The College of Liberal Arts provides students with the foundation for a liberal education, preparing graduates to think independently, to choose freely, to base personal and professional decisions on a broad understanding of history and culture, and to live full, rewarding lives. Recognizing the central importance of liberal education, the university requires that more than fifty percent of the general education core curriculum be taken in the College of Liberal Arts, and students increasingly declare majors or minors in one of the college's nine departments or special programs.

The College of Liberal Arts offers the Bachelor of Arts in each of its nine departments: Anthropology, English, Geography and Environmental Studies, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and World Languages & Literatures. The Bachelor of Science is awarded in Anthropology, Geography and Environmental Studies, Psychology, and Sociology. The college also offers two special degrees: The Bachelor of Arts in International Studies (B.A.I.S.), and the Bachelor of Public Administration (B.P.A.). The college houses nineteen interdisciplinary minors: African American Studies, Aging and the Life Course, Diplomacy, Diversity Studies, Environmental Studies, Forensic Psychology, International Studies, Latina/o Studies, Media Studies, Medical Humanities, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Nature and Heritage Tourism, Peace and Social Justice Studies, Religious Studies, Social Impact through Applied Research, Southwestern Studies, Sport Psychology, Studies in Popular Culture, Sustainability Studies, Value Studies, and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. The college provides education not only in the traditional humanities but also in the practical application of the humanities to professional careers.

The College of Liberal Arts Advising Center is committed to providing effective guidance and accurate information to a diverse student community. In a supportive and collaborative environment, academic advisors encourage students to take an active role in achieving their educational and professional goals. From new student orientation to graduation, advisors are available to assist students as they navigate a variety of academic and administrative issues.

Through individual advising sessions, advisors help students select courses, understand degree requirements, and plan for graduation. Depending on students’ unique needs, advisors may also provide information on major-specific concentrations, teaching certification options, education abroad and internship opportunities, GPA calculation, degree applicability of transfer courses, and strategies for overcoming academic probation and suspension. Although advising center staff are well-versed on campus resources and institutional policies, students may be referred to campus partners for specific guidance on financial aid, billing, veteran’s benefits, and other student support services.

Students are encouraged to meet with an advisor at least once per academic year; however, appointments are available year-round and can be conducted in person or virtually. In addition to individual advising sessions, drop-in advising is offered at the beginning of each semester and during times of peak registration.