

BS LIBERAL STUDIES

Program Learning Objectives

Upon graduating, Liberal Studies students will:

1. Examine the importance of the physical, social and cognitive development of children and their application to learning.
2. Demonstrate subject matter competency in the following domains: Reading, Language and Literacy, History and Social Science, Mathematics, Science, Visual and Performing Arts, Physical Education and Human Development.
3. Examine and reflect on how knowledge is developed and organized through best teaching and learning practices specific to each domain, with a focus on metacognition.
4. Demonstrate effective oral, written and interpersonal communication skills in a variety of contexts including the use of appropriate technology.
5. Integrate the content of one discipline into another through the development of projects across subject matter areas.
6. Synthesize information and integrate experiences that promote personal and professional growth in the field of education.
7. Demonstrate engagement as an agent for change in diversity and inclusion using principles of social justice, equity and ethical practice.

Degree Requirements and Curriculum

In addition to the program requirements listed on this page, students must also satisfy requirements outlined in more detail in the Minimum Requirements for Graduation (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/generalrequirementsbachelorsdegree/#generaleducationtext>) section of this catalog, including:

- 60 units of upper-division courses
- Graduation Writing Requirement (GWR)
- 2.0 GPA
- U.S. Cultural Pluralism (USCP)

Note: Up to 4 units of credit/no credit grading may be selected for courses in Major, Support, or Concentration.

MAJOR COURSES

LS 201	Orientation to Liberal Studies	1
LS 211	Visual Arts in the Elementary Classroom	4
LS 214	Constitutional Issues in the History of U.S. and California Education	4
LS 230	Field Experience in the Elementary Classroom I	2
LS 250	Field Experience in the Elementary Classroom II	2
LS/ENGL 255	Children's Literature in a Diverse Society (Lower-Division C Elective) ¹	4
LS 301	Liberal Studies Career Preparation	1
LS 310	Storytelling: Modern Applications of Traditional Narrative	4
LS 370	Performing Arts in the Elementary Classroom	4

LS 411	Advanced History/Social Sciences Integration for the K-8 Classroom	4
or LS 412	Advanced Arts Integration for the K-8 Classroom	
or LS 413	Advanced Science/Engineering Integration for the K-8 Classroom	
LS 461	Senior Project Seminar	4
or LS 462	Senior Project Research	
ASTR 101	Introduction to the Solar System (B1) ₁	4
BIO 111	General Biology (B2 & B3) ¹	4
BIO 211	Biology of Plants and Animals	4
ENGL 391	Topics in Applied Linguistics	4
GEOG 308	Global Geography (Upper-Division D) ₁	4
HIST 201	United States History to 1865 (D1) ¹	4
HIST 208	Survey of California History (USCP)	4
HIST 210	World History to 1800 (D2) ^{1,2}	4
KINE 310	Concepts and Applications in Elementary Physical Education	3
HLTH 443	Health Education for Teachers	4
MATH 227	Mathematics for Elementary Teaching I (B4) ¹	4
MATH 328	Mathematics for Elementary Teaching II	4
MATH 329	Mathematics for Elementary Teaching III	4
MATH 330	Algebraic Thinking with Technology	4
PHIL 230	Philosophical Classics: Knowledge and Reality (C2)	4
or PHIL 231	Philosophical Classics: Ethics and Political Philosophy	
PSC 101	Matter and Energy (GE Electives) ¹	4
PSC 102	Atoms and Molecules	4
PSC 103	The Physical Environment: Earth	4
PSY 201	General Psychology (E) ¹	4
or PSY 202	General Psychology	
STAT 130	Introduction to Statistical Reasoning ₃	4
or STAT 217	Introduction to Statistical Concepts and Methods	

Concentration, approved minor, or individualized course of study 18-22

SUPPORT COURSES

CD/EDUC 207	Children's Learning and Development in Educational Settings	4
EDUC 427	Theories, Methods, and Assessment of First and Second Language Acquisition in Schools ⁴	4
EDUC 428	Foundations of K-8 Literacy Teaching and Learning in Schools with Diverse Populations ⁴	4

GENERAL EDUCATION

(See GE program requirements below.) 32

FREE ELECTIVES

Free Electives ⁵	1-5
Total units	180

¹ Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.

² Students in the History/Social Sciences concentration, may substitute with HIST 221.

³ Students considering a Child Development or Psychology minor should consider taking STAT 217.

⁴ Prerequisite for Multiple Subject Credential program at Cal Poly. For a credential program elsewhere, check the prerequisites for that institution.

⁵ If a General Education (GE) course is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.

Students may select one of the following concentrations or listed minors to count toward a concentration.

Concentrations

- Human Development
- English
- Environmental Education
- History/Social Sciences
- Mathematics
- Science
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Individualized Course of Study

With department chair approval, students may select one of the minors listed below or pursue a course of study which meets their individual needs and interests; this must be initiated early and all courses must be pre-approved. The individualized course of study consists of 18-20 units with at least one course at the 300-400 level. Courses are selected by the student in consultation with an advising faculty member. The list of courses is a contract between the student and the department.

Minors that can be taken to create an Individualized Course of Study

- Ethnic Studies
- Music
- Spanish

When selecting one of these minors to create an ICS, students should be advised the concentration will appear on their official transcript as Individualized Course of Study. The minor must be declared separately with the minor department in order for it to appear on the official transcript.

General Education (GE) Requirements

- 72 units required, 40 of which are specified in Major and/or Support.
- If any of the remaining 32 units is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.
- See the complete GE course listing (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/generalrequirementsbachelorsdegree/#generaleducationtext>).

- A grade of C- or better is required in one course in each of the following GE Areas: A1 (Oral Communication), A2 (Written Communication), A3 (Critical Thinking), and B4 (Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning).

Area A	English Language Communication and Critical Thinking	
A1	Oral Communication	4
A2	Written Communication	4
A3	Critical Thinking	4
Area B	Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning	
B1	Physical Science (4 units in Major) ¹	0
B2	Life Science (4 units in Major) ¹	0
B3	One lab taken with either a B1 or B2 course	
B4	Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (4 units in Major) ¹	0
Upper-Division B		4
Area C	Arts and Humanities	
Lower-division courses in Area C must come from three different subject prefixes.		
C1	Arts: Arts, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater	4
C2	Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages other than English (4 units in Major) ¹	0
Lower-Division C Elective - Select a course from either C1 or C2 (4 units in Major)		0
Upper-Division C		4
Area D	Social Sciences - Select courses in Area D from at least two different prefixes	
D1	American Institutions (Title 5, Section 40404 Requirement) (4 units in Major) ¹	0
D2	Lower-Division D (4 units in Major plus 4 units in GE) ¹	0
Upper-Division D (4 units in Major) ¹		0
Area E	Lifelong Learning and Self-Development	
Lower-Division E (4 units in Major) ¹		0
Area F	Ethnic Studies	
F	Ethnic Studies	4
GE Electives in Areas B, C, and D		
Select courses from two different areas; may be lower-division or upper-division courses.		
GE Electives (4 units in Major plus 4 units in GE) ¹		4
Total units		32

¹ Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.

² Recommended courses to satisfy GE Area C1: MU 101, DANC 221, or TH 210 for individuals planning to pursue a teaching credential.

Courses Needed for Multiple Subject Credential

EDUC 402	Learning to Teach K-8 Health and Physical Education with Diverse Populations	3
EDUC 429	Learning to Teach K-8 Literacy in Schools with Diverse Populations	4
EDUC 431	Learning to Teach K-8 Social Studies with Diverse Populations	4
EDUC 435	Learning to Teach K-8 Mathematics with Diverse Populations	4
EDUC 436	Learning to Teach K-8 Science with Diverse Populations	4
EDUC 438	Multiple Subject Clinical Practice I	4
EDUC 439	Multiple Subject Clinical Practice Seminar I	3
EDUC 440	Educating Individuals with Exceptional Needs	4
EDUC 450	Teaching Performance Assessment Seminar	1
EDUC 454	Multiple Subject Clinical Practice II	6
EDUC 455	Multiple Subject Clinical Practice Seminar II	3
EDUC 456	Multiple Subject Clinical Practice III	12
EDUC 457	Multiple Subject Clinical Practice Seminar III	3
Total units		55