ENTERING THE COLLEGE

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.) 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/) which report 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 policies.

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.) 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.) 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

UW-Madison undergraduate students must have a cumulative University GPA of 2.000 or higher and a Term GPA of 2.000 or higher in their most recent completed term (Fall, Spring, or Summer) to transfer to a bachelor’s degree offered by the College of Letters & Science. (See L&S Academic Advising Services | Request to Transfer to L&S (https://advising.ls.wisc.edu/transfer/)).

New Students may change to Letters & Science in their term before they have established any GPA.

The student’s completed courses count toward their L&S degree up to 18 credits for Fall or Spring term, and up to 12 credits for Summer term. If a student earned more credits per term, they must have had a Term GPA of 3.000 or higher during the term of the overload, up to a maximum of 20 total credits for Fall or Spring term and 13 credits for Summer term.

Any transfer credit (https://registrar.wisc.edu/transfer-your-credit-to-uw-madison/) earned at other institutions will also count toward the L&S degree, according to the degree’s requirements.

Note that L&S degrees require a minimum of 108 credits in courses designated as Liberal Arts and Science (LAS). (See Guide | L&S Degree Requirements; Total Credits (https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/#requirementstext).)

Reentering students must first be readmitted by their most recent UW-Madison college/school before transferring to a degree program in Letters & Science. (See Office of Admissions & Recruitment | Apply as a Reentry Student (https://admissions.wisc.edu/apply-as-a-reentry-student/).)

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 as a non degree-seeking candidate or as an auditor, it may be best to consider becoming a special student (https://acsss.wisc.edu/special-student-types/). Information about becoming a non degree-seeking student at UW–Madison can be found at Adult Career and Special Student Services (https://acsss.wisc.edu/apply/).