1. Humanities
2. Communications and Arts
3. Natural Sciences and Mathematics
4. Social Sciences
5. Professional fields (such as business, applied human sciences, social work, and education)

Information and details regarding admission to the B.L.S. program, evaluation of prior academic work, program advising, and declaration of major may be obtained from:

Continuing and Distance Education
2637 Hudson Road
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0223

Students may also call the B.L.S. advisor at 1-800-772-1746 or 319-273-2504.

Students are also encouraged to visit the B.L.S. website https://continuinged.uni.edu/distance/bls.

Change of Degree Program

Students who change from one degree program to another will be held for all specific requirements of the program on which they expect to graduate. There will be little difficulty in making such a change if it is made not later than the beginning of the junior year. However, if the change is made later than that, there is no assurance that the student will be able to complete the work required for graduation within a four-year period.

Liberal Arts Core

As stated in the University of Northern Iowa mission statement, the university's undergraduate programs are founded on a strong liberal arts curriculum. The liberal arts experience in the Liberal Arts Core exposes students to the broad areas of knowledge embodied in the whole of the environment and liberates students to further develop the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to live thoughtful, creative, and productive lives. The American Association of Colleges and Universities' "Statement on Liberal Learning" reflects the purposes of UNI's Liberal Arts Core:

A truly liberal education is one that prepares us to live responsible, productive, and creative lives in a dramatically changing world. It is an education that fosters a well-grounded intellectual resilience, a disposition toward lifelong learning, and an acceptance of responsibility for the ethical consequences of our ideas and actions. Liberal education requires that we understand the foundations of knowledge and inquiry about nature, culture and society; that we master core skills of perception, analysis, and expression; that we cultivate a respect for truth; that we recognize the importance of historical and cultural context; and that we explore connections among formal learning, citizenship, and service to our communities.

We experience the benefits of liberal learning by pursuing intellectual work that is honest, challenging, and significant, and by preparing ourselves to use knowledge and power in responsible ways. Liberal learning is not confined to particular fields of study. What matters in liberal education is substantial content, rigorous methodology and an active engagement with the societal, ethical, and practical implications of our learning. The spirit and value of liberal learning are equally relevant to all forms of higher education and to all students.

Because liberal learning aims to free us from the constraints of ignorance, sectarianism, and short-sightedness, it prizes curiosity and seeks to expand the boundaries of human knowledge. By its nature, therefore, liberal learning is global and pluralistic. It embraces the diversity of ideas and experiences that characterize the social, natural, and intellectual world. To acknowledge such diversity in all its forms is both an intellectual commitment and a social responsibility, for nothing, less will equip us to understand our world and to pursue fruitful lives.

The ability to think, to learn, and to express oneself both rigorously and creatively, the capacity to understand ideas and issues in context, the commitment to live in society, and the yearning for truth are fundamental features of our humanity. In centering education upon these qualities, liberal learning is society’s best investment in our shared future.


Requirements of the Liberal Arts Core*

(For all Bachelor’s degrees - for Liberal Arts Core minimum hours and requirements for the Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degree, refer to Bachelor of Applied Science degree in this section.)

Summary (minimum 44 hours* for all students, with the exception of those pursuing B.A.S. degree).

| Category 1: Core Competencies | 11 |
| Category 2: Civilizations and Cultures | 9 |
| Category 3: Fine Arts, Literature, Philosophy and Religion | 6 |
| Category 4: Natural Science and Technology | 7 |
| Category 5: Social Science | 9 |
| Category 6: Capstone Experience | 2 |
| Total Hours | 44 |

* For students admitted to UNI prior to Fall 1994, the Speaking and Listening course included in the Core Competencies category is not required.

Courses

Category 1: Core Competencies  11 hours

Courses in written and oral communication enhance students’ abilities to read and listen critically and to write and speak effectively by attention to how the gathering, analyzing, and presenting of evidence and conclusions can be designed for specific purposes and audiences. Courses in quantitative techniques enhance students’ abilities to use quantitative data effectively and to apply relevant mathematical and statistical concepts and methods to diverse problems and situations. Personal wellness promotes the acquisition of knowledge and the development of skills and attitudes necessary for implementing positive health-related decisions.

A. Reading and Writing

Select one of the following:
Undergraduate Information and Degree Requirements

UNIV 1000 & UNIV 1010 First-Year Cornerstone: Integrated Communication I and First-Year Cornerstone: Integrated Communication II (Both UNIV 1000 & UNIV 1010 must be taken to meet LAC Category 1A & 1B.) *

ENGLISH 1005 (620:005) College Writing and Research **
ENGLISH 2015 (620:015) Craft of Academic Writing ***
ENGLISH 2120 (620:034) Critical Writing About Literature ^

B. Speaking and Listening 3
UNIV 1000 & UNIV 1010 First-Year Cornerstone: Integrated Communication I and First-Year Cornerstone: Integrated Communication II (Both UNIV 1000 & UNIV 1010 must be taken to meet LAC Category 1A & 1B.) *

or

COMM 1000 (48C:001) Oral Communication

C. Quantitative Techniques and Understanding 3
Select one of the following:
CS 1025 (810:025) Modern Tools for Exploring Data
MATH 1100 (800:023) Mathematics in Decision Making
MATH 1420 (800:060) Calculus I
STAT 1772 (800:072) Introduction to Statistical Methods
STAT 1774 (800:064) Introductory Statistics for Life Sciences

Elementary Education students may meet the Category 1C requirement by completing MATH 1204.

D. Dimensions of Wellbeing 2
KAHHS 1020 Dimensions of Wellbeing Lecture
KAHHS 1030 Dimensions of Wellbeing Lab

Total Hours 11

* These two courses will be taught in a 2-semester sequence, and a student must successfully complete both UNIV 1000 and UNIV 1010 in their first year of college, or it will not apply to Category 1A/1B credit.
** ENGLISH 1005 (620:005) recommended for students with ACT English and Reading scores of 18-26.
*** ENGLISH 2015 (620:015) has prerequisite of combined ACT English and Reading scores of 54 or higher.
^ ENGLISH 2120 (620:034) recommended for English majors and minors with prerequisite of ACT English and Reading scores of 54 or higher.
# Satisfactory score on ALEKS exam or subsequent remediation.

Category 2: Civilizations and Cultures 9 hours
Courses in this category promote an understanding of Western and non-Western cultures and civilizations from ancient times to the present through historical accounts, literatures, philosophies, religions, and fine arts. Using methods of critical inquiry, students explore aspects of human nature, the shaping of thoughts and values, and their interrelations.

A. Humanities 6

HUM 1021 (680:021) Humanities I: The Ancient, Classical, and Medieval Worlds
HUM 1022 (680:022) Humanities II: The Renaissance, Reformation, and Enlightenment
HUM 1023 (680:023) Humanities III: The Age of Revolution to the Present

B. Non-Western Cultures 3

HUM 3121 (680:121) Russia/Soviet Union
HUM 3122 (680:122) Japan
HUM 3123 (680:123) Latin America
HUM 3124 (680:124) China
HUM 3125 (680:125) India
HUM 3127 (680:127) Middle East
HUM 3128 (680:128) Africa
HUM/ANTH 3132 Native North America
HUM/ANTH 3137 Native Central and South America

SPAN 3020 (780:120) may substitute for the Non-Western Cultures requirement.

Total Hours 9

* SPAN 3020 (780:120) may substitute for the Non-Western Cultures requirement.

Category 3: Fine Arts, Literature, Philosophy and Religion 6 hours
Courses in this category explore diverse forms of human expression and enhance understanding of how religious, philosophical, literary, and aesthetic ideas and experiences shape and reflect cultures and common patterns of human life. Students will develop knowledge of the complex interplay of culture, history, and human experience through critical examination of ideas and beliefs, ritual and symbol, moral codes and social values, story and poetry, visual art, music, theater, and dance.

A. Fine Arts 3

PEMES 2034 (420:034) Survey of Dance History
THEATRE 1002 (490:002) The Theatrical Arts and Society
MUSIC 1100 (520:010) Soundscapes: Music in Culture
ART 1002 (600:002) Visual Inventions
ARTHIST 1004 (600:004) Visual Perceptions
MUS HIST 1020 (590:002) may substitute for the Fine Arts requirement for all music majors.
THEATRE 3060 (490:135) may substitute for the Fine Arts requirement for all theatre majors.