Package is designed to fulfill the College of Letters & Science faculty's intention in requiring foreign language as a part of the college curriculum. Specifically, the Foreign Language Substitution Package, like the foreign language requirement, provides students with information about language in general as well as the literature and culture of the people using a particular language. Courses used to meet the substitution must be approved by the designated academic dean in L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans' Services (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/deans-services.htm) (110 Ingraham Hall (http://www.map.wisc.edu/?initObj=0056&wing=)). Classes used for the substitution package cannot be used to fulfill any of the following requirements:

• Major requirements
• Breadth (humanities, literature, social science, science)
• Ethnic studies
• General Education Requirements (Comm A, Comm B, QR-A, QR-B)

How do I qualify for a Foreign Language Substitution?
The Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee (DCAC) of the College of Letters & Science can approve a substitution to the foreign language requirement for students in Letters & Science only with certain disabilities that make a course substitution appropriate. Extensive and very specific documentation is required from students.
and disability specialists. Further information may be obtained from the L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/foreign-language-substitution-package.htm) (Room 110, Ingraham Hall, at 1155 Observatory Drive; 608-262-0617) or the McBurney Disability Resource Center (https://mcburney.wisc.edu)(702 West Johnson Street; 608-263-2741).

Note that an appointment at the McBurney Center is required before submitting the application. This appointment should be made no less than one semester/term prior to applying for the substitution package. McBurney Center staff will help you determine what documentation is necessary for the application, as well as assess whether additional testing is required.

After meeting with a McBurney Center staff member, a student should fill out and complete an application for the substitution package. The deadline to submit a completed copy is at the end of the fourth week of the fall and spring terms. Applications are not accepted during the summer term. All students who submitted a completed application by the deadline should hear back from the Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee (DCAC) regarding the status of their application within six to eight weeks after the deadline.

Please make sure you submit your original completed application AND also four (4) additional copies of your completed application to Suite 110 Ingraham Hall at 1155 Observatory Drive before 4:00 p.m. on Friday of the deadline. (The deadline to submit a completed application for consideration is the end of the 4th week of the fall and spring terms.) A completed application must include five (5) copies of each of the five items below:

1. High school transcript and transcripts from other post-secondary institutions you may have attended prior to UW–Madison (you will need to contact original high school or other institution of higher learning for these records if you do not have copies)
2. UW–Madison transcript
3. Copy of your most recent DARS (Please go to your My UW and access the Student Center to request a DARS.)
4. Student application form (see p. 7 of Foreign Language Substitution Package application located at Foreign Language Substitution Package (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/foreign-language-substitution-package.htm))
5. Copy of McBurney Faculty Notification Letter (or confirmation letter of accommodations received) if student has one
6. Other relevant and current disability documentation assembled in consultation with McBurney Center staff

**What are the requirements for a Foreign Language Substitution?**

1. **General Language:** If approved for an L&S foreign language substitution package, both B.A. and B.S. degree candidates must complete one (1) course having to do with language in general (selected from an approved list of classes). If a student's official UW–Madison records has at least one unit (year) of a high school foreign language, this requirement is fulfilled. If a student has not taken a foreign language in high school, please select one (1) course from either a, b, or c listed below:
   a. LINGUIS 101 (Linguistics)
   b. CS&D 240 (Communication Sciences & Disorders)
   c. ENGL 201, ENGL 207, ENGL 304, ENGL 307, ENGL 400, ENGL 407, ENGL 408, ENGL 409 (English)
2. **Cultural Context:**
   - **B.A.** students must complete the following:
     - Three (3) courses related to a country, region, or a group of countries sharing a common language in the following areas:
       - Literature
       - History or Culture
       - General elective
   - If a student has a second unit (year) in the same high school foreign language, it can fulfill the History or Culture (b) requirement for the B.A. degree. Students must then also take a Literature course and General elective in the same language area to complete the requirement. If a student has not taken a foreign language in high school, please complete items a, b, and c above. All coursework taken for the foreign language substitution package must be approved by an academic dean in L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/deans-services.htm).
   - **B.S.** students must complete the following:
     - Two (2) courses related to a country, region, or a group of countries sharing a common language in the following areas:
       - Literature
       - History or Culture
• If a student has a second unit (year) in the same high school foreign language, it can fulfill the History or Culture (b) requirement for the B.S. degree. Students pursuing a B.S. must also take a Literature course in the same language area to complete the requirement. If a student has not taken a foreign language in high school, please must complete items a and b above. All coursework taken for the foreign language substitution package must be approved by an academic dean in L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/deans-services.htm).

What are my responsibilities as a student to complete the Foreign Language Substitution?

Students must submit five (5) copies of all required materials to the Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee in L&S Academic Deans’ Services (Suite 110 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive, 608-262-0617) by the end of the fourth (4th) week of the semester (fall or spring term) in which they would like to present their case for review. Applications are not accepted or reviewed during the summer.

Completed applications will be reviewed approximately six (6) weeks after the official deadline. Students will then be notified shortly after the Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee meets regarding the results.

Students who are approved for a foreign language substitution package must make an appointment to speak with an academic dean in L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (110 Ingraham Hall, 608-262-0617) to talk about the next steps they will need to take in order to complete their substitution package. Students will not be able to complete their approved foreign language substitution package until they have met with an academic dean to select the appropriate courses they need to fulfill this requirement.

Students who have not been previously diagnosed as learning-disabled or hearing-impaired should plan three to four months to schedule required testing and to receive results and interpretation of the testing.

Contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center (http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu) for current information about the tests required. Results of the specified tests taken within the previous four years are acceptable; retesting is required if test results are not at least this current.

For persons with a hearing loss, certain criteria must be met to apply for a substitution to the foreign language requirement. Contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center for details.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The University of Wisconsin–Madison General Education Requirements (GER) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatetesttext) are courses that provide for breadth across the humanities and arts, social studies, and natural sciences. All students except those who matriculated at a college or university prior to May 20, 1996, must satisfy the university-wide General Education Requirements. The requirements consist of:

Breath (University Breadth)

All students must complete 13–15 credits of course work intended to provide a breadth of experience across the major modes of intellectual inquiry. Breath course work is intended to give students a broad intellectual perspective on their undergraduate education and their world by encouraging them to look at and understand subjects through the various modes of inquiry used in the natural, physical and social sciences, arts, and humanities.

Students are required to complete the following breadth requirements:

• Natural Science, 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits
• Humanities/Literature/Arts, 6 credits
• Social Studies, 3 credits

This requirement challenges students to understand that there are many ways to research and explore, and ultimately understand, the world around us. These many "ways of knowing" are intended to enrich the undergraduate experience and complement intensive study in students' majors. Through these courses, many students discover subjects and ideas that will become lifetime interests, or that offer the creative stimulus to see their favorite subjects from new perspectives. Note that the College of Letters & Science undergraduate breadth requirements exceed campus General Education requirements. Students who transfer to another UW–Madison school or college before completing the L&S breadth and ethnic studies may need to complete additional General Education requirements. For more information, about L&S breadth, please refer to College of Letters & Science (http://gened.wisc.edu/ReqAdditional/#LnS).

Communication

Communication, 3 to 5/6 credits

Communication A (http://gened.wisc.edu/sites/gened.wisc.edu/files/documents/CommACriteria-2012.pdf), Literacy Proficiency. 2–3 credits at first-year level dedicated to reading, listening, and discussion, with emphasis on writing. While most incoming freshmen are required to complete course work to fulfill this requirement, students may be exempted from Communication A by approved college course work while in high school, AP test scores, or
Quantitative Reasoning
Quantitative Reasoning, 3 to 6 credits
Quantitative Reasoning Proficiency. Three (3) credits of mathematics or formal logic. Students may be exempted from Quantitative Reasoning A by approved college work while in high school, AP test scores, or placement testing. Some students, however, may need to complete a prerequisite before enrolling in a Quantitative Reasoning A course. To ensure timely progress to completion of the undergraduate degree, students should complete this requirement by the end of their first year.

Quantitative Reasoning B (http://gened.wisc.edu/sites/gened.wisc.edu/files/documents/QRCriteria.pdf),
Enhancing Quantitative Reasoning Proficiency. Three (3) credits of more advanced course work for students who have completed or been exempted from Quantitative Reasoning A. (Students must satisfy Quantitative Reasoning A before they may go on to Quantitative Reasoning B.) Courses that satisfy this requirement are offered in a variety of fields of study. Students are encouraged to select a course in keeping with their interests or other requirements of their intended field(s) of study.

For more information regarding the UW–Madison General Education Requirements, see General Education Requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext).

GRADUATION AWARDS
Graduation with Distinction
The award of "Graduation with Distinction" will be noted on the transcript of students who have earned a grade point average that places them within the top 20% of the students graduating that term in their college/school provided 60 or more credits have been earned at UW–Madison. The Office of the Registrar performs a preliminary calculation for students declaring intent to graduate and then makes a temporary posting that is included in the program for commencement. However, the final notation of Graduation with Distinction depends upon last term grades, as calculated by the registrar and relative to the performance of all students in that particular graduating class. For more detailed information, see how do I know if I qualify for graduation with distinction or distinction in the major (https://kb.wisc.edu/is/page.php?id=22260).

Note: UW–Madison (except for the Law School) does not use the Latin honors cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude to indicate level of distinction when conferring academic degrees. Instead, L&S undergraduate students are eligible to receive one of the following distinctions (Graduation with Distinction, Distinction in the Major, or Thesis of Distinction) at the end of their academic career.

Distinction in the Major
This award is granted at graduation, upon the recommendation of a department to the dean, to any student not earning the Honors Degree (i.e., Honors in the Major, Honors in the Liberal Arts, or Comprehensive Honors) who has done superior work in the major and who has passed a comprehensive examination on that work. The comprehensive examination may be omitted for the student with a 3.500 grade point average in the major who successfully completes special work prescribed by the department. The award is noted on the student’s transcript.

Thesis of Distinction
This award is granted at graduation, upon recommendation of a department to the dean, to any student not earning the Honors Degree (i.e., Honors in the Major, Honors in the Liberal Arts, or Comprehensive Honors) who has written an exceptionally good or original thesis, without consideration of the student’s record in other work. The chair of the department appoints a committee of at least two members, including the thesis advisor, to read the thesis and make an appropriate recommendation. These theses are retained.
in the department. The award is noted on the student’s transcript.

**LETTERS & SCIENCE BREADTH**

All L&S undergraduate students are required to fulfill the L&S Breadth of Exploration in the Liberal Arts and Sciences. The L&S Breadth includes:

- Humanities: 12 credits (of which 6 credits must be Literature credit)
- Social Science: 12 credits
- Natural Science: 12 credits
- **Bachelor of Arts** (B.A.) candidates must complete a minimum of one (1) 3+ credit Biological Science course and one (1) 3+ credit Physical Science course. The additional six (6) credits can be any combination of natural, biological or physical science credits to bring the total to twelve (12) credits.
- **Bachelor of Science** (B.S.) candidates must complete a minimum of six (6) credits of Physical Science and six (6) credits of Biological Science.

**LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCE CREDITS**

Of the minimum 120 credits required for graduation for a B.A. or B.S. degree (General Course) at least 108 credits must be in courses designated as Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) courses. These courses are designated in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses) as satisfying this particular requirement. Nearly every course taught in L&S is designated in this way.

**QUALITY OF WORK REQUIREMENTS**

A total of 120 degree credits is required for graduation, with a minimum 2.000 grade point average on all courses taken, whether or not each course is passed.

The quality of work requirements establish a minimum grade point average in four specific areas that must be met to receive a Letters & Science degree. In order to satisfy these requirements, the student must earn a minimum 2.000 grade point average on all courses carried at UW–Madison, whether passed or not, in these four areas:

1. All courses in the major (or majors);
2. All upper-level courses in the major, as designated by the major department for the 15-credit residence requirement;
3. All courses designated intermediate or advanced;
4. All courses carried for a grade at UW–Madison (cumulative grade point average, as reported by the Registrar Office). Courses carried on a refresher basis (see Repeat of College Courses Not for Credit) are excluded from the grade point average as determined for categories 1, 2, and 3 above. Repeating a failed course will not remove the failure from the student’s record or from GPA calculations. This summary of college grade point requirements does not include those for admission to certain majors and special courses within the college or to other colleges and schools within the university, or to honors courses.

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

**The UW–Madison Experience**

In order to receive an undergraduate degree from the College of Letters & Science, a student must earn a minimum of 30 credits in the senior year (after a student has completed 86 degree credits). This requirement intends to ensure that a student’s depth of study—which should occur in more advanced-level courses, within the major, with faculty instruction, and in areas of research—is a uniquely UW–Madison experience. The credits do not have to be contiguous for the requirement to be met. Because the requirement begins with the 87th credit, students have the flexibility to take 4 credits out of residence in the senior year without needing to obtain special permission. Exceptions to the senior residence requirement may be granted in cases where a student is in good academic standing and has a specific need to take fewer than 30 credits in the senior year. Retroactive credits, AP credits, and credits granted by examination are not considered in residence. Courses that do not count as in residence include:

- UW–Madison Division of Extension and other transfer credit
- Courses completed at other UW system schools
- Courses taken abroad through another institution
- AP (Advanced Placement) credit
- Credit by examination
- Retroactive credit

There are no exceptions to the requirement that 30 overall degree credits be taken in residence.

**Senior Residence**

The 30 minimum credits a student must earn in residence should be completed in the senior year (after a student has completed 86 degree credits). This requirement intends to ensure that the student’s depth of study—which should occur in more advanced-level courses, within the major, with faculty instruction, and in areas of research—are uniquely UW–Madison experiences. These credits do not have to be contiguous for the requirement to be met. Because the requirement begins with the 87th credit, students have the flexibility to take four (4) credits out of residence in the senior year without needing to obtain special permission. Exceptions to the senior residence requirement may be granted in cases where a student is in good academic standing (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/#policiesandregulations) and has a specific need to take fewer than 30 credits in their senior year. Consult an L&S academic dean (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services) for more information.

L&S undergraduate students must also complete at least 15 credits in upper-level courses in their major(s) at UW–Madison. Refer to major requirements for a specific major to get more information about major residence requirements.
TOTAL DEGREE CREDITS
To receive an undergraduate degree, students must earn a minimum of 120 degree credits (which includes AP, IB and other test credit, transfer credit, and retroactive credit) for most baccalaureate degrees granted by the College of Letters & Science. The total credits for the degree includes the University General Education Requirements, L&S Breadth, major requirements, and also elective credits not associated with any specific requirement, that allow students to explore other areas of academic interest. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 degree credits. Students should consult with their academic/major advisor and DARS for information on specific credit requirements.

MAJOR INFORMATION
ACCEPTANCE INTO A MAJOR
A department, program, or school may specify prerequisites for acceptance into a major, such as a minimum grade point average or completion of particular courses with a minimum grade. Students are responsible for reviewing the quality requirements for a particular major or school, as outlined in the degrees/majors/certificates (p. 1) section of this Guide. Students should consult the department advisor for information. Only the department can make an exception. Students not accepted in a major or special degree program must select a different major.

COMPLETING AN L&S MAJOR FOR NON-L&S UNDERGRADUATES
Non L&S undergraduate students in other schools/colleges on the UW–Madison campus (e.g., Business, CALS, Education, Engineering, etc.) are eligible to complete a major in L&S without having to complete L&S degree requirements if they receive permission from their home school/college. The process for obtaining special permission to pursue an L&S major varies based on the student’s home school/college. Non L&S undergraduate students must contact the appropriate L&S major department/unit about the steps they will need to take in order to declare an additional major and fulfill all of the major requirements within the College of Letters & Science.

COMPLETING A MAJOR OUTSIDE L&S
L&S undergraduate students must complete at least one major in the College of Letters & Science. Currently, L&S undergraduates may declare one additional major in the School of Education. The two options for L&S undergraduates in Education are:

• Education Studies
• Theatre and Drama

These are currently the only non-L&S majors that L&S students may declare. These additional majors are available to almost all L&S undergraduates (i.e., BA, BS, AMER BA/BS-Journalism, BA/BS-Social Work, and Bachelor of Music) who meet admission requirements for the additional majors. Please note that an L&S undergraduate student must first declare a major in L&S before being eligible to declare one of the approved non-L&S majors. A student earning an L&S undergraduate degree cannot graduate within L&S with only an approved non-L&S major.

The following policies apply to L&S students with an additional non-L&S major.

• At this time, only the two School of Education majors listed above are available for L&S undergraduates to pursue outside the College of Letters & Science. Additional majors in a school/college other than the School of Education or the College of Letters & Science may not be declared.

• Prior to declaring one of the two approved Education majors, an L&S student must have already declared at least one (1) L&S major.

• In order to graduate, an L&S undergraduate must complete at least one L&S major in addition to all other L&S degree requirements. A student cannot earn an L&S undergraduate degree if the student cancels his/her L&S major(s) after completing the requirements for the additional non-L&S major.

• L&S will not delay graduating students who have not completed the requirements for majors outside of L&S. Thus, students with these additional Education majors will be graduated at the end of the semester in which they complete their L&S requirements, even if School of Education major requirements have not been completed.

• Any courses required for the non-L&S major that are not designated as Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) courses will not count toward satisfying the requirement that students complete 108 credits in Liberal Arts and Science.

• Students may elect to count these credits among the allowed 12 free elective credits in the degree but should also be mindful of the fact that these courses will not count toward fulfilling breadth or level within L&S.

• An exception will not be made to count non Liberal Arts and Science courses for breadth and level for courses required to complete a non-L&S major even if the student receives permission to pursue the additional non-L&S major.

• An L&S student who will be graduated without completing their declared School of Education major should work with their advisor in the School of Education to determine whether options are available to them to finish up their additional major in Education.

Students interested in completing an additional major outside the College of Letters & Science other than the approved majors above must first consult the dean’s office for the other school or college (e.g., Student Academic Affairs and Career Development Office (https://sohe.wisc.edu/prospective-students/advising) in SoHE, etc.). If the other school or college approves the additional major, students must consult with an L&S academic dean to see if this is possible or if they will need to transfer to the other school/college to complete their degree. Students in other schools/colleges on the UW–Madison campus (e.g., CALS, Education, etc.) are eligible
to complete a major in L&S without having to complete L&S degree requirements if they receive permission from an academic dean in their home school/college.

**HOW TO DECLARE AND CANCEL A MAJOR**

Students must declare a major through the department or unit administering that program. (Please note that all L&S undergraduate students are required to declare at least one major by the time they have 86 degree credits.) Students should speak with the advisor for the major/certificate/special degree program to determine their eligibility to declare and the process for declaring the major. If a student does not plan on completing the requirements for a declared major, the student must return to that department or unit office to cancel the major. Currently L&S undergraduate students may have as many majors as they wish, but they must go to the academic department/unit administering the major in order to declare each major or cancel any major they do not plan to complete. Additional information can be found at declaring a major (https://advising.wisc.edu/content/declaring-major).

**MAJOR DECLARATION POLICY**

All L&S undergraduate students are required to declare a major or be admitted into a program before or upon the completion of 86 degree credits (which includes credits from transfer, AP, test, study abroad, or retroactive credits). Students who have not declared by the time they have reached 86 degree credits will have an enrollment hold placed on their records preventing them from registering for future terms. Students who are having difficulty declaring a major should speak with their assigned academic advisor as soon as possible to discuss options available to them.

Major declaration has benefits that are critical to student success. Students with majors:

- Can plan for timely graduation, which uses their resources wisely. Graduating on time lowers the overall cost of education and allows students to pursue their next life goals.
- Connect to the major department, gaining access to departmental advising resources, faculty contacts, and courses limited to majors.
- Connect with other students who are pursuing similar academic interests.
- Get timely and important information about the major (advising hours and workshops, upcoming courses, social events, student groups, speakers, opportunities, etc.).
- "Lock in" major requirements, so if those requirements change, students are held to the rules in place when they declared.

Declaring a major is an essential part of a student’s academic career, and is integral to timely graduation; the great majority of students do declare their majors by the time they earn 86 credits. This policy is intended to help undeclared students reach out to advisors so they find majors that suit their talents and interests. This policy is also intended to make the best use of both student and university resources, and to help students and their advisors create a plan for academic success and timely graduation.

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT IN THE MAJOR**

All students, especially those students who participate in UW–Madison sponsored Study Abroad programs, must complete a minimum of 15 credits, at any level, in their major or major department, in courses taken on the UW–Madison campus. These credits may not include retroactive credit (retrocredits) or credit earned by department examination.

**UPPER-LEVEL WORK IN THE MAJOR**

All students must complete in residence a minimum of 15 credits of major course work defined as "upper-level" by the major department or program. (Please see the section on Residence Requirements (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/policies-forms/residence-requirement-30-credit-rule) for additional information about credits taken "in residence.") Furthermore, students must earn a minimum 2,000 grade point average on all upper-level work taken in the major, in residence.

### REQUIREMENTS

Students pursuing an undergraduate degree in Letters & Science must complete the University General Education Requirements (GER) (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext) and the following L&S requirements:

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### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

The study of a foreign language contributes in an important way to a broad education for today’s students, who live in a world where the overwhelming majority of people do not speak or read English and where much of the knowledge that is disseminated may never appear in English. Knowledge of a foreign language is important for an appreciation of the culture of the people using that language, and it also helps students to understand the structure and complexities of their own native language. Students with sufficient preparation may be able to use the foreign language for study in their chosen discipline.

To be admitted to the University of Wisconsin–Madison, students must have completed the second-year level of a single foreign language (or American Sign Language) in high school. On extremely rare occasions, students may be admitted with a foreign language deficiency, but they will be required to make up that deficiency.
by the time they earn their 60th degree credit, or they will not be allowed to continue.

All students working for a B.A. or B.S. degree in the College of Letters & Science must fulfill the foreign language requirement. Students with certain disabilities may apply for a substitution to the foreign language requirement by submitting required documentation to the L&S Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee (DCAC) for review.

**B.A. Degree**

For the B.A. degree, the foreign language requirement may be met in one of two ways: (1) completion of the fourth unit (level) in one language, or (2) completion of the third unit (level) in one language and completion of the second unit (level) in another language. For example, a student can satisfy the B.A. foreign language degree requirement if s/he:

- completed 4 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., French, German, etc.), OR
- completed the 4th unit of a college language course (e.g., AFRICAN 334, GERMAN 204, SLAVIC 208, etc.), OR
- completed 2 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., Spanish) and the 3rd unit/semester of a second foreign language (e.g., GERMAN 213, ITALIAN 203, etc.) at the college level, OR
- completed 3 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., Chinese) and the 2nd unit/semester of a second foreign language (e.g., ASIALANG 106, GERMAN 102, SLAVIC 112, etc.) at the college level

**B.S. Degree**

For the B.S. degree, the foreign language requirement may be met by completion of the third (unit) of a foreign language in high school, or the equivalent third-semester-level college work. For example, a student can satisfy the B.S. foreign language degree requirement if s/he has:

- completed 3 units (years) of one high school language (e.g., French, Spanish, etc.), or
- completed the 3rd unit/semester of one college-level language (e.g., AFRICAN 333, FRENCH 203, SPANISH 203, etc.)

**Foreign Language Substitution**

The Foreign Language Substitution package (FLSP) is for degree-seeking candidates in the College of Letters & Science (L&S) only who are seeking to fulfill the L&S foreign language requirement and also have a documented disability in foreign language acquisition.

What is a Foreign Language Substitution?

The Foreign Language Substitution Package is designed to fulfill the College of Letters & Science faculty’s intention in requiring foreign language as a part of the college curriculum. Specifically, the Foreign Language Substitution Package, like the foreign language requirement, provides students with information about language in general as well as the literature and culture of the people using a particular language. Courses used to meet the substitution must be approved by the designated academic dean in L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (110 Ingraham Hall (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services)). Classes used for the substitution package cannot be used to fulfill any of the following requirements:

- Major requirements
- Breadth (humanities, literature, social science, science)
- Ethnic studies
- General Education Requirements (Comm A, Comm B, QR-A, QR-B)

**How do I qualify for a Foreign Language Substitution?**

The Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee (DCAC) of the College of Letters & Science can approve a substitution to the foreign language requirement for students in Letters & Science only with certain disabilities that make a course substitution appropriate. Extensive and very specific documentation is required from students and disability specialists. Further information may be obtained from the L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (http://saa.ls.wisc.edu/foreign-language-substitution-package.htm) (Room 110, Ingraham Hall, at 1155 Observatory Drive; 608-262-0617) or the McBurney Disability Resource Center (https://mcburney.wisc.edu)(702 West Johnson Street; 608-263-2741).

Note that an appointment at the McBurney Center is required before submitting the application. This appointment should be made no less than one semester/term prior to applying for the substitution package. McBurney Center staff will help you determine what documentation is necessary for the application, as well as assess whether additional testing is required.

After meeting with a McBurney Center staff member, a student should fill out and complete an application for the substitution package. The deadline to submit a completed copy is at the end of the fourth week of the fall and spring terms. Applications are not accepted during the summer term. All students who submitted a completed application by the deadline should hear back from the Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee (DCAC) regarding the status of their application within six to eight weeks after the deadline.

**Please make sure you submit your original completed application and also four (4) additional copies of your completed application to Suite 110 Ingraham Hall at 1155 Observatory Drive before 4:00 p.m. on Friday of the deadline.** (The deadline to submit a completed application for consideration is the end of the 4th week of the fall and spring terms.) A completed application must include five (5) copies of each of the five items below.

1. High school transcript and transcripts from other post-secondary institutions you may have attended prior to UW–
What are the requirements for a Foreign Language Substitution?

1. General Language: If approved for an L&S foreign language substitution package, both B.A. and B.S. degree candidates must complete one (1) course having to do with language in general (selected from an approved list of classes). If a student’s official UW–Madison records has at least one unit (year) of a high school foreign language, this requirement is fulfilled. If a student has not taken a foreign language in high school, please select one (1) course from either a, b, or c listed below:

   a. LINGUIS 101 (Linguistics)
   b. CS&D 240 (Communication Sciences & Disorders)
   c. ENGL 201, ENGL 207, ENGL 304, ENGL 307, ENGL 400, ENGL 407, ENGL 408, ENGL 409 (English)

2. Cultural Context:

   B.A. students must complete the following:

   Three (3) courses related to a country, region, or a group of countries sharing a common language in the following areas:
   a. Literature
   b. History or Culture
   c. General elective

   • If a student has a second unit (year) in the same high school foreign language, it can fulfill the History or Culture (b) requirement for the B.A. degree. Students must then also take a Literature course and General elective in the same language area to complete the requirement. If a student has not taken a foreign language in high school, please must complete items a, b, and c above. All coursework taken for the foreign language substitution package must be approved by an academic dean in L&S.

   B.S. students must complete the following:

   Two (2) courses related to a country, region, or a group of countries sharing a common language in the following areas:
   a. Literature
   b. History or Culture

   • If a student has a second unit (year) in the same high school foreign language, it can fulfill the History or Culture (b) requirement for the B.S. degree. Students pursuing a B.S. must also take a Literature course in the same language area to complete the requirement. If a student has not taken a foreign language in high school, please must complete items a and b above. All coursework taken for the foreign language substitution package must be approved by an academic dean in L&S.

What are my responsibilities as a student to complete the Foreign Language Substitution?

Students must submit five (5) copies of all required materials to the Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee in L&S Academic Deans’ Services (Suite 110 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive, 608-262-0617) by the end of the fourth (4th) week of the semester (fall or spring semester) in which they would like to present their case for review. Applications are not accepted or reviewed during the summer.

Completed applications will be reviewed approximately six (6) weeks after the official deadline. Students will then be notified shortly after the Disabilities Curricular Accommodations Committee meets regarding the results. Students who are approved for a foreign language substitution package must make an appointment to speak with an academic dean in L&S Undergraduate Academic Deans’ Services (110 Ingraham Hall, 608-262-0617) to talk about the next steps they will need to take in order to complete their substitution package. Students will not be able to complete their approved foreign language substitution package until they have met with an academic dean to select the appropriate courses they need to fulfill this requirement.

Students who have not been previously diagnosed as learning-disabled or hearing-impaired should plan three to four months to schedule required testing and to receive results and interpretation of the testing.

Contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center (http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu) for current information about the tests required. Results of the specified tests taken within the previous four years are acceptable; retesting is required if test results are not at least this current.

For persons with a hearing loss, certain criteria must be met to apply for a substitution to the foreign language
requirement. Contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center for details.

**MATHEMATICS**

Mathematics is a principal tool of knowledge. Algebra and geometry provide the minimum of mathematics skills that an educated person needs in today's world, and competence in these areas is required for admission to the university. Since mathematics underlies quantitative work in all sciences, and the level of mathematical background required has been steadily increasing in most areas of science, the L&S math requirements should be viewed as minimums. Please note that some majors require additional work in mathematics.

New freshmen (first-year students) and transfer students who do not meet satisfactory minimal competencies in mathematics upon admission or whose mathematics placement test scores place them in MATH 96 must begin to take remedial course work in mathematics during their first or second semester and continue each semester thereafter, if necessary, until they have satisfactorily completed the mathematics proficiency requirement. Students who do not accomplish this will need to obtain permission to continue in the College of Letters & Science.

Both B.A. and B.S. degrees require that students satisfy minimum math competency by having completed the three units of math required for admission. A unit is one year of high school work or one semester of college work. This will ordinarily include one unit each of high school algebra, geometry, and an additional unit of mathematics. High school courses in general mathematics or business mathematics will not satisfy the minimum math competency.

**B.A. Degree**

For the B.A. degree, no additional math is required beyond completion of the university's General Education Quantitative Reasoning A and B requirements. However, certain L&S majors may require students to do additional math coursework even though students are pursuing a B.A. degree.

**B.S. Degree**

The B.S. degree requires an additional two courses at the intermediate level in mathematics, computer sciences, or statistics. If this work is taken on the college level, it must be at least a 3-credit course and must be taken in the departments of Mathematics (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses/math), Computer Sciences (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses/comp_sci), or Statistics (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses/stat) only. Courses in sociometrics (e.g., SOC/C&E SOC 360, SOC/C&E SOC 361, etc.), econometrics (e.g., ECON 310), psychometrics (PSYCH 210), etc. do not count toward the B.S. degree mathematics requirement. Only one (1) course in Computer Science (COMP SCI) and only one (1) course in Statistics (STAT) may be counted toward the BS mathematics requirement.

**BREADTH**

**Ways of Knowing**

At the heart of any degree in the liberal arts and sciences is an active understanding of the variety and breadth of the many scholarly approaches to knowing the world. Every student in the College of Letters & Science experiences significant exposure to three principal fields of knowledge: the arts and humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences. These broad fields of knowledge are not the same as the areas of depth that we call "majors." In fact, any particular major—or even a particular course within a major—might well involve more than one of these fields of knowledge. (For example, imagine a seminar on "people and the environment" that combines historical background, research on social patterns of energy use, and scientific understandings of climate.) Working together, each of these three fields of knowledge represents a particular "way of knowing" about the world around us.

**Arts and Humanities**

Courses in the arts and humanities involve knowing the world through the production and analysis of artistic, literary, and scholarly work. Some courses examine the fine and performing arts, or literature, presenting students with opportunities to interpret and think critically about these creative expressions of the human condition. Other courses help students to understand and compare religious and philosophical conceptions of humankind. Still other courses take on historical subjects, focusing on moments of change and periods of continuity for the peoples and regions of the world. These courses all encourage students to analyze the range of creative and cultural artifacts, expressions, and ideas of human existence—history, literature, art, culture, folklore—and to use that information to better understand humanity and to cultivate civic and social responsibility.

**Social Sciences**

Courses in the social sciences involve knowing the world through the systematic study of human society, interactions, and institutions. The social sciences explore these issues from a wide range of perspectives and research techniques, both quantitative and qualitative. Through these courses students learn how to formulate research questions and determine what techniques are best used to answer those questions—for example, exploring ideas and developing theories, conducting surveys and building models, or observing and participating in social life itself. Developing such analytical skills assists students as they approach complex problems and seek to solve them in both the workplace and the community.

**Natural Sciences**

Courses in the natural sciences involve knowing the world through scientific inquiry—assembling objective information that can be used to explain observed natural phenomena in a way that is thorough and verifiable. The natural sciences are often divided into the physical sciences (dealing with matter and energy, or the study of the earth, atmosphere, and oceans) and the biological sciences (dealing with life and living systems, like plants, animals, and environments). These courses often contain laboratory components that allow students to gain firsthand experience in scientific research methods. By completing this requirement, science and non-science majors alike will gain an appreciation for science as a way of systematically looking at the natural world, understanding how this process can be used to inform decision-making in a wide range of political, economic, and social contexts.

Together, these broad "ways of knowing" give students a complementary set of tools for seeing, imagining, and asking questions about the world—tools that enhance creative problem solving no matter what the field. And, because twenty-first-century knowledge is not neatly compartmentalized, it is worth noting that these areas of study intersect and overlap; courses in some areas draw upon strategies used in the others. Experiences in "breadth" courses can be life-changing: we frequently hear that a
course taken to fulfill a breadth requirement introduced someone to a subject that became a new major, a new way of looking at a current major, or a lifelong interest. For more information, visit the KnowledgeBase help document (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=27031).

A liberal education involves not only the nature and kinds of knowledge but also the purpose for which knowledge should be used. These considerations are embodied in the breadth or distribution requirement and call for knowledge in several fields of learning. The purpose of this breadth requirement is to ensure that a degree candidate will obtain an understanding of approaches in the humanities, social sciences, biological sciences, and physical sciences adequate for use both as a citizen and as a specialist.

**Breadth Requirements**

The L&S breadth requirement is met with 36 credits in the three broad areas of knowledge: humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. (This may include courses beyond the elementary level in mathematics, computer sciences, and statistics.) Please note that if a course can satisfy more than one breadth designation (such as a “Z” course, which can meet EITHER Humanities OR Social Science), students may select the course designation in which they want the course to count for the purpose of fulfilling a particular breadth requirement. However, this course may be counted only once and in only one area. **Credits cannot be split between two distinct breadth areas.**

Courses that carry L&S breadth credit are expected to broaden significantly a student’s understanding of the world and a general disciplinary approach to problems studied, questions asked, modes of inquiry undertaken to answer those questions, analysis of research findings, communication about results, and implications for further study and/or action. Many courses in L&S carry a breadth designation; however, some types of courses may not convey breadth.

### B.A. Degree

**Humanities:** Students are required to complete 12 credits in the humanities, 6 of which must be in literature. Look in the courses (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses) section of the Guide under Course Designation for course qualifications.

**Social Sciences:** Students are required to complete 12 credits in social sciences. Look in the courses (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses) section of the Guide under Course Designation for course qualifications.

**Natural Sciences:** Students are required to complete 12 credits in natural sciences. Students must take at least one 3+ credit course in physical science AND one 3+ credit course in biological science. The additional six (6) credits can be any combination of natural, biological or physical science credits to bring the total to twelve (12) credits. Look in the courses (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses) section of the Guide under Course Designation for course qualifications.

### B.S. Degree

**Humanities:** Students are required to complete 12 credits in the humanities, 6 of which must be in literature. Look in the courses (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses) section of the Guide under Course Designation for course qualifications.

**Social Sciences:** Students are required to complete 12 credits in social sciences. Look in the courses (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses) section of the Guide under Course Designation for course qualifications.

**Natural Sciences:** Students are required to complete 12 credits in natural sciences. Students must complete 6 credits in physical science AND 6 credits in biological science. Look in the courses (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses) section of the Guide under Course Designation for course qualifications.

### DEPTH: UNDERSTANDING A FIELD OF STUDY (MAJOR)

The process of declaring and completing a major—often, but not always, attached to a particular university department—provides students with an opportunity to concentrate on an in-depth investigation of at least one subject or issue, putting their tools for learning and ways of knowing to focused use. This intensive understanding of one topic helps students to appreciate the potential depth of the others. A student’s work in the major reflects a continuing progression of skills, knowledge, and values, where advanced learning opportunities in upper-level coursework grow from and expand upon earlier experiences, helping students build additional depth in writing, speaking, information literacy, and critical thinking skills from the perspective of a particular discipline.

In senior capstone or independent research projects, students are frequently asked to synthesize what they have learned and apply it in a variety of new situations. By the conclusion of their studies, students in the major are better able to understand themselves and their society, to develop their intellectual powers outside of a University setting, and to make productive contributions to the world around them. (See list of L&S majors (p. 1).)

### MAJOR STUDY

Every candidate for an L&S baccalaureate degree must satisfy a depth requirement encompassing a specified and approved major field of study. Students may elect a department major, a major in a recognized interdisciplinary program, or may develop an individual major if approved by a faculty review committee. Students in Letters & Science may not complete the depth requirement with any department or program outside the college, except for the departments of Biochemistry, Environmental Sciences, and Microbiology. These departments are the only exceptions.

**All L&S undergraduate students are required to declare a major by the time they have earned 86 degree credits.** Students who do not declare a major by the appropriate time will have an enrollment hold placed on their records so they cannot enroll in future terms.

All L&S undergraduate students are required to declare a major or be admitted into an L&S special degree program upon the completion of 86 credits (including credits from transfer, AP, test, study abroad, or retroactive credits).

Students have three choices in meeting the depth requirement in the College of Letters & Science:

1. Single Major
2. Multiple Majors
3. Individual Major
Single Major
Students may fulfill the requirements of a single major as outlined in the descriptions of the various L&S majors (p. 1).

Multiple Majors
All students may satisfy the requirements for more than one major, either department and/or interdisciplinary major, and have this fact noted on the transcript and other university records.

Students may complete one or more established majors and one individual major if approved by a faculty review committee. No student may earn more than one individual major. Students completing two or more majors may count courses crosslisted in each major department in partial satisfaction of the requirements for each major.

Individual Major (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/college-wide/individual-major-ba/#text)

REQUIREMENTS THAT APPLY TO ALL MAJORS

Major Declaration Policy
Policy
All L&S undergraduate students are required to declare a major or be admitted into a program before or upon the completion of 86 credits (including transfer credits, AP, test credits, study abroad, or retroactive credits). Any student pursuing undergraduate studies in Letters & Science must declare at least one (1) major in L&S in order to graduate.

Major declaration has benefits that are critical to student success. Students with majors:

- Can plan for timely graduation, which uses their resources wisely. Graduating on time lowers the overall cost of education and allows students to pursue their next life goals.
- Connect to the major department, gaining access to departmental advising resources, faculty contacts, and courses limited to majors.
- Connect with other students who are pursuing similar academic interests.
- Get timely and important information about the major (advising hours and workshops, upcoming courses, social events, student groups, speakers, opportunities, etc.).
- "Lock in" major requirements, so if those requirements change, students are held to the rules in place when they declared.

Declaring a major is an essential part of a student’s academic career, and is integral to timely graduation; the great majority of students do declare their majors by the time they earn 86 credits. This policy is intended to help undeclared students reach out to advisors so they find majors that suit their talents and interests. This policy is also intended to make the best use of both student and university resources, and to help students and their advisors create a plan for academic success and timely graduation.

How to Declare and Cancel a Major
Students must declare a major through the department administering that program. Students should request a Major/Certificate Declaration form from the academic department/unit administering the major. This form should be completed by the student and left at the department office administering the major. If a student decides to change his/her major later, the student should return to that department office and cancel his/her major. Students may have as many majors as they wish, but they must complete the Major/Certificate Declaration form for each major and cancel any major they feel they cannot complete.

Mastery of Upper-Level Work in the Major
All students must complete in residence a minimum of 15 credits of major course work defined as "upper-level" by the major department or program. (Please see the section on Residence Requirements below for additional information about credits taken "in residence."). Furthermore, students must earn a minimum 2.000 grade point average on all upper-level work taken in the major, in residence.

Residence Requirement in the Major (also known as the "Study Abroad Stipulation")
All students, especially those students who participate in UW–Madison sponsored Study Abroad programs, must complete a minimum of 15 credits, at any level, in their major or major department, in courses taken on the UW–Madison campus. These credits may not include retroactive credit or credit earned by department examination.

Advising
Questions about choosing a major can be discussed with department advisors and faculty, academic deans, members of L&S Undergraduate Academic Services and the L&S Honors Program office, and with the Cross-College Advising Service staff. For additional information about advising, see the description of L&S advising programs (p. 44).

Completing a Major Outside L&S
L&S students must complete at least one major in the College of Letters & Science to satisfy the depth requirement. Students interested in completing an additional major outside the College of Letters & Science must first consult the dean’s office for the other school or college. If the other school or college approves the additional major, students must consult with an L&S academic dean to get permission to pursue a second major outside L&S.

Total Degree Credits: 120
A minimum of 120 degree credits is required for most baccalaureate degrees granted by the College of Letters & Science. The total credits for the degree encompass the requirements detailed above, but also include elective credits not associated with any specific requirement, that allow students to explore other areas of academic interest. The total credit requirement for some special programs is more than 120 degree credits. The college allows degree credit, as well as placement credit, for the mastery of some L&S course work as demonstrated by successfully completing appropriate tests. (See Credit by Departmental Examination (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#admissiontext)).

Liberal Arts and Science Credits: 108
Of the minimum 120 credits required for graduation for a B.A. or B.S. degree (General Course) at least 108 credits must be in courses designated as Liberal Arts and Science (LAS) courses. These courses appear in the Guide as L&S credit and can be identified by looking at the course designation section
for a course in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses). Nearly every course taught in L&S is designated in this way.

**Non-L&S Courses and L&S Degree Credit**

**Liberal Arts and Science ("C") Courses.** The College of Letters & Science has long recognized that courses offered by other units of the university provide valuable and appropriate learning experiences for students pursuing a degree offered by the college. The college has approved many of these courses for L&S students to take for degree credit, and after careful review, has determined that these courses are Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) courses. These courses appear in the Guide as L&S credit and can be identified by looking at the course designation section for a course in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses). Courses designated as liberal arts and science courses count toward the L&S degree requirements, including requirements related to breadth and level.

**Non-L&S Courses Crosslisted with L&S Departments.** A course offered in the College of Letters & Science that counts as L&S credit and which is crosslisted with a department in another school or college is considered a Liberal Arts and Science course. These courses appear in the Guide as L&S credit and can be identified by looking at the course designation section for a course in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses). As L&S credits, they may be counted as part of the major and count as part of the 108 Liberal Arts and Science credits required for an L&S degree.

**Non-L&S Courses Required for L&S Majors.** Courses taught in departments located in schools or colleges other than L&S, but which are required for completion of an L&S major, are considered Liberal Arts and Science courses. Such courses will either carry the L&S credit designation in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses), or their Liberal Arts and Sciences status will appear in the DARS degree audit. In both cases, these courses count as part of the 108 Liberal Arts and Science credits required for an L&S degree.

**Free Electives in the Degree.** If a student so chooses, he or she may count for degree credit up to twelve (12) credits "freely chosen" from any non-L&S, UW–Madison-approved courses. These courses are referred to as "free electives in the degree." These courses may be selected from any UW–Madison subject listing in the Guide (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses), and are not designated as courses in the Liberal Arts and Sciences, or L&S credit courses.

Credit earned in these courses apply to the degree requirements in the following ways:

- Courses taken as free electives in the degree maybe carried and will appear on the transcript showing credits, grade, and grade points.
- These credits will count as part of the semester load and will count toward satisfaction of the minimum progress requirements.
- These credits and grade points will be included in calculating a student's semester and cumulative grade point average.
- Free electives in the degree cannot be used to satisfy the L&S requirement that students complete a substantial portion of their degree credits in intermediate and advanced work (see the section Mastery of Intermediate/Advanced Work below).
- Courses that are taught in L&S departments but not designated as Liberal Arts and Science courses (e.g., Music and Music Performance courses numbered 099 and below) may be counted for credit as free electives in the degree. (For B.A./B.S. Music majors, Music and Music Performance courses numbered 099 and below that are not required for the major may be counted as free electives.) Students with questions regarding a particular course offered by a school or college outside L&S as it relates to the requirement to complete 108 Liberal Arts and Science credits should consult an academic dean before registration.

**ACCEPTANCE AS A MAJOR**

A department, program, or school may specify prerequisites for acceptance into a major, such as a minimum grade point average or completion of particular courses with a minimum grade. Students are responsible for reviewing the quality requirements for a particular major or school as outlined under the L&S majors (p. 1) section of the Guide. Students should consult the department advisor or the school or college dean's office for information. Only the department or school can make an exception. Students not accepted in a major or school must select a different major.

**MASTERY OF INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED WORK**

All L&S courses and those taught outside L&S and approved for L&S degree credit are designated by departments as elementary, intermediate, or advanced. A minimum of 60 credits must be earned in courses designated by the departments as intermediate or advanced, with a grade point average of 2.000 on all courses carried whether passed or not. The purpose of this requirement is to encourage students to undertake advanced work to the greatest possible extent and to ensure that they will achieve greater sophistication and a deeper mastery of subject matter as they advance through the baccalaureate curriculum. Credits earned in courses taken as free electives in the degree cannot be used to meet this requirement.

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT IN THE MAJOR**

All L&S undergraduate students must complete 15 degree credits of upper-level work in their major in residence. Credits are considered in residence if earned in a UW–Madison degree credit course, including those taken on a UW–Madison study abroad program. Transfer credit, courses completed at other UW System schools, UW Extension courses, or courses taken abroad through a nonresidence program are not considered in residence. Upper-level courses are classes determined by the major program/department to be in-depth within the context of that particular major.

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

The UW–Madison Experience. In order to receive an undergraduate degree from the College of Letters & Science, all L&S students must earn a minimum of 30 degree credits in residence at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Credits are considered in residence if they are earned for UW-Madison course work, including courses taken on a UW-Madison-administered study abroad program. Retroactive credits, AP credits, and credits granted by examination are not considered in residence. Courses that do not count as in residence include:
QUALITY OF WORK REQUIREMENTS

Courses completed at other UW system schools
Courses taken abroad through another institution
AP (Advanced Placement) credit
Credit by examination
Retroactive credit

There are no exceptions to the requirement that 30 overall degree credits be taken in residence.

Senior Residence Rule. The 30 minimum credits a student must earn in residence should be completed in the senior year (after a student has completed 86 degree credits). This requirement intends to ensure that the student’s depth of study—which should occur in more advanced-level courses, within the major, with faculty instruction, and in areas of research—are uniquely UW-Madison experiences. These credits do not have to be contiguous for the requirement to be met. Because the requirement begins with the 87th credits, students have the flexibility to take four (4) credits out of residence in the senior year without needing to obtain special permission. Exceptions to the senior residence requirement may be granted in cases where a student is in good academic standing (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services) and has a specific need to take fewer than 30 credits in their senior year. Consult an L&S academic dean (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services) for more information.

L&S undergraduate students must also complete at least 15 credits in upper-level courses in their major(s) at UW-Madison. Refer to major requirements for a specific major to get more information about major residence requirements.

QUALITY OF WORK REQUIREMENTS

A total of 120 degree credits is required for graduation, with a minimum 2.000 grade point average on all courses taken, whether or not each course is passed.

The quality of work requirements establish a minimum grade point average in four specific areas that must be met to receive a Letters & Science degree. In order to satisfy these requirements, the student must earn a minimum 2.000 grade point average on all courses carried at UW-Madison, whether passed or not, in these four areas:

1. All courses in the major (or majors);
2. All upper-level courses in the major, as designated by the major department for the 15-credit residence requirement;
3. All courses designated intermediate (I) or advanced (A);
4. All courses carried for a grade at UW-Madison (cumulative grade point average, as reported by the registrar). Courses carried on a refresher basis (see Is it possible to retake a course that I have already passed or received degree credit (https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=21934)) are excluded from the grade point average as determined for categories 1, 2, and 3 above. Repeating a failed course will not remove the failure from the student’s record or from GPA calculations. This summary of college grade point requirements does not include those for admission to certain majors and special courses within the college or to other colleges and schools within the university, or to honors courses.

FOUNDATIONS: TOOLS FOR LEARNING

For all UW-Madison undergraduates, these learning experiences begin with students satisfying the university’s General Education Requirements—usually by taking courses taught within the College of Letters & Science. These common foundations cover key topics which are necessary for any undergraduate major and any prospective career: oral and written communication; mathematical and logical reasoning; and the diversity of cultures within global society.

In addition to these university-wide requirements, all L&S students must attain knowledge of a foreign language, in work that combines training in both communication and culture, so students may better understand and participate in the global community of the twenty-first century. Together, these “tools for learning” may be acquired through many different courses taught by many different departments. The key is that they are never taught in isolation, but always considered together with broad exposure to various “ways of knowing” from the arts and humanities, the natural sciences, and the social sciences. (For more on the General Education Requirements, see Requirements for Undergraduate Study (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatesudytext); (http://www.ls.wisc.edu/gened) for more on the L&S requirements, see Letters & Science Degrees (p. 37).

LETTERS & SCIENCE DEGREES

The College of Letters & Science offers two basic degrees for students in the General Course and five other degrees for students in special programs. Students in the General Course, regardless of major, may earn either a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree. The special degrees are: Bachelor of Science—Applied Mathematics, Engineering, and Physics (AMEP); Bachelor of Arts—Journalism or Bachelor of Science—Journalism; Bachelor of Landscape Architecture; Bachelor of Music; and Bachelor of Social Work. (For details, see sections for AMEP (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/mathematics/applied-mathematics-engineering-physics-bs-amep), Journalism (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/journalism-mass-communication), Landscape Architecture (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/planning-landscape-architecture/landscape-architecture-bla), Music (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/music), and Social Work (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/social-work) in the L&S section of this Guide. Students who have multiple majors in L&S earn only one undergraduate degree.

Honors degrees may be earned in all of the above (except for Landscape Architecture) upon completion of the L&S Honors Program. See L&S Honors Program (p. 48) for more information. Majors completed in the General Course and for the Bachelor of Music degree will be posted on the transcript.

RESOURCES

ADVISING IN LETTERS & SCIENCE

Academic advising is an essential component of undergraduate education, and the college’s commitment to providing quality advising for undergraduates is reflected in the many advising programs it offers. Students who have not yet declared a major are assigned an advisor in
All of the advising programs share the goal of assisting students in making responsible, informed decisions as they develop educational plans compatible with their potential, their interests, and their career and life ambitions. Advisors provide much more than information about course selection and academic programs; they encourage students to ask questions about the nature and direction of their learning, and they work with students to find meaningful answers to those questions. Advising involves a process in which students learn to think critically about the variety of options available to them and develop decision-making skills that will enable them to choose wisely. As adults, students themselves, however, must assume primary responsibility for choosing their academic program and making progress toward their degree.

ACADEMIC ADVISING SERVICES (AAS)

Letters & Science Academic Advising Services provides advising to pre-declared Letters & Science (L&S) undergraduate students who intend to complete a specific L&S degree and major.

We assist and support students in exploring their educational goals, learning about academic requirements, navigating the university structure, and progressing toward degree completion.

Contact Information

Academic Advising Services (http://advising.ls.wisc.edu)
101 Ingraham Hall
1155 Observatory Drive
Madison, WI 53706-1319
Send us an email (advisingaas@ls.wisc.edu)
Tel: 608-262-5858

CROSS-COLLEGE ADVISING SERVICES (CCAS)

Advisors at the Cross-College Advising Service (CCAS) provide personalized advising to help you develop a plan for choosing your major and exploring careers. We are here to help you make decisions about what to major in and also answer your general questions about academics and life on campus.

We’ll meet you at SOAR, and after that help you plan your future courses, talk about your academic interests and options, and refer you to other helpful campus resources. We’re also here to encourage you when things are going well, as well as support you when times are difficult.

Contact Information

Cross-College Advising Services (https://ccas.wisc.edu)
10 Ingraham Hall
1155 Observatory Drive
Madison, WI 53706
Send us an email (ccas@ccas.wisc.edu)
Tel: 608-265-5460

CENTER FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE (CAE)

The College of Letters & Science Center for Academic Excellence (CAE) provides an enriching, inclusive community and academic support for L&S students who have been historically underrepresented in higher education, including first-generation and low-income students, and students of color. CAE offers a variety of engagement opportunities, including high-touch advising, tutoring programs, health and wellness events, social events, graduate school preparation, and connections with High Impact Practices. CAE also assists in campus-wide efforts to fully integrate diverse voices into the university community to facilitate a welcoming, responsive, and validating campus climate for our students.

Contact Information

Center for Academic Excellence (https://cae.ls.wisc.edu)
B47 Bascom Hall
Madison, WI 53706
Send us an email (cae@saa.ls.wisc.edu)
Tel: 608-263-5068

HONORS

The L&S Honors Program (p. 48) attracts some of UW–Madison's most talented undergraduates who challenge and learn from each other while working closely with faculty members. By bringing students and professors closer together in small classes and individual research settings, the Honors Program fosters a feeling of community even as students push themselves to explore the very frontiers of knowledge. In addition to traditional course work, most Honors students pursue research projects of their own, and many find this experience so exciting that they go on to earn advanced degrees in the nation's best graduate and professional schools.

Contact Information

L&S Honors Program (https://honors.ls.wisc.edu)
Washburn Observatory
1401 Observatory Drive
Madison, WI 53706-7116
Send us an email (honors@honors.ls.wisc.edu)
Tel: 608-262-2984

MAJOR ADVISING

Students who are eligible to declare their major should do so as soon as possible. All L&S undergraduate students are expected to declare their major(s) by the time they have earned 86 degree credits. All declared students will be advised by the advisor connect with their particular major/program. For more information about advising in the major, refer to the advising and careers tab for each major/special degree program under the L&S Degrees/Majors/Certificates (p. 1) section of the Guide.

OTHER ACADEMIC RESOURCES

L&S UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC DEANS' SERVICES

Academic deans provide up-to-date information on college policies, procedures, and deadlines; campus resources; and degree requirements. Academic deans also offer limited academic advising and make decisions regarding exceptions to college policy. They work closely with advising staff in L&S Academic Advising Services, department advisors, and other student service personnel on the UW–Madison campus. In an institution as diverse as the University of Wisconsin–Madison, students have a wide range of values, interests, and skills. Moreover, as they progress through an academic program, their questions and concerns often change. Therefore, students are encouraged to seek the help of several different types of academic advisors during their years on campus. The university provides a system of staff and faculty advisors to address these ongoing and changing concerns.
ADVISING IN THE MAJOR

Juniors, seniors, and any other students who are preparing for, or have declared, a major or are contemplating a major in the College of Letters and Science, are encouraged to meet with an advisor in that major department. Each department has a faculty or staff member who serves as a department advisor. This person knows about prerequisites to courses, program planning for students majoring in the department, major requirements, and in some cases, general career information related to the field. A department advisor can help students make satisfactory progress toward completing requirements in the major, and can suggest courses that address students’ interests and help them achieve their goals.

Juniors and seniors are encouraged to seek advice from these department advisors as soon as possible. Please note that the assignment of a departmental advisor and declaring a major in a particular department(s) are not automatic. Students must go to the department office to declare their major and to be assigned a departmental advisor for the major. Students are also advised to meet with departmental advisors early in their academic career since some majors require students to fulfill prerequisite classes and earn a minimum GPA in the designated coursework before they are eligible to declare the specific major. It is very important that students contact the major department(s) as early as possible so they are aware of any prerequisites.

Transfer students often come to the campus knowing their intended major. These students may go directly to the department advisors for any help they need in pursuing/declaring the major.

Students classified in any of the special degree programs (Applied Mathematics, Engineering and Physics, Journalism, Landscape Architecture, Music, Social Work) may refer to the specific special degree under Degree/Majors/Certificate (p. 1) tab within this Guide for names of professors associated with the various programs, then consult with the appropriate advisor.

Students pursuing Honors in the Major (HM) are encouraged to work closely with the honors coordinator in their major department regarding course and research opportunities within the department or field of interest. Special departmental advisors are available to help any students, primarily sophomores, juniors, and seniors, who have decided on their major. These advisors are located in department offices throughout the campus. Office hours vary among departments. Consult a staff telephone directory for a list of department offices and locations, or see the department descriptions in this catalog.

INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (IIP)

The International Internship Program (IIP) (http://internships.international.wisc.edu) at UW–Madison is a resource for undergraduate students from all disciplines seeking to gain hands-on international experience. IIP’s mission is to identify, cultivate and promote high quality internships that advance the professional training of UW–Madison undergraduate students; foster global competency; and reinforce academic learning through practical application.

IIP cultivates internship opportunities around the world specifically for Badgers. IIP also identifies and promotes existing international internship and research opportunities offered by other campus offices or international organizations. Both types of opportunities can be found via the IIP database and other search resources are also listed on the website. IIP offers advising for any undergraduates who are exploring internships abroad whether they are just getting started, applying to an IIP-cultivated position, or finding their own. IIP can help with questions related to the many questions that come up with international internships including visas, agreements, academic credit, and scholarships.

The Worldwide Internship Program (WIP) (https://internships.international.wisc.edu/students/wip), a partnership with International Academic Programs (IAP), is a program for students interning outside their home countries to earn academic credit through an online course via which they engage with other UW–Madison students interning around the world. WIP offers students interning abroad structure through academic reflection, insurance and emergency support and may help with eligibility for visas or scholarships. IIP works with students doing internships for credit or not and offers advising, pre-departure and re-entry programming for any student interning abroad. For information about scholarships and other funding, see IIP’s need-based WIP grants (https://wisc.academicworks.com/?orgId=710&scholId=6121) and IIP Funding (https://internships.international.wisc.edu/students/funding).

An international internship is often located outside the United States, but IIP also promotes internship opportunities to apply international skills and interests domestically. There are many variables in international internships (compensation, duration, location, fees, credit and more) that IIP can help navigate.

For more information on interning abroad visit International Internship Program (IIP) (http://internships.international.wisc.edu) or call or e-mail (internships@international.wisc.edu) to discuss how IIP can support departments or students.

Contact Information
International Internship Program (IIP) (http://internships.international.wisc.edu)
261 Bascom Hall
500 Lincoln Drive
Madison, WI 53706-1314
Tel: 608-262-2851
Send us an email (internships@international.wisc.edu)

PRE-PROFESSIONAL STUDY

General information can be found at Pre-Law (https://prelaw.wisc.edu) and Pre-Health (https://prehealth.wisc.edu).

SCHOLARSHIPS

The College of Letters & Science welcomes incoming and continuing students to apply for scholarship opportunities created by the support of our donor friends. The undergraduate scholarships program provides support to students who intend to receive a degree from the College of Letters & Science. With over 63 majors and special degree programs which include journalism, music, social work, and
applied mathematics, engineering, and physics (p. 1), the College of Letters & Science (L&S) strongly supports the role of a broad and deeply educated citizenry. Letters & Science graduates use this strong foundation to flourish in their chosen careers (http://ls.wisc.edu/about/lsc?p=careerinitiative.html). For more information, see overview of scholarships (http://scholarships.ls.wisc.edu).

**STUDENT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS (SAA)**

**ADVISING & ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

General academic questions: Academic Help Line, 608-262-5858

Academic Information Management (AIM)
13 Ingraham Hall, 608-265-2007
Provides several services such as accurate curriculum audit and degree progress information to students, advisors, and other stakeholders

Center for Academic Excellence (http://cae.ls.wisc.edu)
B47 Bascom Hall, 608-263-5068
Advising, academic support, advocacy, and community connections for first-generation, low-income, and multicultural underrepresented students within the College of Letters & Science

College of Letters & Science Academic Advising Services (AAS) (http://advising.ls.wisc.edu)
101 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive, 608-262-5858
Provides comprehensive advising services for students investigating and preparing for majors in the College of Letters & Science

Cross-College Advising Service (CCAS) (http://www.ccas.wisc.edu) [a part of the Office of Undergraduate Advising under the Provost Office]
10 Ingraham Hall, 608-265-5460
Undecided students exploring options

L&S Academic Deans’ Services (https://saa.ls.wisc.edu/offices/academic-deans-services)
110 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Drive, 608-262-0517
Provides up-to-date information on college policies, procedures, and deadlines; campus resources; and degree requirements

L&S Honors Program (http://honors.ls.wisc.edu)
Washburn Observatory, 1401 Observatory Drive, 608-262-2984
Students admitted to or interested in the Honors Program

L&S SuccessWorks (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu)
711 State Street, Suite 300, 608-262-3921
Career advising and development for students and alumni in L&S

Undergraduate Research Scholars (URS) (http://urs.ls.wisc.edu)
313 Red Gym, 716 Langdon Street, 608-890-3696
Helps first- and second-year undergraduates get hands-on experience in research

**STUDY ABROAD**

About 25% of undergraduates make study abroad an integral part of their UW–Madison experience.

International Academic Programs (IAP) (https://www.studyabroad.wisc.edu) at UW–Madison offers over 200 study abroad options in about 60 countries on 6 continents. In addition to taking the opportunity to learn new languages, understand new cultures and see the world, UW–Madison students study abroad to complement their on-campus academic goals, strengthen their professional potential and enrich their personal lives.

Students of all academic levels and majors study abroad. While many programs include language training—from the basics to full language immersion—most IAP programs have no language requirement and include courses taught in English.

All courses taken abroad through IAP count as “in-residence” credit, just like taking courses on campus at UW–Madison, so students advance towards their degrees while abroad. And study abroad isn’t limited to classroom experience. Many students also complete internships, do research, fieldwork and service learning.

In addition to resources on health, safety, academic planning and other aspects, UW–Madison students receive the information and guidance they need to plan a study abroad experiences that fits their budgets. Many study abroad programs cost about the same or less than studying on campus, and student financial aid can be applied in most cases.

While IAP offers programs to students of all majors, including to students in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences in collaboration with the CALS International Programs office, the College of Engineering and the School of Business also offer programs tailored specifically to the needs of their students. All of these program options are listed here (https://www.studyabroad.wisc.edu/programs).

For more information on study abroad at UW–Madison, see Study Abroad (http://studyabroad.wisc.edu) or call 608-265-6329.

**SUCCESSWORKS**


At the College of Letters & Science (L&S) SuccessWorks advisors work with students from the time they are interested in exploring career options through preparing and conducting a successful job search or graduate school application—in other words, from freshmen year through one year after graduation. Don't hesitate to get started early! We help students reflect and capitalize on their academic skills, explore and try out occupations, participate in internships, and network with professionals in the field. In addition to traditional resume and interview services, SuccessWorks offers one-on-one advising, career and internship courses, occupation-specific advising and resources, the L&S Badger Internship Program, internship scholarships, a mentoring program, and much more. Together we can develop a plan and the tools you need to achieve your goals!

**UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

The Undergraduate Research Scholars program (URS) is dedicated to enhancing the academic experience of UW–Madison students by providing first and second year undergraduates with opportunities to earn credit for participating in the research and creative work with UW–Madison faculty and staff. The program has been designed to include partnerships between students and mentors, seminars on research-relevant issues, and practice in research/artistic presentations. The many benefits of the program are found in the fluid interaction between these activities. Please refer to Undergraduate Research Scholars (https://urs.ls.wisc.edu) for more information.
HONORS

L&S HONORS PROGRAM

The College of Letters & Science Honors Program seeks to provide students with a small, liberal arts college experience within this large university. The Honors Program is home to more than 1,200 motivated, curious and high-achieving students, all pursuing one of three degree tracks: Honors in the Liberal Arts, Honors in the Major, or Comprehensive Honors—the highest undergraduate degree awarded by the college. In addition to an enhanced curriculum that offers small, faculty-led courses, the program also offers academic advising services; grants, scholarships, and awards; and many professional development and co-curricular opportunities. Events, term-specific deadlines, course descriptions for the upcoming semester and much more can be found on the L&S Honors Program website (http://honors.ls.wisc.edu). We welcome inquiries via phone at 608-262-2984. The L&S Honors Program is located in the historic Washburn Observatory at 1401 Observatory Drive in Madison, WI 53706.

HOW TO GET IN

Students may apply to enter the L&S Honors Program in any semester of their undergraduate careers. Any UW–Madison Honors credits earned before admission to the Honors Program may be applied toward Honors degree requirements. Eligibility criteria and admissions procedures differ for the different Honors degrees.

ADMISSION TO HONORS IN THE LIBERAL ARTS (HLA)

To become a candidate for the Honors in the Liberal Arts degree, a student must apply directly to the L&S Honors Program. Students may apply at any point in their undergraduate careers provided they meet the eligibility requirements described below.

All students admitted to the university and to the College of Letters & Science are invited to apply to be considered for admission to the Honors Program to pursue the Honors in the Liberal Arts degree. Interested students can apply via an online application form. L&S admitted students receive an invitation message by email that contains the URL to the online application. Admission to the program is competitive, and space is limited.

Continuing and transfer students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.300 or above who are currently enrolled at UW–Madison or who are transferring to UW–Madison from another college or university may apply to the L&S Honors Program at any time. Applications are available from the Honors Program website (http://honors.ls.wisc.edu) and admission decisions are usually made within three weeks of submission of the completed application and supporting materials. While continuing or transfer students having 60 or more credits at the time of application to the Honors Program are eligible to participate in the Honors in the Liberal Arts (HLA) degree track, they are encouraged to consider Honors in the Major (HM) as an option (see below), since they may find it difficult to complete the HLA degree requirements if beginning that program in the junior or senior year.

ADMISSION TO HONORS IN THE MAJOR (HM)

Students interested in pursuing an Honors in the Major degree are encouraged to consult the department listings (p. 1) in this Guide and speak with the department’s academic advisors, who will be able to explain admissions procedures and requirements for the degree.

After officially declaring the major and receiving authorization from the department to declare Honors in the Major, students must submit a completed Honors in the Major Declaration Form to the Honors Program office. These forms may be obtained from either the departmental advisor or the Honors Program office.

REQUIREMENTS

Honors may be earned in any L&S undergraduate degree (Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Science; Bachelor of Science—Applied Mathematics, Engineering, and Physics; Bachelor of Arts—Journalism or Bachelor of Science—Journalism; Bachelor of Music; and Bachelor of Social Work).

For students who complete the requirements, Honors will appear on diplomas and transcripts (for example, B.A. with Honors in the Liberal Arts or B.S. with Honors in the Major).

HONORS IN THE LIBERAL ARTS (HLA)

Honors in the Liberal Arts is often the primary focus for most first- and second-year Honors students. It requires students earn Honors credits in a breadth of disciplines and is meant to enrich and enhance a student’s academic experience outside of the major. Students who complete this curriculum develop strong skills in communication, critical thinking and complex problem solving, which will serve them well regardless of career path. The specific requirements for the HLA degree are:

1. completion of the L&S general degree requirements;
2. a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.300;
3. completion of at least 24 credits in Honors courses with grades of B or better;
4. of the 24 Honors credits, at least 6 must be in the humanities, 6 in the social sciences, and 6 in the natural sciences; and
5. of the 24 Honors credits, at least 15 must be "Automatic Honors" credits—that is, in courses that carry the "Honors Only" or "Accelerated Honors" designations in the Course Guide (http://public.my.wisc.edu).

HONORS IN THE MAJOR (HM)

After formally declaring a major in the College of Letters & Science, students may opt to pursue Honors in that Major. Honors in the Major requirements can be completed independently from Honors in the Liberal Arts; they may also be completed in conjunction with Honors in the Liberal Arts (which would result in a Comprehensive Honors degree). Each academic department and program in the college, with approval of the Faculty Honors Committee, establishes its own requirements for the Honors in the Major degree. Honors in the Major is intended for students who are interested in original research and who wish to graduate with the best possible undergraduate training in the discipline. Honors in the Major is especially appropriate for students who are considering graduate work, or who want a particularly rigorous training in research, reasoning, and writing skills useful to a wide range of career choices.

Although many of the specific requirements for HM vary by department, all students pursuing Honors in the Major must:

1. complete the L&S general degree requirements;
2. complete the regular major requirements;
3. obtain an overall cumulative grade point average of at least 3.300;
4. earn a grade of B or better in all courses counting towards Honors in the Major requirements; and
5. successfully complete a capstone experience during their senior year, typically a Senior Honors Thesis (see below for more information).
In addition to these collegewide requirements, Honors in the Major students may be required to complete additional upper-level, Honors coursework; participate in department research colloquia; and meet a minimum grade point average in all classes in the major (typically between 3.300 and 3.500).

As mentioned above, most departments require a Senior Honors Thesis as the culmination of their Honors in the Major curriculum. In departments for which a research thesis is not the most appropriate capstone, an alternative such as a performance, a professional practicum, or a major piece of creative writing may be required instead. The two-semester Honors thesis or capstone project is often the most challenging part of the Honors in the Major experience, and for most students it also proves to be the most rewarding. The Senior Honors Thesis is a two-semester (or summer and semester) effort; students first enroll in Senior Honors Thesis 681, followed the next term by Senior Honors Thesis 682 (some departments may use different numeric designations for Senior Honors Thesis options). These two courses may not be taken concurrently. The final grade for the entire thesis is assigned after 682 has been completed.

Students who intend to complete Honors in the Major and write a Senior Honors Thesis should consult with department advisors as early as possible. They are also strongly encouraged to begin working with a faculty advisor no later than the beginning of the junior year in order to formulate a research topic, which will enhance the student's potential for success in research grant funding cycles for their senior year. Some departments offer special courses designed to facilitate the organization, planning, and execution of Honors thesis projects. Other departments encourage (and some require) students to take a directed study or tutorial course with the thesis advisor sometime during the junior year. Students who receive funding from the L&S Honors Program for their thesis research should submit an unbound copy of their thesis to the Honors Program Office.

Students pursuing Honors in the Major in two majors may apply for Dual Thesis Authorization, which will allow them to write one interdisciplinary thesis to satisfy both major capstone requirements. Please see the Honors Program Associate Director for Academic Services to learn more about the application process prior to enrolling in the 681 course.

Prior authorization is needed when students intend to complete either 681 or 682 while away from UW–Madison. Consult with the Associate Director for Academic Services if this is your intention.

**COMPREHENSIVE HONORS**

Students who complete the requirements for both Honors in the Liberal Arts and Honors in the Major in at least one department or program earn Comprehensive Honors, the highest undergraduate degree awarded by the College.

**HOW TO EARN HONORS CREDIT**

There are three unique Honors course designations, each described here:

- "Honors Only" courses are reserved for Honors candidates. They are generally small classes, led by a faculty member and designed for substantive engagement, or discussion sections or labs reserved for Honors students in larger non-Honors lecture courses. The enrollment system will automatically assign Honors credit to all enrolled students. These "Honors Only" courses are sometimes denoted with the symbol "H".

- "Accelerated Honors" are open to all students. Honors credit is awarded in recognition of the rigor and pace of the course. These Honors courses are often conducted at a faster pace than the non-Honors course counterparts or are upper-level capstone courses in a major that require significant engagement with the course material. As with "Honors Only" designated courses, the enrollment system will automatically assign Honors credit to all enrolled students. These "Accelerated Honors" courses are sometimes denoted with the symbol "%".

- "Honors Optional" designates courses for which Honors is available through an optional Honors component of the course curriculum. These courses are open to all students for enrollment. Opting into the Honors component of the course is done through the enrollment process. Students enrolled in an "Honors Optional" course are advised to consult with the instructor during the first weeks of the term to determine the Honors curriculum if it is not outlined on the syllabus. Instructors either have designated Honors curricula or students may be encouraged to develop a project idea of their own. These "Honors Optional" courses are sometimes denoted with the symbol "!".

When the Schedule of Classes is published for the upcoming term, students can use the Enroll App to identify which courses are being offered for Honors and with which designation. A course being offered for Honors in a past term in no way guarantees that it will be offered for Honors in a future term.

Honors candidates may also earn Honors credit through the following methods:

- Designing and successfully completing an additional Honors project for a course not carrying any of the Honors designations above in the given term. This option requires consent of the instructor and approval of the L&S Honors Program. To request permission from the Honors Program, students must submit a completed Green Sheet Agreement form and all supporting documentation to the Honors Program office no later than the eighth week of a regular semester, or the fourth week of an eight-week summer term. Green Sheets are available on the Honors Program website (http://honors.ls.wisc.edu). Supporting documentation includes a formal proposal outlining the additional Honors project in up to 500 words, and a completed Course Change Request Form. Additional information is available from Honors advisors and on the Honors Program website.

- Students who study abroad on a non-Honors study abroad program may petition to have one course (up to four credits) per semester abroad count toward Honors requirements. Upon returning from abroad, students are asked to write a petition in which they are required to reflect on the nature of the course taken abroad and explain why the course meets the desired criteria for general Honors credit. Honors breadth credit and/or Automatic Honors credit. For more details about the petition process, please consult the Honors Program website (http://honors.ls.wisc.edu).

- Studying abroad in an Honors Study Abroad Program. (Currently programs are available in Ecuador and Utrecht, Netherlands.) Students may earn up to 16 Honors credits. Students receive Honors credit in these cases through the study abroad equivalency process upon their return from abroad.

In all cases, to receive Honors credit in a course, students must earn a final grade of B or higher in that course. If a grade of BC or lower is earned in an Honors course, the Honors notation remains on the student’s record, but the course does not count toward Honors degree
requirements. If the course is retaken for Honors, regardless of the grade earned during this second attempt, the course cannot satisfy an Honors degree requirement.

Students may not receive Honors credit in courses carried on a pass/fail basis.

ADVISING AND CAREERS

The University of Wisconsin–Madison can seem overwhelming because of its size and the complexity of its policies and procedures. Academic advisors help students get (and maintain) their bearings on campus. The L&S Honors Program has a team of specially trained academic and peer advisors who accompany and support Honors candidates as they pursue diverse educational and co-curricular experiences compatible with their long-term goals. Advising occurs through a variety of formats including small group workshops, individual appointments, drop-in hours and email. Additional information is available on the Honors Program website (http://honors.ls.wisc.edu).

The L&S Honors Program encourages our students to begin working on their career exploration and preparation soon after arriving on campus. We partner with the L&S SuccessWorks office to help students leverage the academic skills learned in your major(s) and liberal arts degree, explore and try out different career paths, participate in internships, prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications, and network with professionals in the field (alumni and employers).

Letters & Science graduates are in high demand by employers and graduate programs. It is important to us that our students are career ready at the time of graduation, regardless of major or career goals.

PEOPLE

Faculty Director: Dr. Sabine Gross, Chair of L&S Faculty Honors Committee and Professor of German
Associate Director for Administration: Dr. Matt Kohlstedt
Associate Director for Academic Services: Sara Stephenson
Program Administrator: Erin Warner
Academic Advisor: Aimee Drolet and Christine Evans

POLICIES

CRITERIA FOR REMAINING IN GOOD STANDING IN HLA

Students must obtain a grade point average of 3.300 or higher to be eligible to graduate with an Honors in the Liberal Arts degree. As such, we encourage students to strive for at least this GPA each academic term. The Honors Program advising team will work with students on an improvement plan should their GPA drop below 3.300. Students must also make satisfactory progress toward degree requirements, meaning:

1. successfully complete (grade of B or higher) at least one Honors course (any designation) by the end of the third semester on campus and
2. successfully complete (grade of B or higher) at least two Automatic Honors courses by the end of the fifth semester on campus.

Students may withdraw from HLA at any time by completing an Honors in the Liberal Arts Withdrawal Form, available from the Honors Program office, and submitting it to the Honors Program.

CRITERIA FOR REMAINING IN GOOD STANDING IN HM

Because each department sets its own criteria for the HM degree program, students are encouraged to work closely with departmental advisors to stay on track towards successful completion. In addition to the criteria established by individual departments, all students must obtain a cumulative grade point average of 3.300 or higher in UW–Madison coursework to be eligible to graduate with the Honors in the Major degree. Students may withdraw from HM at any time by submitting a completed Honors in the Major Withdrawal Form, available from either the department advisor or the Honors Program office.

HONORS IN THE INDIVIDUAL MAJOR

To complete the Individual Major with Honors, the student must earn Honors credit in at least 20 of the 36 or more credits comprising the Individual Major and must complete a Senior Honors Thesis of 6–8 credits. Students wishing to complete an Honors in the Major degree with an Individual Major should append to their Individual Major proposal a specific outline of how the Honors in the Major requirements would be met, including appropriate Honors-caliber courses, upper-level seminars, and a two-semester capstone project, typically a Senior Honors Thesis. The proposal for Honors in the Individual Major will be reviewed by the Honors Program Associate Director for Academic Services. This individual is authorized to determine whether requests for exceptions to the approved HM requirements will be approved.

HONORS TRANSFER CREDIT

Honors credit earned at other institutions is not currently accepted towards L&S Honors Program degree requirements.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

The L&S Honors Program strives to support Honors students as they pursue original research, study abroad, attend academic conferences, and pursue other endeavors that complement their learning and growth. The following funding opportunities are regularly offered. Please see the L&S Honors Program website (http://honors.ls.wisc.edu) for additional opportunities, specific deadlines and additional information about the applications process.

WELTON SOPHOMORE SUMMER HONORS RESEARCH APPRENTICESHIPS

These competitively awarded grants provide funding for Honors students who learn more about the research process by working as research apprentices with UW–Madison faculty. Students may not earn course credit for this work. For past students, these apprenticeships often evolved into paid research positions and/or Senior Honors Thesis projects. Applications for the Welton are submitted and considered early in the spring term.

TREWARTHA UNDERGRADUATE THESIS RESEARCH AWARD

This grant enables Honors students to undertake more demanding and extensive Honors Senior Thesis research projects than might otherwise be possible. Besides recognition of an excellent thesis proposal, grant recipients receive funds (up to $1500) to cover travel expenses and other costs needed to complete the research. These resources may enable students to travel to archives or research sites, or to initiate other research activities that require special funding. Each year 12–16 Trewartha awards are granted. Applications for the Trewartha are submitted and considered during the fall term.

MARK MENSINK HONORS RESEARCH GRANT

The Mark Mensink Honors Research Grant is the L&S Honors Program’s most prestigious grant, awarded in recognition of an exceptional thesis proposal.
proposal. The purpose of the grant is to enable its recipient to undertake more demanding and extensive Honors senior thesis research than might otherwise be possible due to limited resources or time. Students do not apply specifically for the Mensink award. The Mensink is awarded to a particularly promising Trewartha applicant.

**HONORS SUMMER SENIOR THESIS RESEARCH GRANT**

These grants enable students to undertake more demanding and extensive senior thesis research projects than might otherwise be possible. Besides recognition of an excellent thesis proposal, grant recipients are awarded a cash stipend of up to $3000 to cover research-related expenses. Such resources may enable students to travel to archives or research sites, arrange participant interviews or initiate other research activities that require special funding. Applications for summer research grants are submitted and considered during the spring term.

**LEADERSHIP TRUST AWARD**

The Leadership Trust Award supports students as they plan, develop and implement projects designed to improve UW–Madison, the community and/or the university student body. Each year, up to two (2) students receive awards equal to two (2) semesters of resident, full-time tuition plus project funds up to $3000 as justified in the submitted project budget. Past award recipients have established mentoring programs for underrepresented students; collaborated with local organizations to improve community access to fresh, healthy and local produce; and founded an academic journal, the Madison Journal of Literary Criticism, to increase students’ opportunities to see their work published. Applicants are asked to identify a UW–Madison faculty member who will serve in an advisory/resource capacity and award winners are expected to submit progress reports to the L&S Faculty Honors Committee. Applications for the Leadership Trust Award are submitted and considered during the spring term for the following academic year.

**STUDY ABROAD AWARDS**

Up to four $1,500 travel awards will be awarded to eligible L&S Honors Program students who plan to study abroad. Students studying for either a semester or a year abroad are eligible, however preference will be given to students participating in a year-long program. Applications for this funding opportunity are available in the spring term.

**BROMLEY RESEARCH CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANT**

These awards are meant to support students who present at and/or attend regional or national professional conferences. Priority is given to those who plan to present. The award amount is up to $500. The application process is competitive and students with the most promising proposals are selected.