WHAT MATTERS TO YOU?

LIBERAL ARTS
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
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 or a sociologist; you can clarify a problem by adopting an economics approach with added political insight, or it can be about taking the long view and exploring art, literature or film to shed light on the ways in which a problem has developed over time in different social contexts.

Throughout the course, you’ll acquire a global perspective, as our staff and students come from a diverse range of international backgrounds. Our flexible curriculum provides the opportunity to explore different cultures and traditions of thought.

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 leader of the future, with an advanced understanding of how the past impacts the present, you’ll be ready to design solutions to society’s toughest problems.

In Liberal Arts at Warwick, the questions you ask matter as much as the answers. To be an innovator, one must understand the past in its best context to identify the needs of the future and develop the innovations to anticipate and meet them. I am interested in the biggest challenges facing the world: sustainability, Artificial Intelligence, globalisation, and my degree gives me the critical underpinning I need to face them.

François Desaulle, Liberal Arts Student

A Liberal Arts education is based on the idea of acquiring knowledge and understanding 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. It has been continually 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 adaptable expertise. We encourage you to think for yourself as you work alongside Warwick’s world-leading academic scholars to explore the historical and cultural basis of problems, engage with complex and multi-faceted ideas, and design innovative forward-thinking solutions. Your degree in Liberal Arts will demonstrate the ability to inspire others, provide creative leadership, and to untangle the trickiest and most complex problems – all extremely highly-regarded skills that you can apply to any position in industry, creative endeavours, or future study.

THE SKILLS OF A WARWICK LIBERAL ARTS GRADUATE

• Capacity for intellectual leadership
• Practical skills for generating original research
• Ability to innovate critically across disciplinary boundaries
• Competence in designing bold and creative solutions
• Ability to see an issue from multiple perspectives
• Capacity for self-directed learning
• Aptitude in quantitative and qualitative data analysis
• Resourceful and adaptable in different situations
• Scientifically, culturally, and digitally literate
• Able to engage in complex ethical decision-making
• Active and engaged global citizen

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François Desaulle, Liberal Arts Student
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
Social Justice involves all people in all societies having equal access to wealth, health, wellbeing, justice and opportunity.

Studying a Social Justice pathway allows you to delve into the social, cultural, political, historical, and economic issues that relate to this concept in the UK and on a global scale.

**WHAT MIGHT I STUDY ON THE SOCIAL JUSTICE PATHWAY?**

**FIRST-YEAR OPTIONS:**
- Ideas of Freedom (Philosophy)
- Justice, Democracy, and Citizenship (Politics)

**SECOND-YEAR OPTIONS:**
- Politics and Culture in the Middle East (Politics)
- War, Memory, and Society (Sociology)

**THIRD-YEAR OPTIONS:**
- ‘Race’, Difference, and the Inclusive Society (Sociology)
- Human Rights and Social Justice in Latin America and the Caribbean (Global Sustainable Development, GSD)
- Justice, Power, and Religion in the Islamic World (History)

“The freedom and encouragement to carry out independent research from the first year at Warwick, combined with my core Liberal Arts module ‘Art & Revolution’, inspired and developed my deep interest in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). This experience massively shaped the Social Justice pathway I chose. Focusing on the MENA region, my pathway has allowed me to gain insight into the area from socio-political, economic, psychological, legal, and cultural angles through modules such as ‘Politics and Culture in the Middle East’ and ‘Violence, Rights, Justice, and Peace in the Middle East’.

I hope to use the knowledge gained on the pathway, and the training I have received in Liberal Arts, to pursue the Warwick Master’s programme Humanitarian Engineering to pursue a career in the Middle East—tackling complex problems such as water scarcity by engineering effective solutions that take into account cultural, geopolitical, and infrastructural influences.”

Ceara Webster, Liberal Arts Student
This pathway was formed by a collection of our first cohort of students who wanted to turn their critical attention to the ways in which individuals and societies generate and interact with culture. Cutting across the arts and humanities, anthropology, geography, sociology, and politics, this pathway has supported students to focus on areas not otherwise offered at Warwick.

Students on this pathway have combined modules on film, music, policy, and cultural theory, with modules relating to management, education and psychology.

WHAT MIGHT I STUDY ON THE CULTURE AND IDENTITY PATHWAY?

FIRST-YEAR OPTIONS:
- Visual Cultures (Film and TV Studies)
- Life of Media: Past, Present and Future (Sociology)

SECOND-YEAR OPTIONS:
- Screenwriting (English)
- Utopia: Text, Theory, Practice (Liberal Arts)
- Inventing Selves (English)

THIRD-YEAR OPTIONS:
- Eco-cinema: Environment and the Politics of Film (Film and TV Studies)
- Public Opinion (Politics)

WHAT MIGHT I STUDY ON THE FOOD SECURITY PATHWAY?

FIRST-YEAR OPTIONS:
- Quantitative Methods in Undergraduate Research (Liberal Arts)
- World Politics (Politics)

SECOND-YEAR OPTIONS:
- A Global History of Food (History)
- Politics of Food and Nutrition: National and International Perspectives (Sociology)
- Health and Sustainable Development (GSD)

THIRD-YEAR OPTIONS:
- Security, Sovereignty and Sustainability in the Global Food System (GSD)
- Population and Social Change (Sociology)
- Food and Performance (Theatre and Performance Studies)

WHAT MIGHT I STUDY ON THE SUSTAINABILITY PATHWAY?

FIRST-YEAR OPTIONS:
- Quantitative Methods in Undergraduate Research (Liberal Arts)
- Economic Principles of Global Sustainable Development (GSD)
- Environmental Principles of Global Sustainable Development (GSD)

SECOND-YEAR OPTIONS:
- Security, Sovereignty and Sustainability in the Global Food System (GSD)
- Health and Sustainable Development (GSD)

THIRD-YEAR OPTIONS:
- Utopia: Text, Theory, Practice (Liberal Arts)
- Achieving Sustainability: Potentials and Barriers (GSD)

“I chose Liberal Arts in part because of the freedom it provided when I first came to university, I really had very little idea of what I wanted to do with my life, let alone what I wanted to study. After studying modules from the Global Sustainable Development department at Warwick, I realised that sustainability was something that had always interested me, but that I had never really been able to fully explore. As a result I ended up really enjoying my sustainability-themed modules and chose the Sustainability pathway.

“In future I definitely want my work to be based around sustainability, but it’s a very broad field so this can range from working for an NGO to working in politics. I still have many avenues to explore, but I believe the combination of Liberal Arts training and the Sustainability pathway will set me up well.”

Magdalena Breyer,
Liberal Arts Student
Liberal Arts at Warwick features a number of core modules built around some of the world's most fascinating and challenging scenarios. All of our core courses employ our Problem-Based Learning approach and are designed to build your skills and confidence in seeing through complexity and designing effective solutions to difficult problems.

**YEAR ONE**

**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**
This module explores the ways in which art prompts, presages, or responds to revolutionary moments of crisis and change across history. You’ll learn how to apply a range of research skills through Problem-Based Learning to generate original approaches to complex historical and contemporary social, political, and religious revolutions and related artwork.

**SCIENCE, SOCIETY AND THE MEDIA**
How is scientific knowledge transmitted to the public? To what extent do political, financial, philosophical, and linguistic frameworks transform that knowledge? This module will explore the generation and dissemination of scientific knowledge through public-facing media such as news reporting, science fiction, and popular science writing. It will support you in critically reflecting on received wisdom regarding society’s understanding of science, and how you can proactively and productively intervene in public discourse on scientific topics.

**YEAR TWO**

**CONSUMPTION**
This module uses cultural interventions and sociological and historical frameworks to interrogate the role that consumption plays in contemporary society. Using a multi-disciplinary problem-based learning approach, you will explore how consumption operates as an organising or driving social force. Through the analysis of film, literature, music, art, historical texts, social research and critical theory, you will consider questions of power, identity, protest, nation-building, citizenship and ideology.

**SUSTAINABILITY**
By studying sustainability challenges as complex interdisciplinary systems to be mapped and understood, this module addresses difficult questions around defining and understanding sustainability, the challenges of measurement and assessment, opportunities and limitations in individual action, issues in business and globalisation, and the sustainability of population and society. With the freedom to explore these topics from a variety of disciplinary approaches, you will develop a detailed evidence-based understanding of current controversies, debates and theories, and the confidence to explore feasible policy approaches in the sustainability sphere.

**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 APOCALYPIC IMAGINARY
Narratives about the end of the world are among some of humanity’s most powerful stories, stretching from our distant mythological past to imagined transhuman futures. In this module, we’ll explore how a range of apocalyptic narratives was generated and adapted for particular purposes, and what the effects of those narratives were.

UTOPIA: TEXT, THEORY, PRACTICE
This module examines the utopian tradition as it is situated in changing social and historical contexts. You’ll critically examine the historiography of utopian social theory as it relates to ideas of progress and good citizenship. You’ll study utopian ventures in town planning, architecture and community building alongside fictional representations in art, film and literature. The module will explore how utopian projects, real and imaginary, comment on existing social structures in their attempt to construct a better life.

POSTHUMOUS GEOGRAPHIES I: UNDERWORLDS
This transdisciplinary module examines conceptions of the underworld from the classical period to present day, using Dante’s Divine Comedy as a pedagogical guide. The core issue explored in this course concerns how cultural anxieties about the afterlife—embodied in imagined spaces of underworlds—shape moral and intellectual values, and experienced societal reality. Using an array of disciplinary approaches, the module critically considers the foundational tropes that underlie the idea of an underworld, and how constructions of underworlds critique the social, cultural, religious, and political values of a particular society.

POSTHUMOUS GEOGRAPHIES II: PARADISES
How do we imagine paradise? Are all paradises already lost? This module employs a variety of complementary disciplinary approaches to explore how cultural anxieties about the afterlife—embodied in imagined spaces of paradises—shape moral and intellectual values, social realities, and built environments. Just as the allegorical journeys of Dante’s pilgrim took him through an otherworldly paradise in order to explore social, moral, political, and cultural concerns of the period, this module will also explore modern paradisial landscapes which exhibit contemporary manifestations of Dante’s concerns.

PROBLEMS IN GOVERNANCE: THE EUROPEAN UNION
The European Union presents a paradox: on one hand it has yielded unprecedented social and economic integration. Yet on the other hand, recent controversies such as the UK’s 2016 referendum vote to leave the Union, have cast a dark relief the frictions present in the region. In order to understand how the European Union can be at once a positive force, yet simultaneously problematic for many of its citizens, this module provides students with an in-depth interdisciplinary understanding of its origins and institutions, theories of European integration, and major successes and failures of the organisation.

OPTIONAL LIBERAL ARTS MODULES

Studying Liberal Arts at Warwick enables you to tailor your degree to answer the questions that matter to you, with the ability to study modules from schools across the whole university.

If, however, you enjoy the multi-faceted approaches of our own specialist academic team, we have a range of engaging optional Liberal Arts modules, built on the interdisciplinary principles of the programme, which can be incorporated into your chosen degree pathway.

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IMPACT EVALUATION: FRAMEWORKS FOR IMPLEMENTING AND ASSESSING TRANSDISCIPLINARY INTERVENTIONS
Building on our first-year module, Quantitative Methods in Undergraduate Research, this module will provide you with the generalised skills and knowledge to enable you to make informed decisions concerning both the design of policy interventions, and the evaluation of their impact. Through extensive hands-on use of a range of real-world examples and datasets, you’ll gain conceptual knowledge such as frameworks for effective policy design, core statistical knowledge, and a transferable toolkit of practical analytical skills required for effective evaluation and other statistical analysis. You’ll then be able to apply this skill set to any situation where an intervention is required—either very locally within a business or organisation, or in terms of national- or international level issues.

“All the staff in Liberal Arts show a real sense of care for students—we are recognized by name as opposed to by number, and our personal and academic wellbeing is clearly a huge priority. I have received amazing support in discovering my interests, exploring the different approaches to study them, and tailoring my degree to make it unique to me.”

Magdalena Breyer, Liberal Arts Student
In most undergraduate programmes, you only start to think about conducting original research right at the end of your course. In Liberal Arts at Warwick, original knowledge generation is at the heart of what our students do. With a foundation of research training from your first year, we’ll support you in joining our previous students in producing, publishing, and presenting undergraduate research beyond the bounds of the classroom.

In your wider engagement with the university, Warwick will give you all the support you need to do well, whether that means supporting your studies, looking after your health and wellbeing, or giving you the skills and opportunities to get a head-start in your chosen career. Warwick is also the perfect place to meet new people, make connections, and find a new hobby as you delve into the university’s thriving cultural scene.

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At Liberal Arts we believe that understanding difficult issues means seeing them from different angles – whether disciplinary, socio-cultural, or international.

“Since I started in Liberal Arts I have found Warwick to have a unique, diverse, and friendly culture that manages to balance rigorous academic study with a real appreciation for the arts, sports, and the hundreds of other activities available to you through student-run societies.”

Celine Nithila-George, Liberal Arts Student
During your Liberal Arts degree you’ll have the opportunity to complete a work placement in your second year (tied to the Certificate of Professional Communication), to source a placement for your own time outside of your studies, or to take part in an intercalated (non-credit bearing) work placement year between your second year and final year. Our professional placements, available across a range of public sector bodies and other organisations, will help you take the first steps on your career path and begin to apply the skills and knowledge gained on the course.

CERTIFICATE OF DIGITAL LITERACY
This certificate encourages you to think critically about navigating your role as a digital citizen, and how to engage mindfully 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 tools which will help you in your future studies.

CERTIFICATE OF COACHING & 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 and group 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 WITH WORK PLACEMENT
This certificate complements the Year 2 work placement and promotes an understanding of the professional environment, focusing on the link between communication and employability. Through a number of workshops you will learn theories and concepts of professional communication which you will relate to your practical experience during the placement. Completion of a reflective portfolio will help you identify and articulate your skills development throughout the certificate.

TOP 10 GRADUATE SKILLS IN 2020*
- Complex problem solving
- Critical thinking
- Creativity
- People management
- Coordinating with others
- Emotional intelligence
- Judgement and decision making
- Service orientation
- Negotiation
- Cognitive flexibility

* World Economic Forum (https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/02/what-skills-do-graduates-need-to-get-a-job/)

We understand the importance of providing students with the best possible start to life in the working world. We offer a number of professional development certificates which will boost your professional skill set, and we have a dedicated Placement Officer who will work with you to secure work experience during your time at Warwick.

WORK PLACEMENTS
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How do you see the next three years of your life unfolding? How ready are you to embrace the freedom and responsibility that a Liberal mode of education offers you?

On the Warwick Liberal Arts course you will be part of a culture of thoughtful and intellectually rebellious individuals, each pursuing their own academic pathway but all collectively united in the belief that the economic, social, political, and environmental future of our world can only be assured if all citizens are engaged in humanistic and scientific thought in equal measure.

Our course can open many doors - it's up to you to choose what matters, which issues inspire you, which causes are worth pursuing and which areas of knowledge you need to acquire in order to effect change.

In a world full of uncertainty, distrustful of authority, fraught with conflict, you must be part of the generation that brings about change because the status quo is no longer feasible; and change, as President Barack Obama said, "will not come if we wait for some other person or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we have been waiting for. We are the change that we seek".

Dr Stephanie Panichelli-Batalla is the Head of the School for Cross-faculty Studies. She has a PhD in Hispanic Philology and a background in teaching within the field of Latin American and Caribbean Studies and Human Rights. Her current research is focussed on the impact of Humanitarian Aid on collective identity construction and alteration, specifically in the case of the Cuban Internationalist Solidarity Programme.

Dr Ryan Brazeau | Senior Teaching Fellow

"Given my expertise in Renaissance Italian literature and philosophy, the subjects I teach focus on questions of cultural and scientific progress, translation, thinking across multiple languages, the reception of the classical world, and the application of poetics and poetic theory to complex real-world problems. My love of teaching rests upon the conviction that such disciplinary approaches deepen students' awareness and enable them to develop critical lenses that will serve throughout their lives. As tutor on the first-year module Science, Society, and the Media, it is exciting to see our Liberal Arts students begin to understand different perspectives on the scientific method, using discourse analysis to critique the media, and engaging in formal debates about policy interventions for gender parity in STEM fields. I also teach two Liberal Arts optional modules for second and third-year students: Posthumous Geographies I: Underworlds and Posthumous Geographies II: Paradises."

Dr Tim Burnett | Senior Teaching Fellow

"With my background in economics research and teaching, my passion lies in developing in students the practical and analytical skills to see through difficult and challenging real-world scenarios - giving them 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 the creativity and critical eye that an arts and humanities education provides, but also a complementary technical grounding to apply to analytical and policy-related 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 interdisciplinary research skills in archival studies, digital projects, interviewing and interpretative methodologies - and the lively theoretical debates that underpin and inform them."

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"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 Gavin Schwartz-Leeper | Director of Student Experience

Dr Stephanie Panichelli-Batalla | Head of School

"Our people"
Entry requirements

**A Level:** AAA plus grade B/grade 6 in English and Mathematics at GCSE

**IB:** 38 points including English and Mathematics

How to apply

Applications are made through [ucas.com](http://ucas.com)

When we receive your application it is considered against our entry requirements and other applications to the course. We don’t typically interview applicants. Offers are made based on your UCAS form, which includes predicted and actual grades, your personal statement and school reference. We also ask applicants who meet, or are predicted to meet, the minimum entry requirements to submit a second personal statement to Warwick which addresses their reasons for applying to the course. We’ll contact applicants directly to request the second personal statement and provide guidance at that time. We’ll make decisions on applications as quickly as possible and aim to have the majority of decisions confirmed by the end of March.

[warwick.ac.uk/study](http://warwick.ac.uk/study)  [warwick.ac.uk/apply](http://warwick.ac.uk/apply)

Additional information

We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances. To find out more information please visit: [warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/contextualoffers/](http://warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/contextualoffers/)

To find out more about scholarships and bursaries please visit: [https://warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/funding/fundingyourstudies/warwickusb/2020entry/](https://warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/funding/fundingyourstudies/warwickusb/2020entry/)

To find out about our new Warwick Scholars programme, please visit: [https://warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/funding/fundingyourstudies/otherfundingopps/wsp/](https://warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/funding/fundingyourstudies/otherfundingopps/wsp/)

Overseas Applicants

With a student population from over 145 countries, you’ll be part of an international community here at Warwick. We have a dedicated team available to advise, as well as a global network of Agents and Representatives. See [www.warwick.ac.uk/io](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/io) for information on applying from your country.

Student fees and funding

At the time of publication (09/19) Home/EU Tuition fee levels for 2020-21 entry were not yet agreed. Our fees, once confirmed will be published online. Tuition fees for overseas students have been set for the academic year 2020-21, until the year 2021-22.

[warwick.ac.uk/services/academicofficefinance/fees](http://warwick.ac.uk/services/academicofficefinance/fees)

We want to ensure that, wherever possible, financial circumstances do not become a barrier to studying at Warwick. We provide extra financial support for qualifying students from lower income families.

[warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/studentfunding](http://warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/studentfunding)

Accommodation

Warwick Accommodation manages over 6,700 rooms on campus across a range of self-catered residences. There is an excellent network of support staff in the Residential Life Team, and wider University.

[warwick.ac.uk/accommodation](http://warwick.ac.uk/accommodation)

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**Talk to us:**
liberalarts@warwick.ac.uk

**Find us online:**
[warwick.ac.uk/liberalarts](http://warwick.ac.uk/liberalarts)
[twitter.com/warwicklibarts](http://twitter.com/warwicklibarts)

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This 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 relevant course website for the latest information before you apply and when you accept an offer.

For full terms and conditions, please visit: [warwick.ac.uk/ugtermsandconditions](http://warwick.ac.uk/ugtermsandconditions)