

College of Liberal Arts and Education

The College of Liberal Arts and Education provides course work in performing and visual arts, humanities, social sciences, speech communications, history and natural sciences for all students at the university and offers majors which form the solid basis of career development for many students. It is the goal of the College of Liberal Arts and Education that graduates of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville be fully educated individuals who are able to move successfully into a career or graduate school and have the intellectual flexibility to meet the challenges brought about by social and technological changes in the 21st century.

College curriculum and programming is founded on the premise that a liberal education benefits not only the individual but all those with whom the individual lives and works. To this end, emphasis is placed on critical thinking, problem solving, ethnical reflection, creative endeavors, diversity, international experience, and service. We hope that students' experiences at UWP will stimulate introspection, inspire community service and engagement, and enable them to become competent professionals, create more meaningful relationships, and experience greater enjoyment of life. More simply, we wish graduates to be not only the most productive but the healthiest, wisest, merriest persons they can be.

The general education curriculum in the liberal arts provides students with a breadth of knowledge and an awareness of the complexities of nature and human culture. Students will develop a deep concern for personal and social values, recognizing the dignity and worth of all individuals. Study of the liberal arts promotes a capacity for self-education and fosters basic skills essential to effective performance in any professional career. Among these skills is the ability to write and speak with logic and clarity. Ideally students become more aware, critical and thoughtful, developing their highest capacities as human beings.

Students who graduate from programs in the liberal arts do so for reasons of personal growth, formation of a solid foundation for later professional education, and for direct access into specific careers in performing and visual arts, humanities, social sciences and geography/geology.

As the first school for teacher preparation in Wisconsin, Platteville has been training teachers since 1866. The university takes pride in this rich tradition. Within the College of Liberal Arts and Education, the School of Education offers teacher training programs which lead to a variety

of certifications. Licenses can be obtained in a wide range of major or minor areas. Comprehensive majors include Art, Broad Field Science, Broad Field Social Sciences, English, various areas of Music, Vocational Agriculture, and Industrial Technology. The curriculum provides the following options: early/middle childhood (birth-age 11), early adolescence (ages 10-14), middle/secondary (ages 10-21), and special fields (birth-age 21, art, foreign language, music, technology, physical education and agriculture). Education programs are approved by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

In the area of human services, the college offers a professional degree in Criminal Justice, which has received national recognition for its internship program. Certification in alcohol and other drug counseling for Criminal Justice and Psychology majors is also available.

The College coordinates the pre-professional program of pre-law which includes awarding-winning mock trial and mediation teams.

Programs

The College is comprised of the School of Education; six departments: Criminal Justice, Performing and Visual Arts, Humanities, Psychology, and Social Sciences; and three academic programs: Ethnic Studies, International Studies, and Women's Studies.

The College of Liberal Arts and Education offers majors in the following areas:

- Art
- Criminal Justice
- Early Childhood Education
- Economics
- Elementary Education
- English
- Comprehensive Business and Economics
- Geography
- German
- Health and Physical Education
- History
- International Studies
- Middle Level Education



Music
Philosophy
Political Science
Psychology
Social Sciences Comprehensive
Spanish
Theater

Minors are offered in many of these programs and in Environmental Earth Sciences, French, Geology, Sociology, Women's Studies, and Social and Environmental Justice.

Secondary Education requirements can be met in many of these disciplines and other areas.

Faculty

Most members of the faculty have earned the highest degrees in their fields and are active in scholarly and professional development and creative endeavors. Many classes are small, allowing for ample opportunity for individual attention and help.

Each student is assigned an academic advisor who assists the student in establishing class schedules and in other academic matters. Under normal circumstances this advisor remains with the student for the duration of his/her enrollment at the university. Faculty hold a minimum of ten regular office hours for discussion of the current class work and future student employment in the field. The faculty are enthusiastic and dedicated teachers who take a deep interest in students. Students benefit from close contact with faculty who share responsibility for academic advising and assisting students with career choices.

Facilities

Modern classroom, computer and laboratory facilities are utilized. Criminal Justice, Geography, Geology, Psychology, Humanities, Performing and Visual Arts, Social Sciences, and Education have active laboratories.

The Department of Performing and Visual Arts is proud of its Center for the Arts which includes a 550-seat concert hall, renowned for its excellent acoustics, a 234-seat theatre, rehearsal hall, faculty studios, numerous practice rooms, and a recording studio.

Well-equipped facilities in geography/geology are found in both classrooms and laboratories to enable students to learn about the planet Earth, its environments, and habitats.

Williams Fieldhouse provides up-to-date facilities for health and physical education programs. The facility is also used for intercollegiate athletics and a fitness center.

Local preschool, elementary, middle and high schools serve as laboratories for field experiences related to professional education including a Professional Development School in collaboration with an area middle school.

Departments have seminar, reading and conference rooms which are well stocked with basic reference materials. Faculty utilize state-of-the-art multimedia lecture rooms

High School Preparation

High school students planning to enter the College of Liberal Arts and Education should take rigorous academic courses, especially those that improve writing, reading and speaking skills. The study of foreign languages is recommended. Course work in the humanities, social sciences, and performing and visual arts that relate to the liberal arts, education, and human services areas in the college would also be helpful.

Career Opportunities

The skills obtained through a liberal education develop critical thinking, analysis, communication, and imagination and transfer well to a number of different careers. The Placement Office invites employers to visit our campus to recruit our graduating students. Our graduates are employed in a wide variety of occupations. Graduates of our teacher education program find employment in preschools, elementary, middle, and secondary schools. Graduates of our Criminal Justice program find employment in private industry as well as public agencies from municipal to federal. Students desiring to pursue further education in graduate and professional studies have been accepted in fine programs throughout the country.

Internships/Co-ops

Many programs within the college offer cooperative education and internships. They provide the opportunity to take classroom learning into a carefully planned and supervised field assignment with selected employers in business, government, and service agencies. Some of these field assignments offer salaries. Many offer students the opportunity to earn academic credit. They need not be tied directly to the student's major field. The programs give students practical experience and enhance employment opportunities upon graduation. Partnerships with local school districts have been developed. Local preschool, elementary, middle, and high schools serve as laboratories for field experiences related to professional teaching.

For More Information

For general information on the university and its programs, contact the UWPProspective Student Services, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, 1 University Plaza, Platteville, WI 53818-3099, or call toll-free 1.877.897.5288 or locally 608.342.1127.

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, creed, color, handicap, sex, sexual orientation, developmental disability, national origin, ancestry, marital status, arrest record or conviction record.