LIBERAL STUDIES (M.A.)

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FACULTY
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Marie C. Marianetti ■ Maureen O’Connor ■ Susan Gushee O’Malley ■ Eugenia Paulicelli ■
Glenn Petersen ■ Richard Gid Powers ■ Robert Reid-Pharr ■ Joan T. Richardson ■

THE PROGRAM
The program leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Liberal Studies is designed to meet the needs of persons who have completed the undergraduate degree and who have the ability and the desire to engage in advanced study, but for whom the traditional graduate curricula are too restrictive. It offers the capable student the opportunity for advanced interdisciplinary graduate study focusing on contemporary programmatic themes that reflect his or her interests and talents without restriction to a specific discipline or division and at a level of scholarship fully comparable with the academic standards of the Graduate Center.

The program faculty includes distinguished scholars in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences, each knowledgeable about the special nature of the program. Students are encouraged to take full advantage of the resources of the Graduate Center and to explore various avenues of interdisciplinary cooperation.

The active involvement of faculty and students in advanced study and research is promoted in a number of centers and institutes, including the Center for Advanced Study in Theatre Arts, the Center for Jewish Studies, the Center for the Study of Women and Society, the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, the Barry S. Brook Center for Music Research and Documentation, and the Victorian Committee of the Ph.D. Program in English.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION
Applicants must have completed a bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university or its equivalent. A transcript of all college or graduate work and two letters of recommendation are required with the application for admission. All applicants are required to take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) General Test. An interview with the Executive Officer of the program may also be required. The purpose of this interview is to discuss the suitability of the program to the individual’s needs and strengths. Admission to the program must ultimately be approved by the Executive Committee.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES
Course of Study With the advice of the Executive Officer, each student will design a course of study built around a programmatic theme or area of specialization, such as Africana Studies; American Studies; Approaches to Modernity; Archaeology of the Classical, Late Antique, and Islamic Worlds; Bioethics, Science, and Society; Biography, Autobiography, and Memoir; Childhood and Youth Studies; Digital Humanities; Fashion Studies; Film Studies; Individualized Stud-
ies; International Studies; Jewish Studies; Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies; Law and Society; Migration and Global Cities; New York Studies; Psychology of Work and Family; Science and Technology Studies; Sustainability Science and Education; Urban Education; Western Intellectual Traditions; and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Students in the International Studies specialization must demonstrate a reading knowledge of at least one foreign language. Students in the Translation specialization must demonstrate advanced knowledge of one foreign language; reading knowledge of a second foreign language is strongly recommended. The program of study includes courses offered by the various disciplines at the Graduate Center as well as special core courses created for the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies.

Thirty credits of graduate study are required for the degree. Each student will be required to complete at least two seminars designed for a given specialization (at least 6 credits) and an approved distribution of course work in pertinent disciplines. Students are also required to take MALS 70000 Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies. A final project or master’s thesis will also be required.

Courses

Unless otherwise stated, all courses are 30 hours plus conferences, 3 credits

MALS 70000 Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies
MALS 70100 Narratives of New York City: Literature and the Visual Arts
MALS 70300 Law, Politics, and Policy
MALS 70200 Metropolis: A Political, Historical, and Sociological Profile of New York City
MALS 70400 Cultural Studies and the Law
MALS 70500 Classical, Medieval, or Renaissance Culture
MALS 70600 Enlightenment and Critique
MALS 70700 The Shaping of Modernity, 1789–1914
MALS 70800 Transformations of Modernity, 1914–present
MALS 70900 Approaches to Life Writing
MALS 71000 Forms of Life Writing
MALS 71100 Theory of Translation
MALS 71200 The Culture of Fashion: Theories and Practices
MALS 71300 The Business of Fashion: Culture, Technology, Design
MALS 71400 Introduction to International Studies
MALS 71500 Critical Issues in International Studies
MALS 72100 Feminist Texts and Contexts
MALS 72200 Contemporary Feminist Theories
MALS 72300 Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies
MALS 73100 American Culture and Values: Selected Topics
MALS 73200 American Social Institutions: Selected Topics
MALS 74100 The Conceptual Structure of Science
MALS 74200 The Practice of Science and Medicine
MALS 74300 Bioethics: Policies and Cases
MALS 75100 The Computer in Translation
MALS 75200 Terminology and Documentation
MALS 75600 Sustainability and Human Ecodynamics
MALS 75700 Field Course in Island Long Term Human Ecodynamics
MALS 76100 Traditional Patterns of Jewish Behavior and Thought
MALS 76200 Continuities and Discontinuities in Modern Jewish Life
MALS 77100 Aesthetics of Film (cross-listed with THEA 71400)
MALS 77200 History of the Cinema I, 1895–1930 (cross-listed with THEA 71500)
MALS 77300 History of the Cinema II, 1930 to the Present (cross-listed with THEA 71600)
MALS 77400 International Migration
MALS 77500 Global Cities
MALS 78100 Issues in Urban Education
MALS 78200 The Politics of Contemporary Urban Education
MALS 78500 Special Topics in Liberal Studies
MALS 78800 Introduction to Childhood and Youth Studies
MALS 78900 Childhood and Youth Studies: Approaches and Methods
MALS 79000 Thesis/Final Project Research
MALS 79600 Thesis Workshop
  1 credit
MALS 79700 Independent Study
  1–4 credits

Additional Courses
Students in this program have access to a wide variety of course offerings in various disciplines, depending on the specialization. Consult the Executive Officer for additional details.