College of EDUCATION, KINESIOLOGY & SOCIAL WORK

Liberal Studies: Elementary Teaching Content Preparation

About the College

The College of Education, Kinesiology and Social Work offers an array of top-quality professional education, teacher education, physical education, social work and health programs that are accredited at the state and national levels. Through its highly respected undergraduate, credential, graduate and doctoral programs, the college produces well-prepared teachers and school administrators, counselors, reading and language arts specialists, instructional technologists, special educators and physical and health educators.

COE contact info

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Rev. Jun. '14

The Liberal Studies major is a pre-professional program leading to Multiple Subject or Special Education credential programs. Our mission is to insure that students graduate with a strong subject matter background and necessary experience and content to prepare them for a teaching career in elementary education. The major is approved by The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

Program Highlights

Liberal Studies students choose their own pace of study, gain elementary classroom experience, choose from 26 diverse concentrations, and begin a seamless transition into the Multiple Subject Credential Program.

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Degrees and Programs

Bachelor of Arts, Liberal Studies

The Major

Major consists of 28 units (excluding the concentration). Major courses include: Development and Assessment; Second Language Acquisition; Multicultural Perspectives; Integrative Social Inquiry; Integrative Math/Science Inquiry; and Integrative Artistic Inquiry.

Concentrations, which are required for all Liberal Studies majors, are in many disciplines ranging from 18-22 units. Approved concentrations include: Anthropology, Applied Philosophy, Art, Bilingual Cross-Cultural: Southeast Asian, Bilingual Cross-Cultural: Spanish, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Child Development, Civics, Communication Studies, Earth Science, Economics, English, Ethnic Studies, Exceptional Children & Youth, Geography, History, Kinesiology, Mathematics, Music, Natural Sciences, Physics and Physical Sciences, Sociology, Spanish, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), and Theatre.

Liberal Studies courses are taught by faculty in their disciplines (i.e. English courses taught by English Professors, etc.)

Liberal Studies offers an approved Subject Matter Preparation Program leading to a Multiple Subject Credential Program (elementary education).

Interesting classes you might take

Performance for Children
California Ethnic Experience
Writing for Teachers
Music for the Classroom Teacher
Chemistry in the Elementary Classroom
Geography in the Great Central Valley
Communication in the Classroom

Course Spotlight

LIBS 3000:
Community and Diversity

Introduction to the Liberal Studies major and the University. Focus is on multiculturalism and diversity, including perspectives on cultural/linguistic differences, gender roles, and the differently labeled. Elementary classroom observation is required (30 hrs)

Go online to www.csustan.edu/LiberalStudies for more course descriptions.

Our faculty

Katie Olivant (Interim Chair), Ed.D., UC Davis ('09)
Cathlin Davis, Ph.D., Wisconsin ('02)
Christy Gonzales, Ed.D., Univ. of the Pacific ('11)
Daniel Soodjinda, Ed.D., USC ('09)

Program Highlight

Students earn 90 hours of valuable field experience in the elementary classroom in LIBS 1000 Beginning Field Experience, LIBS 2000 Intermediate Field Experience, and LIBS 3000 Community and Diversity.

What you can learn

- **To make explicit connections between California K-8 Content Standards and Subject Matter knowledge in Liberal Studies major coursework**
- **To demonstrate integrative thinking through the development of projects that connect and integrate discipline knowledge across the subject matter**
- **To demonstrate sensitivity to the diverse learning abilities of students**
- **To demonstrate effective oral, written, and interpersonal skills in a variety of communication contexts**
- **To demonstrate critical thinking in analysis and evaluation of topics relevant to teaching and learning in California's public schools**

Contact information

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