

College of Arts and Letters

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<http://www.isu.edu/cal/>

Overview

Programs of study in the College of Arts and Letters introduce students to ways of thinking and expression intrinsic to the arts, humanities, and social and behavioral sciences. Students are thereby aided in the development of intellectual skills and personal values which serve them in career planning and lifelong learning. The College is organized into a Division of Fine Arts and Humanities and a Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Curricular offerings in the College lead to Associate of Arts, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Fine Arts, Master of Public Administration, Master of Science, Doctor of Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Courses leading to these degrees provide an introduction to a variety of academic disciplines and in-depth specialization in numerous areas. Degrees from programs in the College of Arts and Letters may lead directly to employment in certain occupations or prepare an individual for more advanced study. Students planning to engage in graduate or professional training (for example, law or medicine) should pay particular attention to the admission requirements of the programs that they plan to pursue.

Mission

The College of Arts and Letters offers a variety of academic programs that develop skills in written and oral communication and critical thinking while exploring the diversity and scope of the human experience with both undergraduate and graduate students. Faculty in the College provide instruction and training of superior quality in the fine arts, humanities, social sciences, and behavioral sciences and produce innovative scholarship that advances knowledge. Through student and faculty collaborative endeavors, the College promotes opportunities for research and creative activities that investigate and enrich our shared cultural, economic, environmental, health, political, and social systems.

General Education Requirements

All Associate and Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degree programs include a general education component intended to provide a depth of knowledge in liberal studies as a necessary background for the specialized knowledge acquired in the discipline in which the student majors. Additionally, the General Education Requirements are intended to assist the student in developing the intellectual flexibility necessary for a fulfilling career.

By meeting these requirements, students develop their critical thinking skills as well as competency in oral, written, and mathematical communication. They also acquire habits of thought traditionally associated with the well-educated person: the ability to analyze and propose solutions to problems; the ability to recognize and assess value structures; and the ability to investigate and understand the literary and expressive arts. The General Education Requirements (<http://coursecat.isu.edu/undergraduate/academicinformation/generaleducation/>) are described in the Academic Information section of this catalog.

Transfer Students

Students transferring to Idaho State University who seek a bachelor's degree in the College of Arts and Letters should refer to the section, "Transfer Students"

in the Undergraduate Admission (<http://coursecat.isu.edu/undergraduate/undergraduateadmission/>) section of this catalog.

Major Requirements

In addition to the general education component, all Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degree programs require a concentration in a departmental major of at least 24 credits, of which at least 16 credits must be in courses numbered 3000 and above. The particular course requirements of the departmental majors in the College of Arts and Letters are outlined under the department headings in the catalog.

The Teacher Education Program

The College of Arts and Letters shares responsibility with the College of Education for the Teacher Education Program. Students may fulfill the requirements of the Teacher Education Program while majoring in a discipline within the College of Arts and Letters. The Teacher Education Program admission and completion requirements are detailed in the College of Education (<http://coursecat.isu.edu/undergraduate/education/>) section of this catalog.

Pre-Law Advising

The successful attorney is one who understands how changes within society affect the relationships between and among people. An effective attorney should have an understanding of human behavior; social, political, and economic change; our ecological systems; and the general influence of our philosophical, literary, and historical heritage. Hence, the student with a broad undergraduate preparation and a developed insight into many facets of life attains the best educational preparation for the practice of law.

The student who aspires to attend law school should seek the counsel of one of the Pre-Law Advisors:

Dr. Zac Gershberg, Communication, Media, and Persuasion
 Dr. Edward Kammerer, Political Science
 Dr. Justin Stover, History
 Dr. Russell Wahl, Philosophy

These advisors will help create a pre-law curriculum designed to accommodate the student's major and help him/her prepare for the Law School Admission Test and a career in accordance with the principles discussed above.

College Leadership (<http://coursecat.isu.edu/undergraduate/artsandletters/leadership/>)