

Liberal Arts and Sciences Requirements

New York State guidelines mandate a minimum number of credits in the liberal arts and sciences for each specific undergraduate degree.¹ Furthermore, these credits should not be directed toward specific occupational or professional objectives.

Degree	Minimum Number of Credits in Liberal Arts
Associate of Arts (A.A.) Degree	45
Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree	20
Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Degree	90
Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree	60

What Comprises the Liberal Arts and Sciences?

The liberal arts and sciences include the disciplines of the humanities, natural sciences, mathematics, and social sciences. The following areas should be included:

HUMANITIES

English: Composition, creative writing, history of language, journalism, linguistics, literature, literature in translation, playwriting

Fine Arts: Art appreciation, history or theory

Foreign Languages: Composition, conversation, grammar, history of the language, literature of the language, reading, translation studies

Music: Music appreciation, history or theory

Philosophy: Comparative philosophy, history of philosophy, logic, schools of philosophy

Religion: Comparative religion, history of religion

Theater: Dramatic interpretation, dramatic literature, dramaturgy, history of drama, playwriting

NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Natural Sciences: Anatomy and physiology, biology, chemistry, earth science, geology, physics, zoology

Mathematics: Calculus, mathematical theory, statistics

Computer Science: Broad survey/theory courses

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Anthropology, Cultural Studies, Economics, Geography, Government, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology

Criminal Justice: Introductory and broad survey courses

Communications: Interpersonal communication, mass communication, public speaking, speech and rhetoric

¹<https://www.nysed.gov/college-university-evaluation/department-expectations-curriculum>