

LIBERAL ARTS AND HUMAN SCIENCES

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

Overview

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences offers baccalaureate degrees across a broad range of disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and human sciences. Our academic programs assist students in developing both the intellectual depth of a liberal arts education as well as the practical skills valued in today's workforce. We emphasize creative thinking, interdisciplinary learning, and real-world application. Learn more about our strategic plan (https://liberalarts.vt.edu/content/dam/liberalarts_vt_edu/ood/CLAHS-Strategic-Plan-Mar-2025.pdf).

Our outstanding faculty conduct research and teach in 11 departments and 3 schools, supporting undergraduate and graduate programs. In addition to degree offerings, the College contributes significantly to the university-wide Pathways General Education (<https://www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/>) curriculum, helping students in all colleges build a strong academic foundation in essential subjects.

Students may also pursue minors in a wide variety of fields, broadening their academic experience and strengthening their preparation for diverse career paths. We encourage students to complement their major with a minor aligned with their interests or career aspirations, and to consult with academic advisors for guidance in selecting the best fit.

General Requirements for Graduation

To earn an undergraduate degree from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, students must complete a **minimum of 120 credit hours** and meet the following requirements:

- Achieve a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 for all coursework attempted
- Achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 for all coursework applied to the major
- Satisfy all degree requirements as defined by the major department
- Complete all college and university Pathways General Education requirements
- Fulfill the language study requirement, either through high school coursework or college-level study prior to graduation

Pathways General Education

A description of the Pathways General Education curriculum may be found in the Undergraduate Policies (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-policies/>) section of this catalog. For requirements specific to departments in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, please contact the individual department.

Language Requirement

- Students may meet the minimum language requirement in high school by completing 2 units of a single foreign or classical language, or American Sign Language (ASL).
- Some majors may require 3 units of the same language or ASL.
- Students who do not complete 2 years of the same language in high school must complete Foreign Language 1105 and 1106 (or

equivalent) at the college level. *Note:* These language courses do not count toward the 120 credit hours required for graduation.

Pass/Fail Policy

- Courses that fulfill major or minor requirements must be taken for a letter grade, unless the course is only offered as pass/fail.
- Courses taken on a pass/fail basis may only be applied toward free electives.

Honors College

The Honors College offers an enriched academic environment for qualified and highly motivated students. This program provides opportunities for advanced coursework, research, and engagement with a community of scholars. For more information about honors academic requirements and how to earn an honors diploma, please visit the Honors College website (<https://honorscollege.vt.edu/>).

Dean's List

Undergraduate students who attempt at least 12 credit hours graded on the A-F scale and earn a semester GPA of 3.4 or higher in either the spring or fall term will be recognized on the online Dean's List for that semester. Students who qualify will also receive an electronic notification from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences acknowledging this academic achievement.

Please note: Students will not appear on the online Dean's List if their records are marked confidential or if they do not have an active permanent address on file. For questions regarding omissions from the list, please contact the Office of the University Registrar (<https://www.registrar.vt.edu/>).

Scholarships

Students enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences may be eligible for a variety of college-specific scholarships. Details about available scholarships, including descriptions, eligibility criteria, and application deadlines can be found on the College's website (<http://liberalarts.vt.edu/>) and through the **Office of University Scholarships and Financial Aid**.

Experiential Learning: Internships, Study Abroad, and Undergraduate Research

Experiential learning opportunities beyond the classroom help students become more competitive candidates for internships, employment, and graduate or professional school. Participation in internships, study abroad programs, and undergraduate research fosters intellectual growth, cultural awareness, and the development of practical, transferable skills.

All majors within the College offer academic and career advising to help students identify and pursue meaningful experiential opportunities. Academic credit may be available for approved experiences.

Academic Advising

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences offers comprehensive academic advising through a dedicated team (<https://liberalarts.vt.edu/beyond-the-classroom/academic-and-career-advising.html>) of professional Academic Advisors and Faculty Advisors. Their primary role is to support students in achieving their academic, personal, and

career goals through a collaborative process and shared responsibilities (<https://student.advising.vt.edu/about.html>).

Each student is assigned at least one Academic Advisor, with additional advising support available for those pursuing multiple majors or minors. Advisors serve as partners throughout a student's academic journey, providing guidance in areas such as:

- Assisting with academic or graduation planning given students' personal and professional goals
- Choosing or changing major(s) or minor(s)
- Selecting courses
- Adjusting semester schedules
- Understanding transfer credits
- Exploring experiential opportunities like study abroad or internships
- Connecting students with other resources and individuals across campus

Career Advising

Career advising is available from multiple sources. Virginia Tech's centralized Career and Professional Development (<https://career.vt.edu/>) office, located in the Smith Career Center, offers comprehensive services to support students at every stage of their career journey—from early exploration of majors and career paths to job searches and applications for graduate or professional schools.

Within the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (<https://liberalarts.vt.edu/beyond-the-classroom/career-readiness.html>), students benefit from a dedicated Assistant Director of Employer Relations and Career Services, who supports employer engagement, career-readiness programming, and one-on-one guidance. The College collaborates with employers to host information sessions, panels, and on-campus interviews. Students are also encouraged to attend a range of career fairs held throughout the year to build professional networks, secure internships, and explore full-time employment opportunities.

In addition, each major within the College provides access to a career advisor and faculty mentors (<https://liberalarts.vt.edu/beyond-the-classroom/internships.html>) who offer discipline-specific guidance as students prepare for life after graduation.

Pre-Professional Advising

Virginia Tech offers pre-professional advising to support students pursuing careers in law, healthcare, and other professional fields. These services are available to students across all majors:

- The College sponsors Pre-Law Advising (<https://www.prelaw.psci.vt.edu/main/advise.htm>), which is open to students who are interested in pursuing a career in law. The program connects students with faculty advisors, student organizations, and academic opportunities related to legal studies. Some majors within the College also offer pre-law concentrations or degree options designed to prepare students for law school and related graduate programs. A pre-law student organization offers further engagement opportunities and peer support.
- Health Professions Advising (<https://career.vt.edu/channels/health-professions-advising/>) at Virginia Tech, supported by Career and Professional Development, assists students in exploring healthcare careers and preparing for admission to professional schools. Advising is available to students from all majors and covers fields such as: medicine, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, chiropractic,

occupational therapy, nursing, physician assistant, veterinary medicine, and other health-related professions.

Graduate Programs

Many departments within the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences offer graduate degrees at the master's and doctoral levels. These programs provide advanced study and research opportunities across a range of disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and human sciences. For detailed information about specific programs, including degree requirements and graduate course descriptions, please refer to the Graduate Catalog (<https://catalog.vt.edu/graduate/>).

- Advertising Major (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/communication/advertising-ba/>)
- Applied Public Policy Studies Major Option (<https://catalog.vt.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts-human-sciences/political-science/applied-public-policy-studies/>)
- 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/>)
- 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/>)
- 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/>)
- 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/>)
- 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/education/technology-education/>)

Dean: Laura Belmonte

Associate Dean for Transdisciplinary Initiatives and Chief Technology Officer: Carlos Evia

Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research: Tom Ewing

Associate Dean of Global Initiatives and Engagement: Farida Jalalzai

Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs: Monica Kimbrell

Associate Dean for Policy and Faculty Affairs: Debra Stoudt

Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration: Jenny Vincent

Assistant Dean for Advancement: Michael Webb