

# 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 of Arts in Teaching programs at UAS.

## 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:

1. 120 credits minimum.
2. 3 credits minimum Alaska Native Knowledge Graduation Requirement
3. 48 credits minimum in the Liberal Arts Major (9 credits Liberal Arts Core, 39 credits Liberal Arts Emphasis).
4. 42 credits minimum upper-division.
5. 2 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) (<http://uaonline.alaska.edu>).

Students are admitted to the program after admission to UAS and declaring that they intend to pursue a Bachelor of Liberal Arts degree.

Requirement	Hours
<b>Minimum Credit Hours</b>	<b>120</b>
General Education Requirements	34
Alaska Native Knowledge Graduation Requirement	3
Liberal Arts Core	9
Alaska Native or Other Language (not English)	6-8
Liberal Arts Emphasis	39-57
Electives/Minor	20-38

The Liberal Arts Major combines Core and Emphasis courses. 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
<b>Minimum Liberal Arts Core</b>		<b>9</b>
HUM S210	BLA Portfolio Review	1
Communications or Literature (upper-division elective) <sup>1</sup>		3
Philosophy (any Philosophy course) <sup>2</sup>		3
Capstone <sup>3</sup>		2
Code	Title	Credits
<b>Language Requirement</b>		
Alaska Native or Other Language (not English) <sup>4</sup>		6-8

<sup>1</sup> AKL S350, COMM S3XX, COMM S4XX, ENGL S3XX, ENGL S4XX

<sup>2</sup> This requirement may be waived if the Liberal Arts major includes a PHIL course. Note that, in this case, an additional 3 credits in the core electives will be needed.

<sup>3</sup> Includes a 2-credit minimum upper-division capstone course (such as ODS S445, BA S462, HUM S499, or an advisor-approved Internship S491, Practicum S494, Individual Research S498, Independent Study S497, or Thesis S499).

<sup>4</sup> 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 documented proficiency in a language (other than English), will be considered to have met their language requirement.

Upon admission into the BLA program, students are required to enroll in the Student Portfolio course. This course is 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 Portfolio course 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

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. 3 credits minimum Alaska Native Knowledge Graduation Requirement.
3. Six to eight credits in a one year sequence of a single Alaska Native or other language, or documented proficiency in a language (not English).
4. 24 minimum upper-division in credits required in the Emphasis program.

- Includes a 2-credit minimum upper-division capstone course (such as ODS S445, BA S462, HUM S499, or an advisor-approved Internship S491, Practicum S494, Individual Research S498, Independent Study S497, or Thesis S499).
- A passing BLA Student Portfolio is required for degree completion.

## 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
<b>Designated Emphasis Requirements</b>		
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 & Culture	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 topic in 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).		
<b>Alaska Native Languages and Studies Electives</b>		<b>25</b>

Select 25 credits of electives, 15 of which must be upper-division.

AKL S__ (any Alaska Language course)		
ANS S__ (any Alaska Native Studies course)		
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 Indigenous 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 Indigenous 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 Indigenous 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** **39**

## Outdoor and Adventure Studies

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Designated Emphasis Requirements</b>		
ENGL S303	Literature and the Environment	3
HUM S370	Sport, Leisure, and Culture	3
ODS S120	Wilderness First Responder <sup>1</sup>	4
ODS S243	Outdoor Studies and Leadership	3
ODS S245	Outdoor Studies Expedition I	3-4
ODS S372	Mountain Studies: Philosophy, Literature, and Practice	4
ODS S373	Ocean Studies: Images of the Environment	4
ODS S444	Expedition Planning and Leadership	2
ODS S445	Outdoor Studies Expedition II: Major Expedition	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 <sup>2</sup>**

Select two of the following: 6-8

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 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 S422	Earth's Climate System
GEOG S312	Humans and the Environment
GEOL S301	Geomorphology
GEOL S302	Hydrology
PS S313	Alaska Politics and Government
SOC S404	Environmental Sociology

**Total Credits 52-57**

<sup>1</sup> Or proof of certification.  
<sup>2</sup> Advisor-approved courses

Requirement	Hours
<b>Minimum Credit Hours</b>	<b>120</b>
General Education Requirements	34

Alaska Native Knowledge Graduation Requirement	3
Liberal Arts Core	9
Alaska Native or Other Language (not English)	6-8
Liberal Arts Emphasis	39
Electives/Minor	38

The Liberal Arts Major combines Core and Emphasis courses. 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
<b>Minimum Liberal Arts Core 9</b>		
HUM S210	BLA Portfolio Review	1
Communications or Literature (upper-division elective) <sup>1</sup>		3
Philosophy (any Philosophy course) <sup>2</sup>		3
Capstone <sup>3</sup>		2

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Language Requirement</b>		
Alaska Native or Other Language (not English) <sup>4</sup>		6-8

<sup>1</sup> AKL S350, COMM S3XX, COMM S4XX, ENGL S3XX, ENGL S4XX  
<sup>2</sup> This requirement may be waived if the Liberal Arts major includes a PHIL course. Note that, in this case, an additional 3 credits in the core electives will be needed.  
<sup>3</sup> Includes a 2-credit minimum upper-division capstone course (such as ODS S445, BA S462, HUM S499, or an advisor-approved Internship S491, Practicum S494, Individual Research S498, Independent Study S497, or Thesis S499).  
<sup>4</sup> 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 documented proficiency in a language (other than English), will be considered to have met their language requirement.

Upon admission into the BLA program, students are required to enroll in the Student Portfolio course. This course is 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 Portfolio course 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

General Requirements for **all emphasis options**:

- 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.

- 3 credits minimum Alaska Native Knowledge Graduation Requirement.
- Six to eight credits in a one year sequence of a single Alaska Native or other language, or documented proficiency in a language (not English).
- 24 minimum upper-division in credits required in the Emphasis program.
- Includes a 2-credit minimum upper-division capstone course (such as ODS S445, BA S462, HUM S499, ANS S499, or an advisor-approved Internship S491, Practicum S494, Individual Research S498, Independent Study S497, or Thesis S499).
- A passing BLA Student Portfolio is required for degree completion.

## 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 different. Primary and secondary fields may not both be Social Sciences, however History may be considered either a Humanities or Social Science discipline. A course that is applied to the primary field cannot also be applied to the secondary field (except in situations where course topic varies and may be repeated for credit). The Interdisciplinary Studies program must be approved by the student's BLA faculty advisor.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Primary Field</b>		
Minimum 15 credits upper-division		24
<b>Secondary Field</b>		
Minimum 6 credits upper-division		15

### Primary Field

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

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Alaska Native Languages and Studies</b> <sup>1</sup>		
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	
<b>Anthropology</b>		
ANTH S202	*Cultural Anthropology	3
ANTH S205	*Biological Anthropology	3
<b>Art</b>		
ART S261	*History of World Art I	3
ART S262	*History of World Art II	3
<b>Cultural Geography</b>		
GEOG S101	*Local Places, Global Regions: Introduction to Geography	3
GEOG/ANTH S312	Humans and the Environment	3

Select 18 credits of the following courses: 18

ART S380	Northwest Coast Art: Selected Topics	
ANS S320	AK Native Ecological Knowledge	
ENGL S200	*World Literature	
ENGL S303	Literature and the Environment	
ENGL S334	Detective Fiction / Criminal Geographies	
ENGL S423	Ecocriticism	
ENVI S360	Alaska: A Contested Geography	
GEOG S390	Critical Geography	
HUM S370	Sport, Leisure, and Culture	
HUM S372	Salmon, Sport, and Society	
PHIL S371	Perspectives on the Natural World	

### English

#### Government/Political Science

SSCI S300	Research Methods in Social Science	3
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#### 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, Communications, English, History, Alaska Native Languages (including Tlingit, Haida, or Tsimshian), other languages (including Spanish), Philosophy, or BLA faculty advisor approved Humanities discipline. 12

##### Discipline 1

Minimum 9 credits upper-division

##### Discipline 2

Minimum 6 credits upper-division

#### Psychology

PSY S111	*Introduction to Psychology	3
Select one of the following:		3

##### Statistics

STAT S200 \*Elementary Statistics (or higher)

##### Research Methods

SSCI S300 Research Methods in Social Science (or other BLA faculty advisor approved methods course)

#### 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

##### Statistics

STAT S200 \*Elementary Statistics (or higher)

##### Research Methods

SSCI S300	Research Methods in Social Science (or other BLA faculty advisor approved methods course)
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<sup>1</sup> 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 different 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, Business Studies<sup>1</sup>, Communication, Creative Writing, Cultural Geography (see primary field description for list of accepted courses), Economics, English, Environmental Science, Government, History, Mathematics, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish, Tlingit Language.

### Liberal Arts Electives/Minor

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.

<sup>1</sup> Business Studies include ACCT, BA, LAWS, and CIS designated courses.

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### Liberal Arts Core

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Minimum Liberal Arts Core</b>		<b>9</b>
HUM S210	BLA Portfolio Review	1
Communications or Literature (upper-division elective) <sup>1</sup>		3
Philosophy, (Any Philosophy Course) <sup>2</sup>		3
Capstone <sup>3</sup>		2
Code	Title	Credits
<b>Language Requirement</b>		
Alaska Native or Other Language (not English) <sup>4</sup>		6-8

<sup>1</sup> AKL S350, COMM S3XX, COMM S4XX, ENGL S3XX, ENGL S4XX

<sup>2</sup> This requirement may be waived if the Liberal Arts major includes a PHIL course. Note that, in this case, an additional 3 credits in the core electives will be needed.

<sup>3</sup> Includes a 2-credit minimum upper-division capstone course (such as ODS S445, BA S462, HUM S499, or an advisor-approved Internship S491, Practicum S494, Individual Research S498, Independent Study S497, or Thesis S499).

<sup>4</sup> 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 documented proficiency in a language (other than English), will be considered to have met their language requirement.

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- 3 credits minimum Alaska Native Knowledge Graduation Requirement.
- Six to eight credits in a one year sequence of a single Alaska Native or other language, or documented proficiency in a language (not English).
- 24 minimum upper-division in credits required in the Emphasis program.
- Includes a 2-credit minimum upper-division capstone course (such as ODS S445, BA S462, HUM S499, or an advisor-approved Internship S491, Practicum S494, Individual Research S498, Independent Study S497, or Thesis S499).

6. A passing BLA Student Portfolio is required for degree completion.

## 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.

The Independent Design must meet the following requirements:

1. 24 emphasis credits minimum must be upper division.
2. 24 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.

### **Degree: BA Liberal Arts Students who complete the Bachelor of Liberal Arts will be able to:**

1. Develop breadth and depth of knowledge in content areas.
2. Articulate ideas and content through clear, purposeful and coherent written expression.
3. Critically reflect upon their personal beliefs and desires.
4. Articulate how the program meets their academic, career and personal goals.