

**Master of Arts in Liberal Studies  
Learning Goals**

**In the four core classes taken during the first year, students will:**

- Gain practical writing skills with respect to revision, peer review, and proper attribution
- Learn how to collect and organize data from relevant databases
- Learn how to cite sources using one of the three main styles used in the humanities and social sciences (MLA, APA, and Turabian).
- Learn how to apply different social science methodologies and theories to a research problem
- Gain an accurate understanding of the basic tenets, unifying theories, methods, and unanswered questions in the natural sciences, and reflect on the role that their own scientific knowledge, thinking and skills play in their everyday lives
- Engage with primary and secondary sources to form an understanding of art, literature, and cultural objects

**In their electives, students will:**

- Learn how to think critically about a selected theme or topic from at least two different disciplinary perspectives

**On the thesis or capstone project, students will:**

- Locate primary sources relevant to a given research question
- Demonstrate mastery of relevant databases to locate secondary literature on a given research question that allow you to think critically about this question and place it in context.