

College of Arts and Sciences

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The College of Arts and Sciences furthers the study of fundamental intellectual disciplines and serves the University's other colleges and schools. The College grants Bachelor's, Master's, and Ph.D. degrees. In addition, the College serves students who need to complete general education and core curriculum requirements and other requirements in order to enroll in specific disciplines or professional programs.

As the heart of a leading public research university, the College of Arts and Sciences play a vital role in the intellectual, cultural and civic life of local, national and international communities. The College provides an educational foundation that prepares FIU students to be successful and engaged citizens in a global society. The College generates extensive scholarship that yields new knowledge, shapes how we teach and learn, and contributes to a more complete understanding of the world.

The College is composed of 17 departments and several interdisciplinary programs.

Graduate Programs

The College has academic programs leading to Master's degrees in African and African Diaspora studies, Asian studies, biology, chemistry, global and sociocultural studies, creative writing, criminal justice, economics, English, environmental studies, environmental and urban systems (offered jointly with the College of Engineering and Computing), forensic science, geosciences, global governance, history, international studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, liberal studies, linguistics, mathematical sciences, physics, political science, psychology, public administration, religious studies, Spanish, and statistics.

The College offers academic programs leading to the Ph.D. in biology, chemistry, global and sociocultural studies, economics, geosciences, history, international relations, physics, political science, psychology, public affairs, and Spanish.

Graduate Admission Requirements

The College's admission requirements as listed below are in addition to the University's graduate admission requirements. These are minimal requirements. Please

consult the specific graduate program, which may have different requirements.

1. A 3.0 or higher GPA during the last two years as an upper division student is required for a master's degree. A 3.0 or higher GPA and submission of an official GRE score are required for the Ph.D. degree. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the IBT TOEFL or 6.3 overall on the IELTS is required.
2. The GRE or GPA stated above are only minimum requirements. All applications are reviewed by each program's Graduate Studies Admission Committee, which makes the final admissions recommendations. Since admission to the program is competitive, the committee's requirements are normally higher than the minimum aforementioned standards.

Note: The programs, policies, requirements, and regulations listed in this catalog are continually subject to review in order to serve the needs of the University's various publics and to respond to the mandates of the Florida Board of Education, or Board of Governors, and the Florida Legislature. Changes may be made without advance notice. Please refer to the General Information section for the University's policies, requirements, and regulations.

Interdisciplinary Courses

The College of Arts and Sciences has several interdisciplinary programs which are not based in a specific academic department. The courses offered by these programs, therefore, are not found in the departmental listings in the Catalogs, but are included here.

IDS 5176 Experimental Arts (1-3). The study and creation of Experimental Artworks, involving media/sound, movement, visual art, etc. Students from different disciplines in the Arts have the opportunity to collaborate together and create new works. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

ISS 5166 Sustainable Communities Seminar (3). Explores theories and aspects of sustainable communities, and considers the concept in comparative-historical, local-global, and critical perspective. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

ISS 5237 Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Expressions (3). This interdisciplinary course develops an interdisciplinary approach to the study of national, cultural, and racial identities, as expressed in cultural productions of the Latin America and the Caribbean.

ISS 5238 The Imaged Body: The Case of the Americas (3). With a team-taught interdisciplinary approach this course explores how identity, power and hierarchy are invoked and represented through the human body and body movement in the region of the Americas.

LBS 5155 Workplace Diversity (3). Students examine theoretical debates surrounding workforce participation of women and minorities; historical position of these groups in labor force; social phenomena that contribute to

discriminatory practices and development of policies to eliminate discriminatory practices.

LBS 5215 Women in the Workplace (3). Students explore women's changing role in the U.S. and global economy. Special attention is given to the role of race, class, and ethnicity within the context of gender and work.

LBS 5406 Collective Bargaining and Labor Relations (3). A comprehensive study of major issues and themes in American collective bargaining. Includes origins of collective bargaining, labor law, unionization, contract negotiation, patterns in contract content, impact of external laws, public sector unions, grievance arbitration and interest arbitration. Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor.

LBS 5464 Labor Arbitration (3). Study of labor dispute resolution with emphasis on grievances, fact-finding, and arbitration.

LBS 5465 Introduction to Mediation (3). Examines the role of mediation in resolving civil, commercial, family, public, and workplace disputes. Incorporates mediation principles and skills, different approaches to mediation, and current research in mediation. Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor.

LBS 5466 Family Mediation (3). Provides a comprehensive understanding of conflict resolution, power and balances, emotional and psychological issues, negotiation techniques as well as the development of practical skills in the field of family mediation. Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor.

LBS 5467 Civil Mediation (3). A comprehensive understanding of the field of civil mediation as well as the development of the practical skills to be a civil mediator. Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor.

LBS 5485 Fundamentals of Conflict Resolution (3). Survey of the major contemporary theories of organizational functioning and the management of conflict within and among organizations in a globalized world. Theories that center primarily within the fields of dispute resolution, sociology, and social interaction/ group theory will be emphasized. Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor.

LBS 5486 The Dynamics of Conflict Management (3). Investigate conflict and violence, and help students to develop strategies to defuse them in the classroom.

LBS 5507 Labor and Employment Law (3). Familiarizes the student with the legal issues and rules regarding unionization of employees, the collective bargaining process, the relationship between the employee and his/her union, and the administration of collective bargaining agreements. Examines the legal framework within which collective bargaining occurs and also familiarizes students with additional issues of rights in employment. Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor.

LBS 5658 Labor Movements and Economic Development (3). Relationships between union and economic development strategies in developing/recently developed countries; emphasis on social movement unionism and unions in Latin America and Asia. Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor.

LBS 5930 Topics in Labor Studies (1-3). Selected topics or themes in Labor Studies. Themes will vary from semester to semester. With a change in content, course

may be repeated. May include field work. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

LBS 5931 Topics in the Philosophy and Methods of Conflict Resolution (3). Provides an examination of the philosophy, methods, and research in the field of conflict resolution. The particular content and orientation of the course may vary according to the particular focus examined. Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor.

LBS 6906 Directed Individual Study (3). Specialized intensive study in areas of interest to student. Student plans and carries out independent study project under the direction of faculty member. Topics must relate to content of Labor Studies or ADR. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.

LBS 6945 Internship Labor Studies/Alternative Dispute Resolutions (3). Practical training and experience in organization according to students needs and interests. Reports and papers required. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.