

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies (LIBS) program is an innovative alternative degree program designed to provide subject matter preparation for prospective elementary school and special education teachers. The program offers a major in liberal studies. It accommodates experienced adult students, many of whom are working in classrooms as para-educators, and draws upon their rich experiences in school settings.

Many adult students have developed skills or expertise at the workplace, at home, or in other venues. Some of those experiences may translate into prior learning credit (PLA). A maximum of 30 credits may be earned through Prior Learning Assessment (PLA).

Organized to capture the essence of an integrated curriculum and capitalize on the students' work/classroom experiences, the LIBS program aims to give students a secure background in the liberal arts and sciences that is firmly fixed in the concepts of human behavior and social issues. As part of the preparation of elementary school and special education teachers, the program utilizes the California State Curriculum Frameworks and Model Standards, providing integrated courses in language arts, math, science, art, music, and social science that focus on TK-6 content while demonstrating exemplary teaching methods.

The program has the potential to meet the following explicit needs:

- The need for qualified, credentialed elementary school and special education teachers in California
- The need for minority teachers and minority role models in area schools
- The need for stability in the classrooms of the local community
- The need to encourage qualified interested members of other professions to consider the teaching profession a viable career change

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for the B.A. Degree in Liberal Studies

Graduates of the Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies program will be able to:

- **PLO 1:** Demonstrate subject matter competency in major subject areas (Language Arts, Math, Science, Art, Physical Education, Human Development, History) in educational contexts.
- **PLO 2:** Demonstrate a commitment to professional development, research, and life-long learning.
- **PLO 3:** Analyze problems representing a variety of perspectives through skillful written communication.
- **PLO 4:** Demonstrate effective oral communication skills.
- **PLO 5:** Demonstrate the ability to integrate biblical concepts and principles in the role of teacher, including the ethical implications of working with children in a classroom setting.
- **PLO 6:** Create unit and lesson plans aligned to content standards and objectives, and scaffolded to reflect student learning needs and background characteristics.

Core

The Los Angeles Pacific University Core comprises the General Education requirements and the LAPU Distinctives. Students are encouraged to complete the Core before beginning their major requirements. General Education requirements may be met by transfer work. The LAPU Distinctives are required for all undergraduate degrees at LAPU.

Requirement	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		25
LAPU Distinctives		9
Total Credits		34

General Education

Requirement	Title	Credits
English Communication		
COMM 105	Public Communication	3
ENGL 105	Introduction to Academic Research and Writing	3
Arts and Humanities		
ARTS 110	Introduction to Art	3
Humanities		
ENGL 115	Introduction to Literature	3
Quantitative Reasoning		
MATH 125	College Algebra ¹	3
Behavioral Sciences		
ECON 203	Principles of Microeconomics	3
or PSYC 105	Introduction to Psychology	
Social Sciences		
HIST 202	World Civilizations	3
Physical and Biological Sciences		
BIOL 105	General Biology/Lab	4
or BIOL 230	Anatomy and Physiology I/Lab	
or CHEM 115	Chemistry for Health Sciences/Lab	
or NSCI 150	Introduction to Astronomy/Lab	
Total Credits		25

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MATH 105 or STAT 280 will also fulfill Quantitative Reasoning, but B.A. Liberal Arts students are strongly encouraged to complete MATH 125.

LAPU Distinctives

Requirement	Title	Credits
BIBL 100	Introduction to Biblical Literature: Exodus/Deuteronomy	3
BIBL 230	Introduction to Biblical Literature: Luke/Acts	3
ISTU 101	Success in the University ¹	3
Total Credits		9

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Must be taken at LAPU.

Program Requirements

To earn the Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies, students must complete the following degree components:

Requirement	Title	Credits
Core ¹		31
LIBS Major requirements		42
Electives		47
Total Credits		120

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34 credits total; Three credits are counted below in Liberal Studies Major Requirements.

In order to earn the Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies, students must complete the following required courses while achieving a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 in their major courses.

Any students that are planning to use the LIBS degree to fulfill the Subject Matter Requirements for a CA Teaching Credential, must earn a C or better in all the courses listed below. This is a California Teaching Commission (CTC) requirement.

Requirement	Title	Credits
Core		
Core Requirement ¹		31
Major Requirements		
ARTS 400	Visual Arts for the Elementary Teacher	3
ARTS 410	Performing Arts for the Elementary Teacher	3
EDUC 300	Introduction to Elementary Education	3
EDUC 310	Human Growth and Development for Educators	3
EDUC 410	P.E., Health, and Safety for Elementary Teachers	3
ENGL 420	Principles of Language	3
ENGL 450	Children's Literature	3
HIST 202	World Civilizations	3
HIST 420	United States History and the Constitution	3
HIST 440	California History	3
MATH 301	Math for the Elementary Teacher I	3
MATH 302	Math for the Elementary Teacher II	3
NSCI 301	Life Science	3
NSCI 325	Physical, Earth, and Space Sciences	3
Electives		
Electives Requirement ²		47
Total Credits		120

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Three credits of the 34-credit Core are fulfilled within the Liberal Studies Major Requirements.

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Students may choose from any course in the catalog. If students wish to complete a concentration, they may complete a maximum of two concentrations.

Students may also earn up to 30 credits of electives via Prior Learning Assessment (PLA).

Concentrations

Recommended Concentrations

- Child and Adolescent Psychology (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/child-adolescent-psychology/>)
- Cultural Psychology (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/cultural-psychology/>)
- Educational Psychology (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/educational-psychology/>)
- Customized Concentration (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/customized-concentration/>)

Multiple Subject Teaching Credential

The Multiple Subject Teaching Credential course sequence can be taken as an embedded component of the Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies or as a 36-credit standalone post-baccalaureate credential. This credential program is only open to California residents as the Clinical Practice must take place in a California public school.

When embedded into the Bachelor of Arts degree program in Liberal Studies, completing the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential courses reduces the elective credits needed for the degree from 47 to 11 credits. Students in the embedded program must earn a C or better grade in all subject-matter coursework (major courses). Students must also maintain a 3.0 grade point average (GPA) in the credential program coursework, and have no grades below C- and no more than three grades below a B- in the credential program coursework (500-level courses). Students must have a 3.0 grade point average (GPA) to begin the Clinical Practice semester.

500-level courses carry graduate credit.

Subject Matter Competence requirements must be met 90 days prior to the start of the Clinical Practice semester.

Completion of coursework requirements does not guarantee completion of the Preliminary Multiple Subject Credential. LAPU transcripts will not reflect completion of the Preliminary Multiple Subject Credential. Proof of completion must be obtained from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (<https://www.ctc.ca.gov>).

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO) for the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential

Candidates who successfully complete the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential program will be able to:

1. Integrate perspectives of diversity and learning needs into a teaching philosophy and classroom practices, in order to demonstrate cultural responsiveness.
2. Articulate a philosophy of education, based on current research in cognitive, physical, socio-emotional, behavioral, and spiritual development.
3. Design assessment plans that reflect evaluative best practices and contain a variety of assessments (formative, summative, informal, and formal).
4. Demonstrate competency in differentiating instruction, including accommodations and modifications, based on the learning needs of individual and groups of students.
5. Design a classroom management strategy, including routines and procedures, expectations for behavior and achievement, and a plan for progressive discipline.

Requirements for Multiple Subject Teaching Credential

The same requirements apply if taken as an embedded component of the Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies.

The following must be completed before registration for Program Requirement courses:

- Proof of Certificate of Clearance (COC). Students are encouraged to begin this step as soon as possible to allow for processing by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

- Proof of the Basic Skills Requirement (refer to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing ([https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/basic-skills-requirement-\(cl-667\)/](https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/basic-skills-requirement-(cl-667)/)) for options).
- Proof of subject matter preparation or proof of paid registration for the next appropriate California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET) Multiple Subjects administration. Students enrolled in the embedded Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies/Credential program (BALBC) may concurrently enroll in 500-level EDUC courses while completing their final remaining course in the Liberal Studies major.

The following must be completed before the Clinical Practice semester:

- For Fall student-teaching placements, non-LAPU courses and official transcripts must be completed and submitted no later than July 10. Final coursework requirements taken at LAPU must be completed by the end of the Summer 2 session.
- For Spring student-teaching placements, all non-LAPU courses and official transcripts must be completed and submitted no later than November 1. Final coursework requirements taken at LAPU must be completed by the end of the Fall 2 session.
- For intern-teaching placements, all requirements per CTC regulations must be completed and all documentation/transcripts on file no later than July 10 for Fall positions and November 1 for Spring positions. Intern-teaching placements can only take place if the student has been offered a contract as the teacher of record in a TK-6 public school where they are teaching all of the core subjects.
- Students must have a 3.0 grade point average (GPA) to begin the Clinical Practice semester.

CA TPA Cycles 1 and 2 should be passed by the end of the Clinical Practice semester. Candidates who do not pass both cycles of the TPA's may be required to enroll in a TPA support course (EDUC 595). A candidate cannot be recommended for the Preliminary Multiple Subject Credential until both cycles are passed.

Candidates must finish all requirements for the Preliminary Multiple Subject Credential no later than seven years from the start of their first 500-level EDUC course.

Program Requisite

Requirement	Title	Credits
HIST 420	United States History and the Constitution ¹	3

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Also fulfills a requirement for the Liberal Studies major. Must be passed with a C or better grade. Must be completed prior to enrollment in EDUC 580, EDUC 581 or EDUC 582, and EDUC 590, EDUC 591 or EDUC 592.

Program Requirements

Requirement	Title	Credits
EDUC 501	Introduction to Teaching and Learning	3
EDUC 505	Diversity and Inclusive Schooling	3
EDUC 515	Learning Theory and Instructional Strategies	3
EDUC 530	Methods in Teaching Language and Literacy (TK-6) I	3
EDUC 535	Methods in Teaching Language and Literacy (TK-6) II	3
EDUC 550	Methods in Teaching Arts and Social Sciences (TK-6)	3

EDUC 560	Methods in Teaching Mathematics (TK-6)	3
EDUC 570	Methods in Teaching the Sciences (TK-6)	3
EDUC 580	Teaching Practicum I - Elementary ²	3
EDUC 581	Student Teaching I - Multiple Subjects ²	3
or EDUC 582	Intern Teaching I - Multiple Subjects	
EDUC 590	Teaching Practicum Seminar II - Elementary ²	3
EDUC 591	Student Teaching II - Multiple Subjects ²	3
or EDUC 592	Intern Teaching II - Multiple Subjects	
Total Credits		36

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EDUC 580, EDUC 581 or EDUC 582, EDUC 590, and EDUC 591 or EDUC 592 must be taken at LAPU.