Liberal Studies

The liberal studies degree is designed to help students develop the breadth of knowledge and skills that represent the core of liberal education, including knowledge of human cultures and the natural world; communication, critical thinking, problem solving and analytical skills; and teamwork and collaborative abilities. Employers seek employees who have broad general skills, like those developed through the liberal studies major. In addition, they want employees who have applied the knowledge in real-world settings—a focus of the UW-Eau Claire liberal studies program.

Major

Comprehensive major (no minor required)

- Liberal Studies

Where you'll find our grads

- Program Coordinator, Boys Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley
- Assistant Editor, the Post House
- Media Specialist, Champlain College
- English teacher, Japan
- Graduate Student, Master's Program in Therapeutic Recreation
- Senior Business Analyst, OptumHealth

Prepared for Success

This major is ideal for students with multiple academic interests, transfer students and nontraditional students. It provides an alternative to traditional majors by allowing students to design an interdisciplinary major around a theme of their choosing in consultation with their adviser. The liberal studies major provides students with an opportunity for study in greater breadth than is possible when majoring in a specific disciplinary area.

Why UW-Eau Claire

Hands-On Experience

Liberal studies majors like to take their education outside of the classroom walls. Recent majors have had internships in Los Angeles with SESAC, a performing rights organizations, and in Eau Claire with the United Way. Liberal studies majors have also experienced other immersion experiences such as participating in a travel seminar to San Francisco to attend Frameline, a major international film festival. Liberal studies students also have participated in national student exchanges at the University of New Mexico and Humboldt State University as well as study abroad semesters at the London Metropolitan.

Research Opportunities

Students in this program will be encouraged to take advantage of UW-

“What I love about liberal studies is you get a richness that interdisciplinary studies allows you to see. The drama in sociology, the science in theater, just the cross pollination of ideas is really important because that lends itself to maybe understanding other cultures, understanding the complexity of life and that things aren’t so black and white.”

— Hannah Hebl | "performance + the body" liberal studies major
themes of their individual academic program.

Related Majors / Minors

- Bachelor of Liberal Studies
- Comprehensive Major, Liberal Studies

Students will take three required liberal studies seminars and develop with a faculty adviser a thematic course of study supported by three interrelated concentrations. This provides a coherent intellectual framework for academic studies and formalizes student engagement in integrating and transferring knowledge across subject matter and skills areas. For example, many recent liberal studies majors have participated in an interdisciplinary travel seminar taught by faculty in women's studies with expertise in communications, multimedia presentations and sociology.