College of Liberal Arts

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ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Agricultural Communication........... Minor
Anthropology/Geography............. BS, Minor
Art and Design......................... BFA
Art History............................... Minor
Asian Studies............................ Minor
Child Development ..................... BS, Minor
Communication Studies ............... BA, Minor
Comparative Ethnic Studies .......... BA
Dance ........................................ Minor
English ...................................... BA, MA, Minor
Ethnic Studies ............................ Minor
French ........................................ Minor
German ...................................... Minor
Gerontology ............................... Minor
Global Politics ........................... Minor
Graphic Communication ............. BS, Minor
History ...................................... BA, MA, Minor
Journalism .................................. BS
Latin American Studies ............ Minor
Law and Society ........................ Minor
Linguistics ................................. Minor
Modern Languages & Literatures.. BA
Music ......................................... BA, Minor
Philosophy .................................. BA, Minor
Photography .............................. Minor
Political Science ........................ BA
Psychology .................................. BS, MS, Minor
Public Policy .............................. MPP
Religious Studies ........................ Minor
Social Sciences ........................... BS
Sociology ..................................... BA, Minor
Spanish ....................................... Minor
Studio Art ................. ............... Minor
Theatre Arts ............................... BA, Minor
Values, Technology and Society.... Minor
Western Intellectual Tradition..... Minor
Women's and Gender Studies..... Minor

The College of Liberal Arts (CLA) provides the opportunity to study in depth the record of imaginative and reflective human experience. Through papers, projects, and service, students are encouraged to develop the knowledge and skills to add to this record. As well, the college seeks to relate itself to the technological disciplines in a way that helps contribute to the solution of human problems from global and multidisciplinary perspectives. Accordingly, a wide range of courses is offered to serve every thoughtful individual without regard to specialized professional interests.

Four broad areas of knowledge are represented: the fine and performing arts, communications, humanities, and social sciences. While the college has great breadth and diversity, unity is found in a study of the most engaging subject of all – human endeavor. Whether the focus is on imagination, politics, creativity, or rationality, there is a settled purpose: to help each student know herself or himself, to understand human values and human potential, and to understand our society and its institutions.

Study abroad opportunities are strongly supported, and CLA faculty regularly offer classes in programs such as Cal Poly’s Summer Study in London, Thailand Study Program, Valladolid (Spain) Fall Program, and Australia Abroad Program. The college is excited to be involved with the Peru Summer Study Program that complements the minor in Latin American Studies. These study abroad programs are administered by the International Education and Programs Office. For further information, see page 19.

The college also offers interdisciplinary and international courses through its Humanities Program. Many humanities classes fulfill Cal Poly's general education requirements. For more information, contact the Humanities Program Office (Bldg 47, Room 28, 805 756-1206).

A new interdisciplinary major, Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Engineering Studies, allows students to combine coursework from the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Engineering to explore cutting-edge technologies and their applications to areas such as media arts, technology policy, and technical writing and communications. The degree is offered jointly by both colleges. For more information, see University-Wide Programs, page 73.

The College of Liberal Arts offers a wide range of learn-by-doing opportunities. Students from all majors participate in the musical ensembles, theater productions, and dance performances. The college supports the Central Coast Center for Arts Education and the University Art Gallery. Students contribute to publications that showcase their accomplishments in their major, such as the Art and Design Department’s Capstone, the English Department’s Byzantium, and the Ethnic Studies Department’s Osiyo. These publications are often printed by the student-run University Graphic Systems. Students also participate in co-curricular CLA activities, including KCPR Radio, Mustang Daily, Model United Nations, Mock Trial, and intercollegiate debate.

The college has a major responsibility for activities that enhance the cultural and intellectual life of the university and the community. The college sponsors Cal Poly Arts, which offers a full range of cultural programs, including exhibits, concerts, literary presentations, and dramatic productions, while fostering artistic development and accomplishment across the campus.

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