College of Arts and Letters

Web Site: http://www.odu.edu/al (http://www.odu.edu/al)

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Mission

The College of Arts and Letters is committed to the ideals of the liberal arts. Its curriculum is designed to introduce students to the full range of human experiences through the study of cultural heritage, forms of artistic and literary expression, patterns of social and political behavior, and methods of critical inquiry.

The mission of the College of Arts and Letters is to prepare students for rigorous, intellectual and creative inquiry leading to their full development as human beings and to their responsible engagement with society. We accomplish this mission by:

1. Developing the essential skills of critical reading and thinking, effective oral and written communication, and proficient use of technology
2. Providing foundational knowledge in the arts, humanities and social sciences for all undergraduates
3. Offering excellent disciplinary and interdisciplinary programs of study and training that expose students to accumulated knowledge, scholarly debate, and innovations in the field
4. Fostering global awareness and sensitivity to the breadth and diversity of the human condition, which includes acquiring an understanding of the roles of gender, race, ethnicity, and culture
5. Providing an atmosphere for the free exchange of ideas among faculty and students and by vigorously defending academic and intellectual freedom
6. Promoting challenging internship opportunities, research projects, and collaborative learning experiences that connect our students to the community and prepare them for the world of work
7. Supporting a broad array of cultural experiences that enrich the lives of students, the University, and the community

Overview

Undergraduate programs in the College of Arts and Letters are structured to make possible close personal contact between students and faculty and thus to meet the needs of individual students. Arts and Letters faculty members are dedicated to good teaching, proud of their achievements in research, and committed to enhancing in every way possible the exciting and stimulating environment that is Old Dominion University.

The College of Arts and Letters comprises the Departments of Art, Communication and Theatre Arts, English, History, Philosophy and Religious Studies, Political Science and Geography, Sociology and Criminal Justice, Women's and Gender Studies, and World Languages and Cultures; the F. Ludwig Diehn School of Music; Interdisciplinary Studies; the Institute of Humanities; the Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity; the Institute of Jewish Studies and Interfaith Understanding; the Social Science Research Center; and the Community Music Division.


In addition to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Music, and Bachelor of Science degrees offered by the above departments, the College of Arts and Letters offers a variety of linked undergraduate/graduate programs and graduate degree programs. Linked programs allow students to count up to 12 hours of graduate courses toward both an undergraduate and graduate degree, which may allow students to earn both a BA or BS and an MA in five years. Linked programs are available in English, History, International Studies, Humanities, and Lifespan and Digital Communication; concentrations in the MA in Humanities are available in Communication, Geography, individualized Interdisciplinary Studies, Philosophy, Visual Arts, and Women's Studies. A linked BA or BS to MBA program and a linked BA or BS to MPA program are available in cooperation with the Strome College of Business.

The College offers graduate degrees in Applied Linguistics, Creative Writing, Criminology and Criminal Justice, English, History, Humanities, International Studies, Lifespan and Digital Communication, and Music Education. Please refer to the Graduate Catalog for more information.

Undergraduate Degree Requirements

Arts and Letters requirements for all undergraduate degrees include all of the General Education Requirements. Students must have 30 earned credit hours in order to declare a major in the College of Arts and Letters. In addition, all Arts and Letters majors must obtain a minimum grade of C in ENGL 110C English Composition before declaring a major and in order to graduate. Arts and Letters majors must also attain a minimum grade of C in the second composition course and the writing intensive (W) course in the major in order to graduate.

Students earning a Bachelor of Arts degree must also complete the foreign language requirement. Proficiency is established at the fourth-semester level through one of the following:

1. Successful completion of the 202 or 212 course at Old Dominion University (or equivalent at another institution). American Sign Language is accepted to meet this requirement in all Bachelor of Arts programs in the college except Asian Studies, World Languages and International Studies.
2. Exemption through fourth semester granted for acceptable scores on achievement tests.
3. Advanced placement credit through fourth semester for qualifying scores on AP and IB subject examinations. See the equivalency charts on the ODU website at https://www.odu.edu/academics/academic-records/score-analysis/ap-ib (https://www.odu.edu/academics/academic-records/score-analysis/ap-ib/).
4. Advanced placement with up to nine hours credit at the 300 level for acceptable scores on the advanced placement test taken at the conclusion of advanced placement courses in high school.
5. Students whose native language is not English are exempt from taking a foreign language for General Education. Students pursuing degrees that require proficiency beyond the 100 level must be certified by the World Languages and Cultures Department to obtain a waiver of the 200-400 level courses. Native speakers are not eligible to earn credit for foreign language courses below the 300 level through coursework or external testing services such as CLEP.

Students who have taken three or more years of a foreign language in high school but have not been granted advanced placement as explained above must take the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) achievement test before continuing in the same language at Old Dominion University. An achievement test score of under 481 normally requires that such students begin with the 121F course in Spanish or the 102F course in other foreign language.

Advanced placement credit through fourth semester for qualifying scores on AP and IB subject examinations. See the equivalency charts on the ODU website at https://www.odu.edu/academics/academic-records/score-analysis/ap-ib (https://www.odu.edu/academics/academic-records/score-analysis/ap-ib/).

Additional major requirements are listed under the various departments. The requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Music degrees are listed under art and music respectively. The requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in communication, criminal justice, geography, political science, sociology, interdisciplinary studies, and women's studies will be found under political science and geography, sociology and criminal justice, communication and theatre arts, interdisciplinary studies, and women's studies.

Students wishing to take a major or minor in the College of Arts and Letters must register with the appropriate department. The College of Arts and
Letters allows a maximum of six hours of activity credit. Activity credit beyond the established maximum may be given in unusual circumstances only and will require the approval of the dean of the College of Arts and Letters. Activity credit required by a student’s major department will not be counted against the credit limitation.

Departments

- Art (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/)
- Communication and Theatre Arts (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-theatre-arts/)
- English (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/english/)
- F. Ludwig Diehn School of Music (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/)
- History (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/history/)
- Interdisciplinary Studies (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/interdisciplinary-studies/)
- Philosophy and Religious Studies (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/philosophy-religious-studies/)
- Political Science and Geography (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/)
- Sociology and Criminal Justice (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology-criminal-justice/)
- Women’s and Gender Studies (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/womens-studies/)
- World Languages and Cultures (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-cultures/)

Programs

Bachelor of Arts Programs

- African American and African Studies (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/african-american-studies/african-american-studies-ba/)
- Art with a Major in Art History (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/art-history-ba/)
- Art with a Major in Visual Studies (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/art-visual-studies-ba/)
- Asian Studies (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/asia/asia-studies-ba/)
- Communication with a Major in Cinema & TV Production (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-cinema-tv-production-ba/)
- Communication with a Major in Communication Studies (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-theatre-arts/communication-studies-ba/)
- Communication with a Major in Media Studies (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-theatre-ars/media-studies-ba/)
- Communication with a Major in Organizational and Interpersonal Communication (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-arts/organizational-interpersonal-communication-ba/)
- Communication with a Major in Strategic Communication (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-theatre-arts/communication-strategic-ba/)
- Criminal Justice (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/criminal-justice/)
- English with a Major in Applied Linguistics (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/english/english-applied-linguistics-ba/)
- English with a Major in Creative Writing (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/english/english-creative-writing-ba/)
- English with a Major in Journalism (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/english/english-journalism-ba/)
- English with a Major in Literature (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/english/english-literature-ba/)
- English with a Major in Secondary English Education (6-12) (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/english/english-secondary-education-ba/)
- English with a Major in Technical Writing (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/english/english-technical-writing-ba/)
- Geography (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/geography/)
- Geography with a Major in Environment and Resources (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/geography-environment-resources-ba/)
- Geography with a Major in Urban Planning & Emergency Hazards Management (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/geography-urban-planning-emergency-hazards-management-ba/)
- History (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/history/history-ba/)
- History with a Major in Secondary History/Social Sciences Education (6-12) (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/history/history-secondary-social-sciences-education-ba/)
- Interdisciplinary Studies with a Major in Individualized Integrative Studies (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/interdisciplinary-studies/individualized-integrative-ba/)
- International Studies (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/international-studies-ba/)
- Music (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/music-ba/)
- Philosophy (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/philosophy/philosophy-ba/)
- Philosophy with a Major in Political and Legal Studies (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/philosophy-political-legal-studies-ba/)
- Philosophy with a Major in Religious Studies (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/philosophy-religious-studies/philosophy-religious-studies-ba/)
- Political Science (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science/ba/)
- Political Science with a Major in International Affairs and Global Politics (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/political-science-international-affairs-global-politics-ba/)
- Sociology (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology/criminal-justice/sociology-ba/)
- Sociology with a Major in Social Welfare (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology-social-welfare-ba/)
- Theatre & Dance with a Major in Cinema Production (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/theatre-dance-cinema-production-ba/)
- Theatre & Dance with a Major in Design Technology (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/theatre-dance-design-technology-ba/)
- Theatre & Dance with a Major in Performance (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/theatre-dance-performance-ba/)
- Theatre & Dance with a Major in PreK-12 Dance Education (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/theatre-dance-prek-12-education-ba/)
- Theatre & Dance with a Major in PreK-12 Theatre Education (BA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/theatre-dance-prek-1-education-ba/)
Bachelor of Fine Arts Programs

- Fine Arts with a Major in 3D Media and Material Studies (BFA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/fine-arts-3d-media-material-studies-bfa/)
- Fine Arts with a Major in Art Education for Museums and Cultural Institutions (BFA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/fine-arts-education-museums-cultural-institutions-bfa/)
- Fine Arts with a Major in Graphic Design (BFA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/fine-arts-graphic-design-bfa/)
- Fine Arts with a Major in Painting and Drawing (BFA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/fine-arts-painting-drawing-bfa/)
- Fine Arts with a Major in Photography and Print Media (BFA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/fine-arts-photography-print-media-bfa/)
- Fine Arts with a Major in PreK-12 Art Education (BFA) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/fine-arts-prek-12-art-education-bfa/)

Bachelor of Music Programs

- Music with an Emphasis in Sound Recording Technology (BM) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/music-sound-recording-technology-bm/)
- Music with a Major in Composition (BM) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/music-composition-bm/)
- Music with a Major in Performance (BM) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/music-performance-orchestral-instruments-bm/)
- Music with a Major in PreK-12 Instrumental Music Education (BM) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/music-education-instrumental-bm/)
- Music with a Major in PreK-12 Vocal Music Education (BM) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/music-education-voice-bm/)
• Political Science (BS) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/political-science-bs/)
• Political Science with a Major in Analytics, Institutions, and Public Policy (BS) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/political-science-analytics-institutions-public-policy-bs/)
• Political Science with a Major in International Affairs and Global Politics (BS) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/political-science-international-affairs-global-politics-bs/)
• Sociology (BS) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology-crime-justice/sociology-bs/)
• Sociology with a Major in Social Welfare (BS) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology-crime-justice/sociology-social-welfare-bs/)
• Women’s Studies (BS) (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/womens-studies/womens-studies-bs/)

Minor Programs

• Administrative Leadership and Ethics for Professional Roles
  Interdisciplinary Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/philosophy-religious-studies/administrative-leadership-ethics-professional-roles-minor/)
• African American Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/afro-american-studies/afro-american-studies-minor/)
• American Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/minors/american-studies-minor/)
• Applied Ethics Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/philosophy-religious-studies/applied-ethics-minor/)
• Arabic Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-cultures/arabic-minor/)
• Art History Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/art-history-minor/)
• Asian Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/asian-studies/asian-studies-minor/)
• Children’s Rights Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology-crime-justice/childrens-rights-minor/)
• Chinese Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-cultures/chinese-studies-minor/)
• Communication Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-theatre-arts/communication-minor/)
• Criminal Justice Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology-crime-justice/criminal-justice-minor/)
• Cybercrime Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/interdisciplinary-studies/cybercrime-minor/)
• Dance Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-theatre-arts/dance-minor/)
• English Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/english/english-minor/)
• Environment and Resources Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/environment-resources-minor/)
• European Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-culture/european-studies-minor/)
• Film Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-theatre-arts/film-studies-minor/)
• French Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-cultures/french-minor/)
• Geography Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/geography-minor/)
• German Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-cultures/german-minor/)
• Health Equity and Social Justice Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology-crime-justice/health-equity-and-social-justice-minor/)
• History Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/history/history-minor/)
• Holocaust and Genocide Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/minors/holocaust-genocide-studies-minor/)
• International Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/international-studies-minor/)
• Japanese Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-cultures/japanese-minor/)
• Jewish Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/minors/jewish-studies-minor/)
• Latin American Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-cultures/latin-american-studies-minor/)
• Media Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-theatre-arts/media-studies-minor/)
• Middle Eastern Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/minors/middle-eastern-studies-minor/)
• Music Composition Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/music-composition-minor/)
• Music History Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/music-history-minor/)
• Music Performance Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/music/music-performance-minor/)
• Philosophy Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/philosophy-religious-studies/philosophy-minor/)
• Political and Legal Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/philosophy-religious-studies/political-legal-studies-minor/)
• Political Geography Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/political-geography-minor/)
• Political Science Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/political-science-minor/)
• Print Media Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/print-media-minor/)
• Public Law Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/public-law-minor/)
• Queer Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/political-science-geography/queer-studies-minor/)
• Religious Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/philosophy-religious-studies/religious-studies-minor/)
• Sociology Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/sociology-crime-justice/sociology-minor/)
• Spanish Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-cultures/spanish-minor/)
• Studio Art Photography Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/studio-art-photography-minor/)
• Studio Arts Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/studio-arts-minor/)
• Sustainability and Conservation Leadership Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/interdisciplinary-studies/sustainability-conservation-leadership-minor/)
• The Designed World Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/art/design-world-interdisciplinary-minor/)
• Theatre Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/communication-theatre-arts/theatre-minor/)
• Women’s Studies Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/womens-studies/womens-studies-minor/)
• World Cultures: Values and Visions Minor (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/arts-letters/world-languages-cultures/world-cultures-values-visions-minor/)
Minors in Chinese Studies, European Studies, Japanese, Latin American Studies, and World Cultures: Values and Visions

See the Minors section of the Department of World Languages and Cultures (http://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/collegeofartsletters/worldlanguagesandcultures/).

Centers and Institutes

Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs (IEPA)

The Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs seeks to raise awareness and stimulate discussion of the ethical dimension of matters of public concern within the campus community and the larger Hampton Roads community; to strengthen moral community and foster a commitment to ethical ideals in public life; to facilitate reflection on the ethical standards that govern the professions; and to highlight the unique and valuable contribution that philosophical reasoning can make to practical decision making.

Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity (ISRE)

The Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity (ISRE) seeks to develop, promote and implement academic, research and public service programs that focus on the study of race and ethnicity in Hampton Roads, Virginia, the nation, and throughout the African Diaspora. The political, social, economic, cultural and historical experiences of African Americans and other communities of color are important dimensions emphasized in the work of the institute. As such, the institute seeks to establish itself as a major archive and research center in the southeast United States focusing on the experiences of African Americans.

The institute promotes high quality teaching and rigorous policy-oriented research emphasizing interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches, as well as the methods of the traditional social sciences and humanities disciplines. New and improved facilities such as a mini-archive, library, reading and meeting areas and a research/resource center for faculty and students are available.

Institute of Asian Studies

Old Dominion University seeks to promote an expanded awareness and understanding of the nations and cultures of Asia, to support and encourage research on Asia, and to make resources available to foster better understanding and more effective interaction between organizations and individuals in the Hampton Roads area and those in Asia. To achieve these goals, the Institute of Asian Studies coordinates special programs and administers a major and minor in Asian studies. It also facilitates cooperative relationships with higher education institutions and other organizations within the United States and throughout Asia. The institute director works closely with the Center for Global Engagement regarding scholarships and study abroad programs and opportunities.

The Institute for Jewish Studies and Interfaith Understanding

The Institute for Jewish Studies and Interfaith Understanding (IJIU) is dedicated to the idea that interfaith understanding involves both an appreciation of Judaism's historic role in the development of western civilization and an understanding of the cross-cultural development of the world's religions. IJIU sponsors programs and activities about religious and ethnic diversity worldwide in support of the University's commitment to open dialogue and to inspire a greater understanding of the issues and challenges that confront us at the dawn of the new century. Truly a collaboration of the University and the community, the institute seeks partners and sponsors to offer a wide array of courses to complement the Jewish studies minor and the religious studies minor and to sponsor cultural programs offered at Old Dominion University.

The IJIU is housed in the College of Arts and Letters. The office is located in the Cooper Room, BAL 2024, in the Batten Arts and Letters Building.

Monarch Institute for Game Design and Development (MIGDD)

The Monarch Institute for Game Design and Development (MIGDD) supports the college’s Game Design, Development, and Criticism majors, which are housed in the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies. Its mission includes promoting collaborative gaming research and interdisciplinary cooperation between existing colleges and departments, encouraging the translation of research into product development and commercialization, providing students with internships and other experiential learning opportunities, and facilitating community engagement and outreach.