

LIBERAL ARTS AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Our Website (<http://www.liberalarts.vt.edu>)

Overview

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences offers baccalaureate degrees encompassing the humanities and human and social sciences. The College emphasizes the importance of mastering the intellectual skills a liberal arts education develops as well as job skills by encouraging students to apply knowledge from one field to another and to think creatively. Learn more about our strategic plan (https://liberalarts.vt.edu/content/dam/liberalarts_vt_edu/ood/CLAHS-Strategic-Plan-2024.pdf).

Outstanding faculty members conduct research and teach courses in 11 departments and 3 schools leading to baccalaureate and advanced degrees. Coursework from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences also provides a foundation of knowledge in a number of fundamental subjects for students in all colleges through the Pathways General Education (<https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/>) program.

The college offers minors in many of its departments. Students are encouraged to include a minor in their program and should consult an advisor for help in choosing one that will advance their career goals.

General Requirements for Graduation

A student in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences must complete at least 120 hours for an undergraduate degree as well as satisfy the following requirements:

- achieve a minimum overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 for all hours attempted
- achieve a minimum overall GPA of 2.0 for all hours attempted in all work applied to the major
- complete all other requirements established for their degree by the major department
- complete all college and university Pathways General Education requirements
- complete the language study requirement either through high school enrollment or before receipt of the undergraduate degree.
 - The minimum requirement may be met in high school by completing 2 units of a single foreign or classical language or American Sign Language. Some majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences may require 3 units of a single foreign or classical language or American Sign Language.
 - Students who do not complete the University Foreign Language requirement by completing 2 years of the same foreign language in high school must take 1105 and 1106 of a foreign language at the college level. These hours will not count toward the minimum hours required for graduation.

No course required for graduation or in the major/minor may be taken on a pass/fail basis, excluding courses that are offered pass/fail only. (i.e., pass/fail may be used for free electives only).

Pathways General Education

A description of the Pathways General Education curriculum may be found in the Academics (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/>

academic-policies/) section of this catalog. For requirements specific to departments in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, please contact the individual department.

Honors College

The Honors College is available to students in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. This program provides an enriched environment for qualified and highly motivated students. More information about honors academic requirements and how to earn an honors diploma is available on the Honors College website: honorscollege.vt.edu

Dean's List

An undergraduate student who attempts at least 12 credit hours graded on the A-F option and earns a 3.4 GPA for either spring or fall semester will be included on the online Dean's List for that term. Please note: Students will not appear on the online Dean's List if they are listed in the system as confidential or do not have an active permanent address. Questions about omissions from the online list should be directed to the Office of the University Registrar.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available for students enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. Descriptions and deadlines are available on the [college website](#) and on the [Office of University Scholarships and Financial Aid](#).

Experiential Learning: Internships, Study Abroad, and Undergraduate Research

Educational experiences outside the classroom help make students more competitive for internships, jobs, and graduate school applications. Participation in internships, study abroad, and undergraduate research helps prepare students for life after graduation while exposing them to complex cultural issues. Every major offers academic and career advising to support students in connecting with current opportunities. Course credit is available for qualifying experiences.

Academic Advising

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences includes faculty advisors and a team of professional (<https://liberalarts.vt.edu/beyond-the-classroom/academic-and-career-advising.html>), award-winning Academic Advisors whose primary role is to support students in working toward their personal, academic, and career goals. Each student is assigned to work with at least one academic advisor, depending upon any additionally declared minors or majors. Advisors are prepared to guide students, as partners, through various processes during their time at Virginia Tech including:

- exploring and solidifying major(s) and/or minor(s)
- determining course selections
- developing semester schedules
- creating and adjusting academic plans
- understanding transfer credits
- considering experiential opportunities like study abroad or internships, and
- connecting with appropriate resources and individuals across campus

Career Advising

Career advising is available from multiple sources. The centralized Career and Professional Development (<https://www.career.vt.edu>), located at the Smith Career Center, offers many services to support the career journey. Beginning with career and major exploration, through the process of assisting students in the job search or graduate and professional school application, Career and Professional Development advisors are a resource for all students.

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences works with employers interested in hiring students to host information sessions and panels. Students can attend multiple career fairs offered on campus to build their network, secure internships, or apply for full-time jobs. Every major also offers a career advisor (<https://liberalarts.vt.edu/beyond-the-classroom/internships.html>) who specializes in guiding students toward career success.

Pre-Professional Advising

The University provides pre-professional career advisors for all disciplines and the college provides career advisors in areas related to the College.

- Pre-law advising (<https://www.prelaw.psci.vt.edu/main/advise.htm>) connects students with faculty advisors, student organizations, and related academic opportunities. The advising program, sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, is open to students from all majors who are interested in the law. Students may also select majors that offer pre-law concentrations or degree options to help prepare for graduate programs in law. A pre-law student organization is available for interested students.
- Health Professions Advising (<https://career.vt.edu/advising/hpa.html>) at Virginia Tech assists students in exploring healthcare careers and preparing to apply to professional schools for medicine, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, chiropractic, occupational therapy, nursing, physician assistant, veterinary medicine, and other health Professions. The advising program is supported by Career and Professional Development and is open to students in all majors.

Graduate Programs

Many of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences departments offer graduate degrees at the Master's and Ph.D. levels. Complete information on these programs, including descriptions of graduate courses, can be found in the Graduate Catalog (<https://catalog.vt.edu/graduate/>).

- Advertising Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/communication/advertising-ba/>)
- Arabic Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/modern-classical-languages-literatures/arabic-ba/>)
- Career and Technical Education - Agricultural Education Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/education/career-technical-education-bs-agricultural-education/>)
- Career and Technical Education Major with Business and Information Technologies Education Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/education/career-technical-education-bs-business-information-technologies-education/>)
- Career and Technical Education Major with Family and Consumer Sciences Education Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/education/career-technical-education-bs-family-consumer-sciences-education/>)
- Career and Technical Education Major with Marketing Education Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/education/career-technical-education-bs-marketing-education/>)
- Classical Studies Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/modern-classical-languages-literatures/classical-studies-ba/>)
- Communication Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/communication/communication-ba/>)
- Consumer Studies Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/apparel-housing-resource-management/consumer-studies-bs/>)
- Creative Writing Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/english/creative-writing-ba/>)
- Criminology Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/sociology/criminology-bs/>)
- Early Childhood Development and Education Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/human-development-family-science/early-childhood-dvlp-educ-bs/>)
- Elementary Education (PK-6) Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/education/elementary-education-pk-6-bs/>)
- English Language Arts Education Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/education/english-language-arts-education-bs/>)
- English Major with Literature Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/english/english-ba-literature/>)
- English Major with Pre-Education Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/english/english-ba-pre-education/>)
- English Major with Pre-Law Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/english/english-ba-pre-law/>)
- Environment, Development, and Global Economy Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/international-studies/environment-development-and-global-economy-major/>)
- Environmental Policy and Planning Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/school-public-international-affairs/environmental-policy-planning-ba/>)
- European & Transatlantic Studies Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/international-studies/european-transatlantic-studies-ba/>)
- Fashion Merchandising and Design Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/apparel-housing-resource-management/fashion-merchandising-design-bs/>)
- French Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/modern-classical-languages-literatures/french-ba/>)
- German Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/modern-classical-languages-literatures/german-ba/>)
- History and Social Sciences Education Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/education/history-social-sciences-education-bs/>)
- History Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/history/history-ba/>)

- History Major with Undergraduate Research/Thesis Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/history/history-ba-undergraduate-research-thesis/>)
- Human Development Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/human-development-family-science/human-development-bs/>)
- Humanities for Public Service Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/religion-culture/humanities-public-service-ba/>)
- International Relations Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/international-studies/international-relations-ba/>)
- International Studies Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/international-studies/international-studies-ba/>)
- Mathematics Education Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/education/mathematics-education-bs/>)
- Multimedia Journalism Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/communication/multimedia-journalism-ba/>)
- National Security & Foreign Affairs Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/international-studies/national-security-foreign-affairs-ba/>)
- Philosophy Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-ba/>)
- Philosophy Major with Pre-Medical Professions Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-ba-pre-medical-professions/>)
- Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/philosophy/philosophy-politics-economics-ba/>)
- Political Science Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/political-science/political-science-ba/>)
- Political Science Major with Legal Studies Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/political-science/political-science-ba-legal-studies/>)
- Political Science Major with National Security Studies Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/political-science/political-science-ba-national-security-studies/>)
- Political Science Major with Social and Political Justice Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/political-science/political-science-ba-social-political-justice/>)
- Property Management Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/apparel-housing-resource-management/property-management-bs/>)
- Public Relations Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/communication/public-relations-ba/>)
- Religion and Culture Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/religion-culture/religion-culture-ba/>)
- Residential Environments & Design Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/apparel-housing-resource-management/residential-environments-design-bs/>)
- Russian Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/modern-classical-languages-literatures/russian-ba/>)
- Smart and Sustainable Cities Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/school-public-international-affairs/smart-sustainable-cities-ba/>)
- Sociology Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/sociology/sociology-bs/>)
- Spanish Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/modern-classical-languages-literatures/spanish-ba/>)
- Sports Media and Analytics Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/communication/sports-media-analytics-ba/>)
- Technical and Scientific Communication Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/english/technical-scientific-communication-ba/>)
- Technology Education Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/technology-education-bs/>)

Dean: Laura Belmonte

Associate Dean for Academic Policies and Procedures: Debra Stoudt

Associate Dean for Administration and Finance and Chief of Staff: Vacant

Associate Dean for Global Initiatives and Engagement: Farida Jalalzai

Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research: Tom Ewing

Associate Dean for Transdisciplinary Initiatives and Chief Technology

Officer: Carlos Evia

Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs: Monica Kimbrell

Assistant Dean for Advancement: Michael Webb

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Shaila Mehra

Director of Academic Advising: Amanda Weaver

Director of Student Recruitment: Kristy Morrill

Senior Director of Academic Support: Karen Watson