WHAT MATTERS TO YOU?

LIBERAL ARTS
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME 2019/20

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
In Liberal Arts at Warwick, the questions you ask often matter more than the answers.

You’ll ask insightful, investigative questions while studying Liberal Arts, and you won’t be limited to a single academic discipline.

This is because Liberal Arts is more than becoming an expert in a narrowly-defined field - it’s a wider pursuit of knowledge. It can be about asking questions from the viewpoint of a mathematician and a sociologist; you can clarify a problem by adopting an economics approach with added political insight.

Throughout the course, you’ll acquire a global perspective, as our staff and students come from a diverse range of international backgrounds. You’ll also have the opportunity to study abroad, asking critical questions from new cultural and intellectual viewpoints.

Studying Liberal Arts at Warwick will also provide you with many opportunities to gain broader experience, from tailor-made professional development certificates, to participation in undergraduate conferences and in the huge range of societies on offer.

Put this all together, and you’ll be ready to disrupt boundaries and embrace complexity. As an innovative leading thinker of the future, you’ll be ready to face the toughest problems, design solutions, and truly make a difference.

A Liberal Arts education is based on the idea of learning knowledge worthy of a free, active and engaged global citizen.

This core programme of thinking critically across disciplines has been used to train free-thinkers, visionary leaders, and intellectual revolutionaries for thousands of years. Liberal Arts has continually been reinvented and reimagined in every historical period from antiquity to present day in order to prepare future leaders to face the world’s most pressing concerns and difficult challenges.

At Warwick, we’ve reimagined what a Liberal Arts education means for the 21st century. Driven by the core values of critical thinking and the acquisition of multifaceted expertise, you’ll learn key skills that you can apply to any position in industry, creative endeavours, or future study. Crucially, you’ll learn these skills alongside the in-depth, world-leading academic content that Warwick researchers produce.

A demanding and high-calibre Liberal Arts degree such as the one offered at Warwick is well regarded by institutions, employers, and postgraduate programmes around the world. It’s a qualification that demonstrates the ability to think for yourself as you engage with difficult ideas and design innovative solutions that will inspire your colleagues.

“What my skills have developed massively throughout my time at university, specifically my ability to notice problems and then form solutions to those issues. I am constantly looking for problems in anything and everything now!”

Livi Preece, Liberal Arts Student
This degree is designed to balance your freedom to choose modules from around the University with the specific benefits of studying our own interdisciplinary offerings.

As you progress through the degree and your interests solidify, you will have increasing freedom to tailor your own curriculum, ultimately culminating in a final-year project which addresses an issue of your choice.

In your core modules you will study a range of the most pressing and complex issues facing societies and the planet. All teaching will be done via Problem-Based Learning with sessions led by academics from a variety of backgrounds, all with a passion for interdisciplinary teaching.

When it comes to designing your pathway, you’re not on your own. We’ll help you from the beginning to pick modules and a theme to get you where you want to go.

We offer a range of engaging Liberal Arts optional modules, built on the interdisciplinary principles of the programme, which can be incorporated into your degree pathway.

Want to do something different? We’ll help you make it happen.

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**First Year**

- **Art & Revolution**
- **Science, Society and The Media**
- **Qualitative Research Methods**
- **Qualitative Research Methods (Core Optional)**
- **Free Choice**

**Second Year**

- **Consumption**
- **Sustainability Frameworks, Challenges and Opportunities**
- **Free Choice**

**Final Year**

- **Final-Year Dissertation**
- **Free Choice**

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"The world is a complex web and no one discipline can ever truly be separated from another... The most important skill to take away from this course is to understand the interdisciplinary nature of the world and tackle problems in a more comprehensive manner." - Cymroan Phadnis, Liberal Arts Student
In Liberal Arts, you’ll be dealing with big questions. By learning across disciplines, you’ll have an extremely big pool of knowledge to navigate.

To get the most from a degree that’s potentially so vast, it helps to have a little focus. Therefore, we provide you with the foundation to explore issues with confidence and control.

At the end of your first year you’ll decide on a Disciplinary Interest or Specialist Interest and take modules that help you develop in-depth expertise in your area of interest. You can focus on a traditional subject or assemble a portfolio of modules to address your unique interests.

During your studies you’ll be taught by subject experts from across the University who are world-leading researchers in their chosen fields. You’ll benefit from their current working knowledge of how their discipline thinks about problems and the tools which they use to analyse and articulate issues and solutions.

“Almost all Liberal Arts courses tend to leave students on their own to decide what pathway they want to go down, but with Warwick there’s a focus on making sure you know exactly what pathway is right for you.”

Sara Mahmud-Marshall, Liberal Arts Student

THE PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

THE PATHWAYS

SPECIALIST INTERESTS:
SOCIAL JUSTICE
FOOD SECURITY
SUSTAINABILITY
CULTURE AND IDENTITY
OR DESIGN YOUR OWN

DISCIPLINARY INTERESTS:
ENGLISH
HISTORY
LIFE SCIENCES
CLASSICS
ECONOMICS
LANGUAGES
PHILOSOPHY
THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES

THE MODULES

CORE MODULES
LIBERAL ARTS: PRINCIPLES AND PRAXIS
This is your introduction to the history and thinking behind Liberal Arts. It’s where you begin to think beyond the boundaries of traditional academic disciplines.

ART & REVOLUTION
You’ll generate original approaches to complex historical and contemporary social, political and religious revolutions and related artwork.

SCIENCE, SOCIETY AND THE MEDIA
By studying philosophy and contemporary issues you’ll be able to consider how politics, finance, philosophy and linguistics shape the public’s view of science.

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS
Introduces qualitative research methods you’ll employ as interdisciplinary researchers.

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS
(OPTIONAL)
Trains you in a range of multidisciplinary statistical techniques, forming the foundation for further technical studies.

CONSUMPTION (YEAR TWO)
Explores consumption — one of the major driving forces of society — through historical, cultural and sociological research, drawing on case studies, theory and artistic interventions.

SUSTAINABILITY (YEAR TWO)
Enables students to develop an informed understanding of sustainability debates, controversies, and policies relevant to the field.

OPTIONAL MODULES
• The Apocalyptic Imaginary
• Utopia: Text, Theory, Practice
• Posthumous Geographies I: Underworlds
• Posthumous Geographies II: Paradises
• A Sustainable Serenissima: Water, Fire, and the Future of Venice (includes a week at Warwick in Venice)
• Making Policy: Frameworks for Designing and Evaluating Transdisciplinary Interventions
• Problems in Governance: The European Union

YOUR DISSERTATION
Your dissertation is a year-long final year project that marks the culmination of your experience at Warwick. You’ll design and carry out a significant piece of original research: the ideal opportunity for you to showcase what you’ve learned and what you can do next. This is your project, and you’ll be able to make a real contribution to an area of academic study, a policy debate, or community issue that’s important to you.

You’ll draw on subject experts from across the university, and you’ll work with a dedicated advisor who can help you achieve your project goals.
THE IDEAL THINKING GROUND FOR A LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT

Warwick is full of opportunities to explore your interests and meet like-minded people who share your concerns about the state of the world.

You’ll join a tight-knit group of Liberal Arts academics and students, with your own departmental base. Outside of that base, Warwick provides you with the support you need to do well at university, whether that’s in terms of health and wellbeing, or careers - we’ve an excellent reputation with employers both big and small, and invite many businesses to our campus each year to meet our students.

You can also delve into thriving clubs and societies, full of students keen to meet new people, make connections, and try new things. Throughout your degree, and across Warwick, you’ll find countless opportunities to make your university story a compelling one.

OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDY ABROAD AT SPECIALIST LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES

Liberal Arts students have the opportunity to apply to spend a year of your course studying at a leading Liberal Arts college where you can experience a different culture, make new friends, and develop your network. With dedicated partners from Canada to Germany, the Netherlands to Singapore, studying overseas gives you the chance to get a fresh outlook on the world and can add immeasurably to your personal development and future study and career opportunities.

OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE THE WORKING WORLD

We have professional placements available across a range of public sector bodies and other organisations that will enable you to not only experience new working environments, but more importantly, to begin applying the knowledge and skills you’ll have been learning on the course. After all, when it comes to taking the first step on your career path, there’s no substitute for hands-on and relevant work experience.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES

CERTIFICATE OF DIGITAL LITERACY

This certificate encourages you to think critically about navigating your role as a digital citizen, and how to mindfully engage in a connected world. You will learn about managing a professional online identity, discuss best practices for protecting your information online, and reflect upon current debates concerning intellectual property in the digital age. You will also gain hands-on familiarity with a suite of useful tools.

CERTIFICATE OF COACHING AND LEADERSHIP PRACTICE

Coaching is about adopting a positive, collaborative, open attitude towards others. It is about empowering ourselves and those with whom we interact. Adopting a coaching approach is one essential element of leadership. In this certificate, you’ll study coaching models and practices designed to let you make the most of mixed expertise groups and projects. You’ll think about how to apply coaching principles to your classroom and professional experiences, so you can build confidence and leadership skills.

CERTIFICATE OF PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION (TIED TO WORK PLACEMENT)

This certificate complements the Year 2 work placement. It aims to promote an understanding of the professional environment, for personal growth and professional development, by making explicit the link between communication and employability. It comprises a series of workshops exploring a number of theories and concepts around professional communication, as well as factors to consider when working in a professional environment. Using this preparation, you relate these concepts to your practical experience during the placement. Alongside your placement, you will complete an online, reflective portfolio including activities to help you identify, deepen and articulate your skills development. Successful completion of the certificate will be added to your HEAR. You will also have an example of relevant work experience, an up-to-date CV citing this and successful articulation of your skills development. You will also receive a reference from your employer.

THE IDEAL THINKING GROUND FOR A LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT
To study and deepen your understanding across disciplines, you need expertise from a wide range of backgrounds to help you draw together your knowledge...

DR TIM BURNETT | SENIOR TEACHING FELLOW

“My passion for teaching lies in helping people see through the complexity and challenge of data and statistics, and giving students the ability and belief to confidently approach and address complex policy-based and quantitative problems. In my view, this is the highlight of the curriculum offered by Liberal Arts at Warwick through its unique transdisciplinary approach that our students are equipped with not just creativity and problem-solving alone, but also the technical grounding to meaningfully analyse and interpret real-world issues.”

DR KIRSTEN HARRIS | SENIOR TEACHING FELLOW

“My focus is on the intersection of cultural studies, history and political philosophy - my primary research area is the spirited cultural life of nineteenth-century leftist political movements. I feel privileged to teach the first year module Qualitative Research Methods, which introduces new students to hands-on interdisciplinarity research skills in archival studies, digital projects, interviewing and interpretative methodologies - and the lively theoretical debates that underpin and inform them.”

DR. BRYAN BRAZEAU | SENIOR TEACHING FELLOW

“My teaching and research interests focus on questions of cultural and scientific progress, translation and thinking across multiple languages, the reception of the classical world in the Renaissance and today, along with ways that poetry and fiction can be used to explore complex problems. It is an honour to work with such bright and engaged students in Liberal Arts at Warwick, and to see them engage with difficult and wicked problems from their very first year in the program; considering various perspectives on the scientific method, the role of the sciences within the modern academy, using discourse analysis to critically analyse the media, engaging in formal debates about policy interventions for gender parity in STEM fields, and producing their own media projects on YouTube.”

DR GAVIN SCHWARTZ-LEEPER | DIRECTOR OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE

“I look after students’ academic experience: advising on module choices, pathway decisions, and other activities. My research and teaching is primarily concerned with the ways in which we understand and use the past, but I also work on higher education theory and practices. For me, it’s a real thrill to see our transdisciplinary students arguing about early Soviet propaganda using primary sources they found (and I’ve never seen before) in the Modern Records Centre, bringing in historiography, economics, linguistics, politics, colour theory – there’s no such thing as a dull class.”

DR PROFESSOR JENAINATI | HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Professor Jenainati is the founder of the Liberal Arts degree, and its current Head of Department. Her educational background is multidisciplinary ranging from Biology to Comparative Literature. Her research is on memory, identity and feminist politics. She has received multiple awards for teaching excellence and student experience.

KEY FACTS

Our unique course gives you freedom to explore the issues most important to you - within the structure of a clearly defined pathway to keep you on track

Certificates in a range of professional skills will give you a competitive edge towards reaching your dream career

Study modules from right across the University, with the chance to learn from teachers and researchers at the forefront of their disciplines

Take the chance to study abroad at leading Liberal Arts colleges overseas as part of your studies

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A level: AAA, plus grade B/grade 6 in English and Mathematics at GCSE

IB: 38 points including English and Mathematics
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Visit us:
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Ramphal Building
University of Warwick
Coventry
CV4 7AL

Talk to us:
liberalarts@warwick.ac.uk

Find us online:
warwick.ac.uk/liberalarts
twitter.com/warwicklibarts

Course information was accurate at the time of printing. Our course and module content and schedule is continually reviewed and updated to reflect the latest research expertise at Warwick, so it is therefore very important that you check the website for the latest information before you apply and when you accept an offer.

See our website for the latest information warwick.ac.uk/liberalarts

For full terms and conditions, please visit warwick.ac.uk/ugtermsandconditions