

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

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Admission Requirements

Formal entrance requirements for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are the same as for the University of Maine.

Did You Know?

There's no better public-funded liberal arts college in Maine, and none with a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. With our connections to many graduate programs, and the option to combine a liberal arts major with an Honors degree or a second major from any of the other four academic colleges on the UMaine campus, we offer private college excellence at public university prices.

About the College

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is the heart of the University, with 18 departments, and more than 35 majors and 40 minors in fine and performing arts, humanities, science and mathematics, social sciences and interdisciplinary programs, all combinable with the Honors Program. Collaborative programs in some areas lead to secondary teaching, and programs in computer science, clinical psychology, speech-language pathology, and music are professionally accredited. The college offers small-school quality combined with large-school diversity, the chance to join majors small enough to constitute a university “home” and study with like-minded peers within the larger community of a land-grant university. With the range and depth of our academic programs, many with graduate components, students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences can elect many double-major and major-minor combinations, including programs that combine study in CLAS with majors or minors in the other colleges. Students praise the accessibility and friendliness of professors and staff, and they enjoy a broad selection of programs taught by world-class faculty engaged in cutting-edge research. Many courses combine study, research and community outreach. The college is proud of its tradition of educating leaders in Maine and around the world for important roles in government, science, business, education and the professions. Our graduates give back to the state and the nation that helped support their aspirations for higher education.

Undergraduate Research and Scholarship

Students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences work alongside faculty and graduate students to conduct research in many academic fields — from archaeological digs in Peru and on the Maine coast to the performing arts stage in choreographing dance events; from Maine-based research focusing on the changing lives of Somali women to a campus laboratory assisting a chemistry professor researching the potential of the molecular structures of human breath to diagnose disease; from working up a lecture on how philosophers have construed the problem of the material world to designing a museum show for visual artists in the newly renovated Lord Hall Gallery.

Students cross classroom boundaries through opportunities to combine community service with learning in the major. As a UMaine student, you can intern in a U.S. senator's Washington office, use your Spanish to help communities in Honduras or conduct a public relations campaign for a Bangor cultural institution like the Children's Museum or the Penobscot Theatre. Take the Story Bank of Maine concept into area high schools or develop an after-school art curriculum for children. Make exciting new media designs to document a folk festival in Alaska while learning to anticipate the next new technological advancement and its effects on our lives, or build a writer's or photographer's portfolio working for the student newspaper, *The Maine Campus*. Many other special opportunities are available for hands-on learning, internships, travel, competitions, and participation in scholarly and research associations. See Fact Sheets for individual CLAS degree programs for details.

Degree Programs and Concentrations

Anthropology – Bachelor of Arts	Mathematics – Bachelor of Arts
Art Education – Bachelor of Arts	Modern Languages – Bachelor of Arts
Art History – Bachelor of Arts	Music – Bachelor of Arts
Chemistry – Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science	Music Education – Bachelor of Music
Communication – Bachelor of Arts	Music Performance – Bachelor of Music
Communication Sciences and Disorders – Bachelor of Arts	New Media – Bachelor of Arts
Computer Science – Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science	Philosophy – Bachelor of Arts
English – Bachelor of Arts	Physics – Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science
French – Bachelor of Arts	Political Science – Bachelor of Arts
German – Bachelor of Arts	Psychology – Bachelor of Arts
History – Bachelor of Arts	Romance Languages – Bachelor of Arts
International Affairs – Bachelor of Arts	Sociology – Bachelor of Arts
Journalism – Bachelor of Arts	Spanish – Bachelor of Arts
Latin – Bachelor of Arts	Studio Art – Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts
Mass Communication – Bachelor of Arts	Theatre – Bachelor of Arts
	Women's Studies – Bachelor of Arts

Student Awards and Recognition

The University of Maine is one of only four Phi Beta Kappa chapters in the state. In addition, we have many disciplinary-specific honor societies in the college. Each year, the college invites students who earn a 3.75 grade point average or higher in their first semester to be honored by the dean and faculty at a special reception, and as “The Top of the Class” to be involved in special college activities all four years. Every April, the college sponsors an Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Conference for students who have produced strong and original work in their academic disciplines. CLAS has more than 90 scholarships and prizes for undergraduate students.

About Our Graduates

Liberal arts graduates continue to be respected and prized by business, government, entrepreneurial and nonprofit employers for their abilities to analyze and address problems from multiple perspectives and to make creative contributions from a well-grounded and well-rounded foundation of knowledge. Medical and pharmacy schools are especially eager to consider applicants from chemistry and physics for research careers. They prize diversity and have recently recruited CLAS students from art history and sociology. Any liberal arts major can be combined at UMaine with a pre-med curriculum, and any CLAS student is eligible for additional advising in UMaine's Pre-Health Professions Program. Employers are also very interested in recruiting students with strong language skills and sensitivity to different cultures. Such students in many of our majors are in a good position to pursue great global opportunities. Corporations are recruiting philosophy and women's studies majors because their backgrounds have made them good at defining and addressing problems, and at seeing human relations in changing cultural and legal circumstances from multiple perspectives. Human resources departments are always interested in students who majored in any field that focused on the development of social awareness and communication skills. People with strong quantitative skills, especially in combination with knowledge in other areas, can just about write their own tickets these days. Our college's opportunities to apply math in real-world situations through double majors or major/minor combinations build great resumes.

About UMaine

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, go online (umaine.edu). Equal opportunity information also is available online (umaine.edu/eo).

How do I apply?

Visit go.umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.



Academic Programs 2011–12

The latest versions of the UMaine fact sheets are online (factsheets.umaine.edu). This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.

