

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 (SMA) 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 candidates 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 students learn. Therefore, the Division of Teacher Education assesses candidates in these standards from admissions through recommendation of credentials, making APU graduates highly sought-after professionals.

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.

Additional Preparation

Multiple Subject and Education Specialist preliminary credential candidates seeking admission into the teacher education program (<http://catalog.apu.edu/academics/school-education/teacher-education/>) may satisfy the California Basic Skills Requirement ([https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/basic-skills-requirement-\(cl-667/](https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/basic-skills-requirement-(cl-667/)) and the California Subject Matter Requirement (<https://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/subject-matter-requirements/>) through coursework and/or completion of the Liberal Studies major. Those who satisfy the requirements by graduation may be hired on paid contracts with a school district once their bachelor's degree has been conferred and while completing a program for their Multiple Subject Teaching Credential.

Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Education and Human Development		
Select one of the following:		4
EDLS 200	Introduction to Teaching as a Profession K-12 ^{1,2}	
EDLS 202	Introduction to Teaching as a Profession (7-12) ^{1,2}	
PSYC 290	Human Growth and Development ^{1,3}	3
EDLS 405	Diversity in the Classroom ^{1,4}	3

EDLS 495	Foundations of Education Capstone ^{1, 5}	3
EDLS 496	Writing 3: Education and Professional Ethics ^{1, 6}	3
English/Language Arts		
COMM 111	Public Communication ⁷	3
ENGL 111	Studies in Literature ⁸	3
THTR 115	Introduction to Theater ⁹	3
ENGL 402	Principles of Language	3
ENGL 434	Children's Literature ¹	3
Mathematics		
Select one of the following:		3
MATH 110	College Algebra ¹⁰	
MATH 130	Introduction to Statistics ¹⁰	
MATH 201	Mathematics Concepts for Elementary Teachers ¹	3
Science		
Select one of the following:		4
BIOL 101	Biology and Society ¹¹	
BIOL 151	General Biology I ¹¹	
PHYC 115	Physical Science for Teachers	3
PHYC 125	Earth Science Concepts and Applications	3
BIOL 400	Science and Children ¹	4
Social Science		
HIST 121	World Civilizations Since 1648 ¹²	3
HIST 201	World Civilizations and Geography to 1648	3
HIST 202	United States History to 1930 ^{1, 13}	3
HIST 338	History of California	3
Physical Education		
PE 450	Physical Education in Elementary Schools, K-6 ¹	3
Visual and Performing Arts		
ART 310	Fundamental Art Experiences ^{1, 9}	3
MUS 432	Music in the Elementary Schools ¹	3
Concentrations		
Select one concentration from the list below.		12

Total Units **84**

¹ This is a core liberal studies course. The 38 units of core liberal studies coursework must be completed with a grade of C or higher and an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.

² Meets the General Education Civic Knowledge and Engagement requirement.

³ Meets the General Education Social Sciences requirement.

⁴ Meets the General Education Intercultural Competence requirement.

⁵ Meets the General Education Integrative and Applied Learning requirement.

⁶ Meets the General Education Writing 3 requirement.

⁷ Meets the General Education Oral Communication requirement.

⁸ Meets the General Education Humanities: Literature requirement.

⁹ Meets the General Education Humanities: Fine Arts requirement.

¹⁰ Meets the General Education Quantitative Literacy requirement.

¹¹ Meets the General Education Natural Sciences requirement.

¹² Meets the General Education Humanities: History requirement.

¹³ 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.

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	Writing 3: History of Modern Art and Architecture ²	
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.

² Meets the General Education Writing 3 requirement.

English Concentration

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
ENGL 404	Approaches to Grammar	3
ENGL 406	Writing 3: Advanced Composition ¹	3
Select one of the following English or world literature courses:		3
ENGL 222	English Literature to 1789 ²	
ENGL 224	World Literature to the Renaissance ²	
ENGL 232	English Literature Since 1789 ²	
ENGL 234	World Literature Since the Renaissance ²	
ENGL 377	Shakespeare	
ENGL 386	Contemporary Global Writers	
ENGL 466	British Novel	
Select one of the following American literature courses:		3
ENGL 244	American Literature to 1865 (Select one of the following American literature courses:) ²	
ENGL 254	American Literature Since 1865 ²	
ENGL 364	American Ethnic Literature ³	
ENGL 374	African American Literature	
ENGL 410	American Novel	
Total Units		12

¹ Meets the General Education Writing 3 requirement.

² Meets the General Education Humanities: Literature requirement.

³ 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 Mathematics, Physics, and Statistics (<http://catalog.apu.edu/academics/college-liberal-arts-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	Writing 3: Baroque, Classical, and Early Romantic Music Literature ⁴	
MUS 455	Late Romantic and 20th-Century Music Literature ⁵	
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 Writing 3 requirement.
⁵ 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 Electives		
PHYC 140	Introduction to Astronomy ¹	
PHYC 151	Physics for Life Sciences I	
Total Units		12

- ¹ Meets the General Education Natural Sciences requirement.

Social Science Concentration

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
POLI 150	American Government ^{1, 2}	3
HIST 210	World Geography	3
Select one of the following non-Western 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	
POLI 390	History and Politics of the Non-Western World	
Select one of the following social science courses:		3
ECON 250	Principles of Macroeconomics ³	
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 Meets the General Education Civic Knowledge and Engagement requirement.
² 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.
³ 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 431	Spanish Language Poetry and Short Story	
SPAN 460	Writing 3: Survey of the Literature of the Spanish-Speaking World ⁴	
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.

⁴ Meets the General Education Writing 3 requirement.

Program Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this program shall be able to:

1. Analyze and demonstrate proficiency in subject matter required of K--8 teachers by the State of California.
2. Integrate K--8 curriculum concepts and disciplines.
3. Define teaching methods of instruction using best practices with a Christian perspective.
4. Understand aspects of cultural diversity within the context of the classroom.
5. Identify a distinctive Christian perspective compared to a secular perspective as it pertains to current education issues.