

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 8 departments and several interdisciplinary programs.

Graduate Programs

The College has academic programs leading to Master's degrees in biology, chemistry, creative writing, English, environmental studies, environmental and urban systems (offered jointly with the College of Engineering and Computing), environmental policy and management, forensic science, geosciences, liberal studies, linguistics, mathematical sciences, physics, psychology, and statistics.

The College offers academic programs leading to the Ph.D. in biochemistry, biology, chemistry, earth systems science, physics, and psychology.

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.