

BA in Liberal Studies/ Undergraduate Education K-8 Program

84 units

Mission

The liberal studies major (<https://www.apu.edu/education/programs/liberal-studies-major/>) equips future teachers and other professionals by integrating coursework and service-learning experiences with the application of a Christian worldview as it relates to life vocation. It promotes awareness of cultural diversity issues and studies multiple curricula with an emphasis in specific subject areas aligned with Common Core standards for subject matter while fostering a holistic understanding of knowledge.

Program Overview

The Liberal Studies/Undergraduate Education K-8 program offers a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies aligned with California Common Core subject matter standards in order to prepare undergraduate students seeking careers as elementary school teachers with the breadth of content knowledge needed to teach in a K-8 setting.

The liberal studies degree provides future elementary school teachers with opportunities to teach in a self-contained classroom environment. Opportunities are available to take additional units toward a Supplementary/Subject Matter Authorization, if the student desires to teach content up to a ninth-grade level. Consult the Liberal Studies/Undergraduate Education K-8 program in the Division of Teacher Education for complete information.

During the first two years of college, it is suggested that undergraduate liberal studies majors complete university General Education requirements and prerequisites to upper-division coursework, which is embedded in the program's four-year plan. Students may want to explore the teaching field by taking EDLS 200 or EDLS 202 as sophomores, juniors, or seniors, along with EDLS 405, EDLS 495, and EDLS 496. Students in this program participate in a minimum of 75 hours of teacher-oriented, service-learning field experience and observation through several core liberal studies/undergraduate education K-8 courses.

APU liberal students prepare to work in schools as teachers, and they must know and demonstrate the content, pedagogical, and professional knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to help all K-8 students learn. Completion of the liberal studies major meets the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) (<https://www.ctc.ca.gov>) subject matter requirement for the Preliminary Multiple Subject Credential or Education Specialist Credential. The liberal studies major is not a CTC-approved educator preparation program. Liberal studies students seeking to complete a CTC-approved educator preparation program need to complete the BA in Liberal Studies with Integrated Credential (<http://catalog.apu.edu/academics/college-education-behavioral-sciences/school-education/teacher-education/integrated-bachelors-credential/liberal-studies-major-integrated-bachelors-credential/>) program or one of the master's or credential (<http://catalog.apu.edu/academics/college-education-behavioral-sciences/school-education/teacher-education/#graduateprogramstext>) programs offered by the Division of Teacher Education

Career Opportunities

Though most liberal studies graduates enter teaching credential programs and find teaching positions in public and private schools locally, nationally, and abroad, demand exists in the business and communication fields as well because of the increasing need for college graduates with broad and diverse academic backgrounds. Potential teaching careers exist in multiple subject, single subject, and special education.

Requirements

Code	Title	Units
EDLS 210	Learning from A to Z: Launching Your Journey in Education ¹	3
EDLS 260	Shapes, Stats, and Stories: Unveiling God's Design in Mathematics ¹	3
EDLS 310	Mind Matters: Exploring the Science of Learning ¹	3
EDLS 315	Building Future Scientists: Foundations of Physical Science for Children ¹	3
EDLS 360	Principles of Inclusive Education: AEIOU ¹	3
EDLS 420	Fostering Creativity: Unlocking the Arts for Children ¹	3
EDLS 465	Once Upon a Page: Connecting Children's Literature and Literacy ¹	3
COMM 111	Public Communication ²	3
ENGL 111	Studies in Literature ³	3

ENGL 403	History and Structure of English	3
MATH 110	College Algebra ⁴	3
PHYC 125	Earth Science Concepts and Applications	3
HIST 201	World Civilizations and Geography to 1648	3
HIST 202	United States History to 1930 ^{1,5}	3
HIST 338	History of California	3
PSYC 290	Human Growth and Development ^{1,6}	3
PE 450	Physical Education in Elementary Schools, K-6 ¹	3
Select one of the following:		4
BIOL 101	Biology and Society ⁷	
BIOL 151	General Biology I ⁷	

Concentrations

Select one concentration from the list below. 12

Total Units 67

- ¹ This is a core liberal studies course; these must be completed with a grade of C or higher and an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- ² Meets the General Education Oral Communication requirement.
- ³ Meets the General Education Humanities: Literature requirement.
- ⁴ Meets the General Education Quantitative Literacy requirement.
- ⁵ California Education Code Section 44335 requires all candidates for a teaching credential to demonstrate knowledge of the United States Constitution by completing a college-level course or a college-level examination in the subject; successful completion of either with a grade of C or higher meets this California Education Code requirement.
- ⁶ Meets the General Education Social Sciences requirement.
- ⁷ Meets the General Education Natural Sciences requirement.

Students in the liberal studies major are limited to completing only one concentration from those listed below. A concentration course cannot double-count to meet a concentration requirement and a major requirement listed above.

Art Concentration

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
ART 145	Drawing I ¹	3
ART 146	Painting I	3
Select one of the following art history courses:		3
ART 354	History of Ancient Art and Architecture ¹	
ART 356	History of Modern Art and Architecture	
ART 357	History of Contemporary Art and Architecture ¹	
ART 361	History of Early Christian and Medieval Art and Architecture ¹	
ART 362	History of Renaissance to Rococo Art and Architecture ¹	
Select one of the following crafts courses:		3
ART 105	Ceramics I ¹	
ART 111	Printmaking: Serigraph	
ART 170	Sculpture I	
ART 403	Multicultural Art ¹	
Total Units		12

- ¹ Meets the General Education Humanities: Fine Arts requirement.

English Concentration

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
ENGL 222	English Literature to 1789 ¹	3
ENGL 224	World Literature to the Renaissance ¹	3
Select two of the following:		6

ENGL 244	American Literature to 1865 (Select one of the following American literature courses:) ¹
ENGL 254	American Literature Since 1865 ¹
ENGL 364	American Ethnic Literature ²
ENGL 374	African American Literature
ENGL 410	American Novel

Total Units **12**

¹ Meets the General Education Humanities: Literature requirement.

² Meets the General Education Intercultural Competence requirement.

Human Development: School Psychology Concentration

PSYC 290 and MATH 130 are prerequisite courses for the upper-division courses in this concentration.

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
MATH 130	Introduction to Statistics ¹	3
PSYC 345	Psychology of Child and Adolescent Development ²	3
PSYC 360	Abnormal Psychology	3
Select one of the following:		3
PSYC 292	Introduction to Brain and Behavior	
PSYC 305	Educational Psychology	
PSYC 390	Cognition	
PSYC 405	Psychology of Learning	
PSYC 410	Psychology of Exceptional Children	
PSYC 472	Neurological and Behavioral Disorders	
Total Units		12

¹ Meets the General Education Quantitative Literacy requirement.

² Meets the General Education Social Sciences requirement.

Human Development: Special Education Concentration

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
EDLS 303	Introduction to Special Populations	3
EDLS 304	Introduction to Teaching Special Populations	3
PSYC 410	Psychology of Exceptional Children	3
PSYC 430	Intervention Strategies with Children	3
Total Units		12

Math Concentration

See the Department of Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Physics, and Statistics (<http://catalog.apu.edu/academics/college-arts-humanities-theology-sciences/school-humanities-sciences/math-physics-statistics/>) for updated schedules.

Note: Students must begin their mathematics coursework at the level for which they qualify as determined by their SAT/ACT score, previous university coursework, or the APU mathematics placement assessment. Some students require one or more courses prior to calculus.

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
MATH 165	Calculus I	3
MATH 280	Discrete Mathematics and Proof	3
MATH 340	Geometry	3
Select one of the following:		3
MATH 130	Introduction to Statistics ¹	

MATH 361

Introduction to Modeling with Probability

Total Units**12**¹ Meets the General Education Quantitative Literacy requirement.**Music Concentration**

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
MUS 101	Beginning Voice Class	1
MUS 103	Beginning Piano Class ¹	1
MUS 121	Music Theory I ²	3
MUS 133	Practical Musicianship I	1
MUS 201	Introduction to World Music ³	3
Select one of the following:		3
MUS 350	History and Literature of Commercial Music	
MUS 351	Ancient, Renaissance, and World Music Literature	
MUS 352	Baroque, Classical, and Early Romantic Music Literature	
MUS 455	Late Romantic and 20th-Century Music Literature ⁴	
Total Units		12

¹ Or 1 unit for each Applied Piano (permission by audition only).² Meets the General Education Humanities: Fine Arts requirement.³ Meets the General Education Intercultural Competence requirement.⁴ Meets the General Education Humanities: History requirement.**Science Concentration**

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
BIOL 151	General Biology I ¹	4
BIOL 152	General Biology II	4
CHEM 123	General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry for the Health Sciences ¹	4
Optional Elective		
PHYC 155	Physics for Life Sciences I ¹	
Total Units		12

¹ Meets the General Education Natural Sciences requirement.**Social Science Concentration**

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
POLI 150	American Government ¹	3
Select one of the following world history/political science courses:		3
HIST 320	Modern Africa	
HIST 360	History of the Middle East I: Early and Medieval Islam	
HIST 361	History of the Middle East II: Modern Middle East	
HIST 392	Colonial Latin America	
HIST 393	Ritual and Re-enactment in Modern Latin America	
HIST 484	Historical Themes ²	
POLI 390	History and Politics of the Non-Western World	
Select two of the following social science courses:		6
HIST 210	World Geography ³	
ECON 250	Principles of Macroeconomics ⁴	

ECON 251	Principles of Microeconomics
POLI 220	State and Local Government
POLI 320	Comparative Politics
SOC 225	Contemporary Social Problems
SOC 361	Education and Society

Total Units **12**

¹ California Education Code Section 44335 requires all candidates for a Teaching Credential to demonstrate knowledge of the United States Constitution by completing a college-level course or a college-level examination in the subject; successful completion of either with a grade of C or higher meets this California Education Code requirement.

² Selected theme must be non-U.S. and non-European.

³ Recommended for students who wish to include a Supplementary Authorization in Social Science on a future California Multiple Subject Teaching Credential.

⁴ Meets the General Education Social Sciences requirement.

Spanish Concentration

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
SPAN 201	Intermediate Spanish I	3
SPAN 202	Intermediate Spanish II	3
SPAN 301	Spanish Conversation and Community ^{1, 2}	3
Select one of the following:		3
SPAN 332	Literary Masters ³	
SPAN 421	Survey of Spanish Literature	
SPAN 422	Survey of Latin American Literature	
SPAN 460	Writing 3: Survey of the Literature of the Spanish-Speaking World	

Total Units **12**

¹ SPAN 101, SPAN 102, SPAN 201, and SPAN 202 are prerequisites for 300-level SPAN courses.

² Meets the General Education Intercultural Competence requirement.

³ Meets the General Education Humanities: Literature requirement.

Program Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this program shall be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of subject matter (Language Arts, Math, Science, Art, Physical Education, Human Development, History) with research-based pedagogical practices to design and implement effective learning experiences for diverse learners.
2. Apply principles of child development and learning theories to create differentiated and engaging learning environments that foster critical thinking, creativity, and social-emotional growth.
3. Communicate effectively in speech and in writing to analyze educational challenges, advocate, and collaborate with stakeholders.
4. Integrate biblical principles and ethical considerations into professional practice, demonstrating a commitment to the well-being and equitable treatment of all students.
5. Engage in reflective practice to deepen subject matter knowledge and cultivate a disposition towards continuous learning to remain responsive to the evolving needs of learners and the educational landscape.
6. Analyze curriculum to promote literacy, critical thinking, and an understanding of diverse voices and human experiences with an emphasis on developing intercultural competence.