

## B.A. Liberal Studies – Sonoma State and Solano College Partnership



### Frequently Asked Questions

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#### **What do I need to get into the program?**

Admission to the program is based on the CSU transfer requirements, which are a minimum of 60 semester units, with 30 at a C or better in Speech, Critical Thinking, Composition, Math, and a Science Lab. Our [Admission](#) page will give you all the details. Please do not try to apply online through CSU Mentor; the application will not get to us.

#### **How and when can I apply?**

The program accepts applications for both Spring and Fall semesters; see our current [application filing periods](#) and instructions.

#### **Must I complete all transfer requirements before applying?**

Courses can be in progress or planned when you apply, but any coursework needed for minimum transfer requirements must be completed the semester before entrance. This does not include Winter or Summer Intersession.

#### **I have work in progress. When should I send transcripts?**

If you have completed previous work where your current courses are being taken, we must have those [transcripts](#) right away in order to process your application. We will need another set at the end of the term to complete your file.

#### **Some of my classes have quarter units. How do those translate to semester units?**

A quarter unit is worth  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a semester unit based on the time in classes, 12 weeks for quarters vs 15 weeks for semesters.  $\frac{12}{15} = \frac{2}{3}$ . So, for example, a 5 quarter-unit course yields 3.33 semester units.

#### **How do I get pre-admissions advising?**

=You may work with counselors in the Transfer Center at Napa Valley College or Solano Community College, or you may contact our pre-admissions advisor, [Susie McFeeters](#).

#### **When are the classes held?**

Classes are scheduled evenings, weekends, and online to accommodate the needs of busy adults.

#### **Where are the classes held?**

Classes meet at the [Napa Valley College](#) campus on the Napa-Vallejo Highway and at the [Solano Community College Vallejo Center](#) on Columbus Parkway.

#### **How much does the program cost?**

The cost as of Fall 2017 is \$400/unit. A typical semester of 12 units is \$4,800; for the full 50 units of the program, the total is \$20,000.

#### **Is financial assistance available?**

Students in the program may qualify for federal, state, and veterans' benefits. See our [Financial Assistance](#) section for details. You must take a minimum of 6 units in a semester to be eligible for financial aid.

#### **How long does the program take to complete?**

Time to complete depends on how many units you can take at a time. If you can take 8 units in a semester, it will take about 6 semesters, or 3 years, to complete your requirements.

**What are the major requirements?**

You will complete 50 upper-division units in three areas, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences, as well as a Portfolio and Electives. The current requirements are listed on the [Major Worksheet](#), which students can use to track their progress through the program.

**What is the portfolio?**

Each major at Sonoma State offers a capstone experience to help students consolidate their work and reflect on what they have learned. In our program, students take an Introduction to Portfolio class soon after they join us, and finish with Portfolio Assessment when they are about ready to graduate. These courses total 4 units under the Social Sciences division.

**I have upper-division coursework from my previous major. Can this be applied to the Liberal Studies major?**

Up to 12 units of upper-division work from another major or college can be applied to the Liberal Studies major on approval of an Advisor. Courses must be in the areas covered by our major, so, for example, professional courses in Business, Education, or Nursing may not apply.

**What about the upper-division general education requirement?**

The CSU requires students to take 9 units of upper-division general education after reaching Junior status (60 semester units). Each semester we choose courses for the major that also award general education units, so you will fulfill this requirement as you complete your major coursework.

**How many units total will I need to graduate?**

You must complete 120 units in order to graduate. This means that if you transferred into the program with fewer than 70 units, you will need to add some more units to your program. Your advisors can help you select classes to take care of any remaining lower-division general education requirements, or to find electives that may help you prepare for a career or further study.

**Are there any other requirements?**

All students must pass a Junior-level writing examination, the [Written English Proficiency Test \(WEPT\)](#). You may fulfill this requirement at SSU or at the Napa Valley College Test Center.

**What can I do with a Liberal Studies major?**

There are many [career opportunities](#) for Liberal Studies majors. The skills learned in this program: oral and written communication skills; analysis; problem-solving; and working in groups, prepare students for a variety of careers or further education.

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For Additional Information:

<https://web.sonoma.edu/exed/napa-solano/>