

CM Program Code

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies

Under Review | Fall 2023

Proposal Information

Workflow Status

In Progress

Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate

expand ▲

Waiting for Approval | Faculty Senate Approval

Rick Holmes

Nancy Middlebrook

Proposal Information

Sponsoring faculty member ⓘ

David Weiss

Faculty email

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College

University College

Department

University College Departments

Campus

Main Campus

Effective Term and Year

Proposed Effective Term and Year

Fall 2023

Justification

Program Justification

This degree/program has been around in some format since 1969, originally offered as the Bachelor of University Studies (BUS) degree, and then modified to become the Bachelor of Liberal Arts (BLA) for the 2012 through 2017 catalogs, and then most recently updated to Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts (BALA) for 2018-19 to present. Starting in 2014, University College also began offering an additional degree program titled Bachelor of Integrative Studies (BIS) from 2014-2018 and Bachelor of Integrative Studies and Innovation (BISI) from 2019 to present. However, the BIS/BISI program was never supported as originally intended with funding and class offerings, and to date there has only been one single student to earn it outside those who earned the GLNS or MLST concentrations currently listed under BISI. Therefore, starting with the 2023-24 UNM Catalog we are proposing to merge our existing BISI program into the existing BALA program and by doing so revise the name of it to Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts & Integrative Studies (BA-LAIS) fully reflecting our department and the nature of our studies, while also brining in the two existing concentrations currently housed under BISI and at the same time adding three new concentrations under our future single degree. We also plan to mover our existing BISI minor under the proposed new BA-LAIS degree.

Associated Forms

Select any associated course forms that exist

Select any associated program forms that exist

Program Category and Level

Program Category Program	Program Level Undergraduate	Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies
New Graduate Program No	Dual Degree No	New Undergrad Degree/Certificate No

Catalog Information

Program Description

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies

University College Advisement Center
University Advisement and Enrichment Center, Suite 105
MSC06 3690
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001
(505) 277-2631
<http://ucollege.unm.edu/>

Degree Offered

- **Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies (B.A.)**

The faculty of The University of New Mexico offers the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies (B.A.). This program, approved in 2013 and revised in 2023, was formerly known as the Bachelor of University Studies degree, when first established, in 1969, and is administered through University College.

This baccalaureate degree program provides the opportunity for students to develop a unique program of study combining courses from multiple University of New Mexico departments and/or colleges. With the help of a Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies (LAIS) advisor, students structure a comprehensive plan of study, which is thematically based and multidisciplinary in nature. This degree may not be part of a double major; however, it may be used as a dual or second degree. While no official minor is required to be declared with this major, the use of existing departmental minor(s) is encouraged.

Questions regarding any aspect of the program should be addressed to an advisor in the LAIS office.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies program for a current term must take place before the end of the third week of classes. After that deadline, admission will be for the following term (Fall, Spring or Summer). Please see an advisor for more information on LAIS admission requirements and for details on designing a Plan of Study.

Minimum requirements to transfer into the Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies program are as follows:

1. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 or higher.
2. Twenty-six or more earned credit hours applicable to this program.
3. Completion of LAIS 301 with a grade of C or better.

Further questions regarding the application process should be addressed to a LAIS Advisor or may be answered by referring to the program website.

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies

Graduation Requirements

1. Completion of the General Education curriculum. Refer to the *Undergraduate Program* section of this Catalog for information on courses that meet General Education curriculum and U.S. and Global Diversity and Inclusion requirements.
2. A minimum of 120 credit hours of earned credit acceptable to the program as defined below.
3. A minimum cumulative UNM grade point average of 2.00.
4. A minimum of 51 credit hours earned in courses at the upper-division level (courses numbered 300–499) if an optional concentration is **not** being earned, or 45 upper division credit hours if a concentration is included. It should also be noted that transfer courses in

- which credit was earned at a lower-division designation cannot be transferred as upper-division to count towards the degree.
5. A minimum grade-point average of 2.00 on all upper-division coursework completed at The University of New Mexico.
 6. Submission of a Graduation Essay or Capstone Paper. The essay must be no fewer than 500 words and should describe how you organized your Plan of Study, as well as what you learned and accomplished by designing your own degree. It should also discuss your plans for using your degree in the future. The capstone paper may be completed via LAIS 311 or 409.
 7. Completion of the departmental residency requirement of a minimum of 15 credit hours of academic work earned while enrolled in the B.A. in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies program (not to include: credit by exam, transfer credit and/or concurrent enrollment, nonprofessional-physical education, music ensemble, or independent study/problems courses unless specifically approved by the Associate Dean). These must include the final 15 credit hours of enrollment prior to graduation from the program.
 8. Fulfillment of the University residency requirement (30 credit hours, including the "15 after 92" rule).
 9. A maximum of 24 hours of vocational coursework.

A student should regularly stay in contact with a LAIS Advisor, especially during the year prior to that in which graduation is planned.

Shared-Credit Undergraduate/Graduate Degrees Program

Undergraduate students in the B.A. in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies program may seek admission to the Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) under the Shared-Credit Undergraduate/Graduate Degrees Program. This program offers students an accelerated route to earning both the B.A. and M.P.A. degrees by allowing students to earn graduate credit during their senior year, thereby reducing the time by approximately one academic year needed to complete both degrees. Questions regarding any aspect of the program should be addressed to an advisor in the LAIS office.

Transcribed Concentration Option

This baccalaureate degree program provides the opportunity for students to develop a unique program of study combining courses from multiple University of New Mexico departments and/or colleges. With the help of a Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies (LAIS) advisor, students structure a comprehensive plan of study, which is thematically based and multidisciplinary in nature. However, while very flexible and versatile, those student/advisor-developed focus areas are not transcribed.

For LAIS students who would prefer the added benefit of a degree concentration noted on their transcripts, we also offer the option of completing any of the following concentrations:

- Concentration in Global & National Security
- Concentration in Military Studies
- Concentration in Pre-Law
- Concentration in Law Enforcement

Concentration in Global and National Security

The concentration in Global and National Security is designed for students who wish to focus on analysis of global and national security issues and their potential solutions. An understanding of the policy and technical elements of global and national trends is essential to being able to analyze issues and threats related to global and national security. To complete this concentration, students must take: basic critical thinking and quantitative analysis courses, a foreign (non-English) language sequence, a foundational course that introduces concepts of global and national security, and electives in global and national security. Please see additional section of catalog for the full list of required courses to earn this concentration.

Concentration in Military Studies

The concentration in Military Studies provides the opportunity for students to develop a unique program of study combining courses from three or more University of New Mexico departments and/or colleges including at least two ROTC branches. This concentration is available to all students and does not necessarily lead to a military commission. Please see additional section of catalog for the full list of required courses to earn this concentration.

Concentration in Pre-Law

The BA-LAIS concentration in Pre-Law provides the opportunity for students to develop a unique program of study combining courses from multiple University of New Mexico departments and/or colleges. This concentration is available to all students and does not necessarily lead to admission into a law program but is a good undergraduate option for students interested in legal careers and/or eventual graduate law school admission. Please see additional section of catalog for the full list of required courses to earn this concentration.

Concentration in Law Enforcement

The BA-LAIS concentration in Law Enforcement provides the opportunity for students to develop a unique program of study combining courses from multiple University of New Mexico departments and/or colleges. This concentration is available to all students and does not require or necessarily lead to a career in law enforcement but is a good undergraduate option for students interested in that field. Please see additional section of catalog for the full list of required courses to earn this concentration.

No official minor is required to be declared with any of these concentrations, but the use of existing departmental minor(s) outside LAIS is encouraged. Note that the Minor in Military Studies may be earned along with any concentration allowed by our program except the Concentration in Military Studies.

Departmental Honors

A separate departmental honors designation is not available for the B.A. in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies degree. However, students meeting all requirements may receive baccalaureate honors as specified in the *Undergraduate Program* section of this Catalog.

Admissions Requirements

Included above

Graduation Requirements

Included above

Program Information

Degree Type

Bachelor of Arts

Program Type

Undergraduate

CIP Code

CIP Title

Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information

Licensure Information

Neither

File Uploads

Proposal File Upload

- BA-LAIS curric draft - full.docx

Executive Summary Upload

Associate Provost Memo

Degree Information

Degree Hours

120

Minimum Major Hours

Professional Accrediting Bodies

Degree Requirements

Requirements

- Complete all of the following
 - Complete all of the following
 - Earned a minimum grade of C in each of the following:
 - LAIS301 - Customized Curriculum: The Future of Degrees (3)
 - Earn at least 51 credits from the following types of courses:

A minimum of 51 credit hours earned in courses at the upper-division level (courses numbered 300–499) if an optional concentration is not being earned, or 45 credit hours if a concentration is included. It should also be noted that transfer courses in which credit was earned at a lower-division designation cannot be transferred as upper-division to count towards the degree.
 - Submission of a Graduation Essay or Capstone Paper. The essay must be no fewer than 500 words and should describe how you organized your Plan of Study, as well as what you learned and accomplished by designing your own degree. It should also discuss your plans for using your degree in the future. The capstone paper may be completed via LAIS 311 or 409. Please consult with a LAIS Advisor for your options.
 - Completion of the departmental residency requirement of a minimum of 15 credit hours of academic work earned while enrolled in the B.A. in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies program (not to include: credit by exam, transfer credit and/or concurrent enrollment, nonprofessional-physical education, music ensemble, or independent study/problems courses unless specifically approved by the Associate Dean). These must include the final 15 credit hours of enrollment prior to graduation from the program.
 - A maximum of 24 hours of vocational coursework.
 - Earn at least 66 credits from the following types of courses:

Completed at least 66 credits from the following types of courses: In addition to the program-specific requirements outlined here, all undergraduate students are required to fulfill UNM's General Education Program requirements. In some instances, courses included in an undergraduate degree program's requirement may also fulfill a General Education requirement. Please review the General Education Program in this Catalog for General Education information.
 - Minor Study The minor in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies allows creative students who are not in an interdisciplinary major to broaden their academic experience while obtaining a bachelor's degree in their chosen discipline. Requirements Completion of 18 credit hours in courses approved by a program advisor including: • LAIS 301 Customized Curriculum: The Future of Degrees (3 credit hours) • a minimum of 6 additional credit hours at the 300- or 400-level.
 - Departmental Honors A separate departmental honors designation is not available for the B.A. in Liberal Arts and Integrative Studies degree. However, students meeting all requirements may receive baccalaureate honors as specified in the Undergraduate Program section of this Catalog.

Grand Total Credits: 120

Concentrations

Program Concentrations

Code

Title

Concentration Required

No

Emphases

Emphasis required ⓘ

Emphasis Hours

No

Emphasis Rules

No Rules

Sample Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan Upload

- BA-LAIS.xlsx

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

Gain foundational knowledge by studying and applying concepts, theories, works, and practices across the arts, humanities, physical and social sciences.

Building critical thinking by identifying, analyzing, and evaluating pressing issues of our day and various experiences and perspectives using foundational disciplinary knowledge.

Synthesize knowledge by combining knowledge in the arts, humanities, physical sciences and social sciences across academic fields/disciplines and methods/practices for new insights and solutions.

Write effectively at college-graduate level for academic and professional purposes by conveying information and ideas and to progress shared goals.

Speak effectively at college graduate level for academic and professional purposes by contributing ideas and connecting with others.