



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Office of College and University Evaluation
5 North Mezzanine – Education Building
Albany, NY 12234
Tel.: (518) 474-2593
Fax: (518) 486-1861

LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

A. General definition:

Courses of a general or theoretical nature that are designed to develop judgment and understanding about human beings' relationship to the social, cultural, and natural facets of their total environment

B. Working corollaries for counting liberal arts courses:

1. Independent of specific application
2. Theoretical understandings as opposed to practical application
3. Breadth and scope in principle covered
4. Not definitely directed toward particular career or specific professional objectives
5. Not chiefly "how to" in manipulative skills or techniques
6. Not "applied" aspects of a field

C. Courses offered in the following areas are considered liberal arts-general education:

1. Humanities:

English—composition, literature, creative writing, history of the language, linguistics, literature in translation

Drama—public speaking, dramatic literature, dramatic interpretation, history of the drama, playwriting

Languages—grammar, reading, composition, history of the language, conversation, literature of the language

Music—music history, appreciation

Art—art history, appreciation

Philosophy—history of philosophy, logic, schools of philosophy, comparative philosophy

Religion—history of religion, comparative religion

2. Mathematics:

Calculus, history, theory, computer science

3. Natural Sciences:

Biology, zoology, anatomy and physiology, physics, chemistry, geology, geography

4. Social sciences:

Sociology, cultural studies, history, psychology, anthropology, political science, economics, government

D. The following types of courses are **not** considered liberal arts:

1. Hygiene and health
2. Physical education
3. Secretarial science
4. Business—management, administration, marketing, production, finance
5. Computer applications, programming (Word, excel, specific languages)
6. Home economics
7. Education and methods
8. Specialized professional courses in such fields as medicine, podiatry, veterinary medicine, dentistry, dental hygiene, pharmacy, law, nursing, architecture, accounting, engineering
9. Technology/technician fields—medical, electrical, mechanical, data processing, electronics, refrigeration repair, construction
10. Agriculture
11. Personnel
12. Library science
13. Art studio courses—drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture
14. Play production, play lighting, costume design, play direction, scene construction
15. Music studio, performance, or practice courses—voice, instrument, direction
16. Theology—pastoral counseling, ministry

Regents Rule 3.47(c):

“ Undergraduate degrees shall be distinguished as follows, by the minimum amount of liberal arts content required for each degree. The required liberal arts core shall not be directed toward specialized study or specific occupational or professional objectives.”

AA degree: 45 credits (3/4 of coursework)

AS degree: 30 credits (1/2)

AAS degree 20 credits (1/3)

BA degree: 90 credits (3/4)

BS degree: 60 credits (1/2)

All other undergraduate baccalaureate degrees (e.g., BFA, BBA, BE, B.Tech., etc.):30 credits (1/4)

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