

LIBERAL ARTS, B.L.A.

Juneau, e-Learning

The Bachelor of Liberal Arts degree is designed for UAS students seeking a broad-based, multidisciplinary education. It is designed particularly for those students who have already completed a two-year Associates degree, transfer students from other universities, and non-traditional students who have previously completed university credits.

Students consult with faculty in their areas of interest to pursue interdisciplinary or individualized courses of study. This Liberal Arts degree can lead to graduate school or jobs in which critical thinking and communication skills are valued. BLA graduates who are interested in teaching may also apply to the one-year Master at Arts in Teaching programs at UAS. Program assessment plans and student learning outcomes are posted at the Program Assessment website (<http://www.uas.alaska.edu/provost/assessment/program-assessment1.html>).

Liberal Arts Emphasis Options

In each BLA degree program, students pursue one of the following Emphasis options: Designated Emphasis, Interdisciplinary Studies, or Independent Design. Courses used for GER credit cannot be used to fulfill Liberal Arts Emphasis courses or must be replaced by substitute disciplinary courses of equal credits.

BLA degrees must include:

- 120 credits minimum.
- 60 credits minimum in the Liberal Arts Major (18 credits Liberal Arts Core, 42 credits Liberal Arts Emphasis). Of this total, 45 credits minimum must be completed through UAS.
- 42 credits minimum upper-division.
- No more than 12 credits of independent study, practicum or internship in the Liberal Arts Major.
- 3 credits minimum upper-division capstone course completed through UAS.

Admission Requirements

Students need to complete a formal application process at Admissions on the local campus (Juneau, Ketchikan, Sitka) or online at uaonline.alaska.edu (<http://uaonline.alaska.edu>).

Minimum eligibility requirements for admission to the BLA degree program:

Code	Title	Credits
Credits completed at the 100 level or above		24
MATH S113	Concepts and Contemporary Applications of Mathematics ^{1,2}	3
MATH S151	College Algebra for Calculus ^{1,2}	4
STAT S107	Survey of Statistics ^{1,2}	4
WRTG S111	Writing Across Contexts	3

¹ Or transfer equivalency

² Admission permitted with MATH S105 or equivalency and concurrent enrollment in MATH S113, MATH S151 or STAT S107.

Students are placed in "premajor" status and will be moved to major status pending advisor approval.

Requirement	Hours
Minimum Credit Hours	120
General Education Requirements	35
Liberal Arts Major	60
Electives/Minor	25

The Liberal Arts Major combines Core and Emphasis courses. Of the 60 total credits required for the Major, 45 must be completed through UAS. Courses completed for the Liberal Arts Major must receive a grade of C (2.00) or better. Courses in a degree program may be counted only once: that is, courses used as Major requirements cannot be used in other parts of the degree program. Courses used for GER credit cannot be used to fulfill Liberal Arts Major courses or must be replaced by substitute courses of equal credits.

Liberal Arts Core

Code	Title	Credits
Minimum Liberal Arts Core		18
HUM S200	Orientation to the Liberal Arts	2
HUM S210	BLA Portfolio Review	1
Alaska Native or other Language (not English) ¹		6-8
Alaska Native Studies ²		3-4
Communications, Literature, or Writing (upper-division elective) ³		3
Philosophy, (Introduction, Logic, or Ethics) ⁴		3
Electives (if applicable, see footnotes) ^{1,2}		9

¹ Six to eight credits in a one-year sequence of a single Alaska Native or other language. With departmental approval, students who study abroad in a language other than English, or who have a documented proficiency in a language (other than English), will be considered to have met their language requirement. Students will need to substitute additional credits to fulfill degree requirements.

² This requirement may be waived if the Liberal Arts major includes an approved course focusing on Alaska Native Studies. Note that, in this case, an additional 3 credits in the core electives will be needed. This is a list of approved courses: AKL SXXX, ANS SXXX, ANTH S200, ANTH S225, ANTH S428, ANTH S435, ANTH S475, ART S180, ART S183, ART S189, ART S263, ART S280, ART S281, ART S282, ART S284, ART S285, ART S286, ART S380, ART S381, ART S382, ART S385, ART S386, ART S480, ART S482, ART S485, ART S486, ENGL S365, ENGL S370, GEOG S302, HIST S341, PS S313.
Only 400 level ART courses are repeatable for credit.

³ COMM S3XX, COMM S4XX, ENGL S3XX, ENGL S4XX

⁴ PHIL S101, PHIL S201, PHIL S206, PHIL S301

Upon admission into the BLA program, students are required to enroll in Orientation to the Liberal Arts and Student Portfolio courses. These courses are designed to assist students in planning their program of study with the approval of their BLA faculty advisor. The portfolio is used for purposes of continuing self-assessment during the student's BLA program. Students must complete the Orientation and Portfolio courses within the first three semesters after matriculation; those who do not will be dropped from the BLA program and must officially reapply for admission.

Liberal Arts Emphasis

42 credits

General Requirements for **all emphasis options**:

1. During the semester the student is admitted to the BLA, an Emphasis option (listed below) must be formally declared by the student and approved by the BLA coordinator or the student's faculty advisor.
2. 24 minimum upper-division in credits required in the Emphasis program (18 minimum credits completed through UAS).
3. Includes a Capstone Course: HUM S499.

Designated Emphasis

A designated emphasis provides a focused course of study in the Liberal Arts not available through other baccalaureate degree programs offered through UAS.

Alaska Native Languages and Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Designated Emphasis Requirements 42 credits		
ANS S101	Introduction to Alaska Native Studies	3
ANS S460 or ANTH S475 or ART S263	ANCSA and Tribal Governance Alaska Native Social Change Northwest Coast Native Art History and Culture	3
HUM S499	Humanities Capstone	3
Select one of the following language sequences:		8
AKL S105 & AKL S106	Beginning Tlingit I and Beginning Tlingit II	
AKL S107 & AKL S108	Beginning Haida I and Beginning Haida II	
AKL S109 & AKL S110	Beginning Tsimshian I and Beginning Tsimshian II	
Any Alaska Native Languages or Northwest Coast Art course, or any Alaska Native-Specific Humanities, Social Science, or Cross-disciplinary courses approved by the BLA Alaska Native Studies Faculty Advisor (these courses may be from different disciplines, but all must have Alaska Native themes or issues as an important component in their curriculum).		
Electives		25
Select 25 credits of electives, 15 of which must be upper-division.		
AKL S106	Beginning Tlingit II	
AKL S108	Beginning Haida II	
AKL S205	Intermediate Tlingit I	
AKL S206	Intermediate Tlingit II	
AKL S207	Intermediate Haida II	
AKL S208	Intermediate Haida II	
AKL S241	Native Oratory	
AKL S305	Advanced Tlingit I	
AKL S306	Advanced Tlingit II	
AKL S307	Advanced Haida I	
AKL S308	Advanced Haida II	
AKL S350	Tlingit Oral Literature	

AKL S401	Alaska Language Apprenticeship/ Mentorship
AKL S410	Heritage Language Teaching Methods and Materials
AKL S451	Introduction to Tlingit Linguistics I
AKL S452	Introduction to Tlingit Linguistics II
AKL S470	Indigenous Language Revitalization
ANS S320	AK Native Ecological Knowledge
ANTH S200	Alaska Native Cultures
ANTH S225	Artistic Expressions and Oral Narratives of Alaska Natives
ANTH S335	Native North Americans
ANTH S342	Arctic Anthropology
ANTH S428	Tlingit Culture and History
ANTH S435	Northwest Coast Cultures
ANTH S458	Alaska Native Economic and Political Development
ART S180	Northwest Coast Art: Selected Topics
ART S181	Beginning Northwest Coast Design
ART S183	Harvest and Preparation of Basket Materials
ART S189	Northwest Coast Tool Making
ART S280	Northwest Coast Art: Selected Topics
ART S281	Intermediate Northwest Coast Design
ART S282	Beginning Northwest Coast Basketry
ART S284	Northwest Coast Basket Design
ART S285	Beginning Northwest Coast Carving
ART S286	Beginning Northwest Coast Woolen Weaving
ART S380	Northwest Coast Art: Selected Topics
ART S381	Advanced Northwest Coast Design
ART S382	Intermediate Northwest Coast Basketry
ART S385	Intermediate Northwest Coast Carving
ART S386	Intermediate Northwest Coast Woolen Weaving
ART S480	Northwest Coast Art: Selected Topics
ART S482	Advanced Northwest Coast Basketry
ART S485	Advanced Northwest Coast Carving
ART S486	Advanced Northwest Coast Woolen Weaving
ENGL S365	Literature of Alaska: Native and Non-Native Perspectives
ENGL S370	Native American Literature
HIST S341	History of Alaska
PS S313	Alaska Politics and Government

Total Credits 42

Outdoor and Adventure Studies

Minimum emphasis credit hours 52-56

Code	Title	Credits
Designated Emphasis Requirements		
ENGL S303	Literature and the Environment	3
HUM S270	Sport, Leisure and Culture	3
HUM S499	Humanities Capstone	3
ODS S120	Wilderness First Responder	4
ODS S243	Introduction to Outdoor Leadership	3
ODS S244	Outdoor Leadership	2
ODS S245	Outdoor Leadership Capstone	1-4
ODS S372	Mountain Adventure: Philosophy, Literature and Practice	3
ODS S444	Expedition Planning and Leadership	2
ODS S445	Outdoor Studies Emphasis Capstone	2-4
PHIL S371	Perspectives on the Natural World	3
ODS Electives		
Select 15 credits of the following:		15
ODS S114	Backpacking in Southeast Alaska	
ODS S115	Winter Backpacking in Southeast Alaska	
ODS S116	Introduction to Rock Climbing	
ODS S117	Introduction to Ice Climbing	
ODS S118	Avalanche Evaluation and Theory I	
ODS S119	Introduction to Fly Fishing, Tying, and Casting	
ODS S133	Introduction to Sea Kayaking	
ODS S148	Backcountry Skiing and Snowboarding	
ODS S205	Backcountry Navigation	
ODS S216	Rock Climbing Level II	
ODS S217	Ice Climbing Level II	
ODS S218	Avalanche Evaluation and Theory Level II	
ODS S221	Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue Fundamentals	
ODS S222	Mountaineering I	
Other approved ODS skills courses		
Upper-Division Electives ¹		
Select two of the following:		6
ANTH S314	Archaeology of Southeast Alaska	
ANTH S342	Arctic Anthropology	
ANTH S408	Ethnobiology	
ANTH S428	Tlingit Culture and History	
ANTH S458	Alaska Native Economic and Political Development	
ENGL S363	Nature Writing	
ENGL S365	Literature of Alaska: Native and Non-Native Perspectives	
ENGL S370	Native American Literature	

ENGL S423	Ecocriticism
ENVS S302	Glaciology
ENVS S407	Snow Hydrology
ENVS S415	Biogeography and Landscape Ecology
ENVS S422	Earth's Climate System
GEOG S312	Humans and the Environment
GEOL S300	Geology of Alaska
GEOL S301	Geomorphology
GEOL S302	Hydrology
PS S313	Alaska Politics and Government
SOC S404	Environmental Sociology

Total Credits 50-55

¹ Advisor-approved courses

Requirement	Hours
Minimum Credit Hours	120
General Education Requirements	35
Liberal Arts Major	60
Electives/Minor	25

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Liberal Arts Core

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HUM S210	BLA Portfolio Review	1
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Alaska Native Studies ²		3-4
Communications, Literature, or Writing (upper-division elective) ³		3
Philosophy, (Introduction, Logic, or Ethics) ⁴		3
Electives (if applicable, see footnotes) ^{1,2}		9

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² This requirement may be waived if the Liberal Arts major includes an approved course focusing on Alaska Native Studies. Note that, in this case, an additional 3 credits in the core electives will be needed. This is a list of approved courses: AKL SXXX, ANS SXXX, ANTH S200, ANTH S225, ANTH S428, ANTH S435, ANTH S475, ART S180, ART S183, ART S189, ART S263, ART S280, ART S281, ART S282, ART S284, ART S285, ART S286, ART S380, ART S381, ART S382, ART S385, ART S386, ART S480, ART S482, ART S485, ART S486, ENGL S365, ENGL S370, GEOG S302, HIST S341, PS S313.

Only 400 level ART courses are repeatable for credit.

³ COMM S3XX, COMM S4XX, ENGL S3XX, ENGL S4XX

⁴ PHIL S101, PHIL S201, PHIL S206, PHIL S301

This requirement may be waived if the Liberal Arts major includes one of these courses. Note that, in this case, an additional 3 credits in the core electives will be needed.

Upon admission into the BLA program, students are required to enroll in Orientation to the Liberal Arts and Student Portfolio courses. These courses are designed to assist students in planning their program of study with the approval of their BLA faculty advisor. The portfolio is used for purposes of continuing self-assessment during the student's BLA program. Students must complete the Orientation and Portfolio courses within the first three semesters after matriculation; those who do not will be dropped from the BLA program and must officially reapply for admission.

Liberal Arts Emphasis

42 credits

General Requirements for **all emphasis options**:

1. During the semester the student is admitted to the BLA, an Emphasis option (listed below) must be formally declared by the student and approved by the BLA coordinator or the student's faculty advisor.
2. 24 minimum upper-division in credits required in the Emphasis program (18 minimum credits completed through UAS).
3. Includes a Capstone Course: HUM S499.

Interdisciplinary Studies

Interdisciplinary Studies provides academic depth to a general course of Liberal Arts study by combining cross-disciplinary primary and secondary fields. Primary and secondary fields must be from different disciplines. Primary and secondary fields may not both be Social Sciences. The Interdisciplinary Studies program must be approved by the student's BLA faculty advisor.

Code	Title	Credits
Primary Field		
Minimum 15 credits upper-division		24
Secondary Field		
Minimum 6 credits upper-division		15
Capstone		
HUM S499	Humanities Capstone	3

Primary Field

The primary field consists of BLA faculty advisor approved course electives (24 credits, minimum of 15 credits upper division) under one the following categories. In some instances, minimal course requirements are designated.

Code	Title	Credits
Alaska Native Languages and Studies ¹		
Select one of the following language sequences:		8
AKL S105 & AKL S106	Beginning Tlingit I and Beginning Tlingit II	
AKL S107 & AKL S108	Beginning Haida I and Beginning Haida II	
Anthropology		
ANTH S202	Cultural Anthropology	3
ANTH S205	Biological Anthropology	3
Art		
ART S261	History of World Art I	3
ART S262	History of World Art II	3
English		
Government/Political Science		
SSCI S300	Research Methods in Social Science	3
History		
HIST S131	History of the U.S. I	3
HIST S132	History of the U.S. II	3
Humanities		
Any two of the following Humanities disciplines: Art, English, History, Alaska Native Languages (including Tlingit, Haida), Modern Languages, (including Spanish), Philosophy, Theatre, or BLA faculty advisor approved Humanities discipline.		12
<i>Discipline 1</i>		
Minimum 9 credits upper-division		
<i>Discipline 2</i>		
Minimum 6 credits upper-division		
Social Sciences		
Any two of the following Social Science disciplines: Anthropology, Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, or BLA faculty advisor approved Social Science discipline.		
Sociology		
SOC S101	Introduction to Sociology	3
Select one of the following:		3-4
Statistics		
STAT S107	Survey of Statistics (or higher)	
Research Methods		
SSCI S300	Research Methods in Social Science (or other BLA faculty advisor approved methods course)	

¹ The remaining courses may be selected from any Alaska Native Languages or Northwest Coast Art course, or any Alaska Native-specific Humanities, Social Science, or Cross-Disciplinary courses approved by the BLA Alaska Native Studies Faculty Advisor (these courses may be from different disciplines, but all must have Alaska Native themes or issues as an important component in their curriculum. A student completing a primary field in Alaska Native Languages and Studies **may not** choose a secondary field in Tlingit Language.

Secondary Field

The secondary field, which must be from a different discipline than the primary field, consists of 15 credits (minimum 6 credits upper-division).

Liberal Arts secondary fields available at UAS include: Alaska Native Languages and Studies (See primary field description for minimal requirements), Anthropology, Art, Biology, Communication, Creative Writing, Economics, English, Environmental Science, Government, History, Mathematics, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish, Theatre, Tlingit Language.

Liberal Arts Electives/Minor

25 credits

Courses from AA degrees, transfer credits from accredited universities or colleges, or other University of Alaska credits at the 100 level or higher may be counted for elective credit. A Minor field must differ from disciplinary coursework completed for the Liberal Arts Emphasis. Any overlap in specific courses between GER, the Liberal Arts Major, and a Minor requires course substitutions.

Requirement	Hours
Minimum Credit Hours	120
General Education Requirements	35
Liberal Arts Major	60
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Only 400 level ART courses are repeatable for credit.
- ³ COMM S3XX, COMM S4XX, ENGL S3XX, ENGL S4XX
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3. Includes a Capstone Course: HUM S499.

Independent Design

This option is designed for highly motivated students who are interested in completing a BLA program that does not fall under any Designated Emphasis or Interdisciplinary Studies option.

Independently designed BLA programs are available only to students who have a tenure-track faculty member who agrees to supervise their degree program. The student and supervisor will work together to design a degree proposal that provides a coherent body of knowledge at the baccalaureate level. The Independent Design must be approved by the supervising faculty member, the supervising faculty member's department chair, and the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

As the program is independently designed, there are no formal limitations on the structure of each student's program beyond the required Liberal Arts Core. However, the Independent Design has rigorous emphasis requirements:

1. 45 total credits for the BLA Liberal Arts Major must be completed while enrolled at UAS.
2. 24 emphasis credits minimum must be upper division.
3. 30 emphasis credits minimum must be completed after the Independent Design program is approved by the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

Any changes to a program in progress must be approved by the supervising faculty member, the supervising faculty member's department chair, and the Dean of Arts and Sciences.