

PROGRAM OF LIBERAL STUDIES (BA)

The normal method of instruction in the Program is through the reading and discussion of primary texts. The student is asked to take an active role in the learning process. Particularly in the seminar, the authors of the great books are considered to be the primary teachers.

The Program requires writing throughout the curriculum, especially in the tutorial classes. In the final year, all students have the option to write a senior thesis, usually involving extensive research, under the direction of a faculty advisor. The senior thesis offers students a particularly intensive writing experience and an opportunity to investigate in depth a specialized topic of interest.

Despite the Program's 68-credit curriculum, Program students may carry second majors, supplementary majors, minors, and concentrations, and they may participate in study abroad programs. When necessary, students may satisfy a limited number of Program requirements by taking non-departmental courses with comparable content. Such exemptions are granted only with the permission of the Program's Director of Undergraduate Studies and are subject to strict limitations.

Students normally declare a PLS major by the beginning of April of the first year. Declaration of major forms are available by early March in the department office (320 O'Shaughnessy) and website (<http://pls.nd.edu/>). Students interested in entering the Program are urged to complete the University science and mathematics requirements in the first year. Students may join the Program after the beginning of the sophomore year, although this requires one to make up one or more courses.

Sequence of Courses

Course	Title	Hours
Sophomore Year		
First Semester		
PLS 20201	Literature I: The Lyric Poem	3
PLS 20301	Philosophical Inquiry	3
PLS 23101	Great Books Seminar I	4
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		16
Second Semester		
PLS 20302	The Bible and Its Interpretation	3
PLS 20412	Fundamental Concepts of Natural Science	3
PLS 23102	Great Books Seminar II	4
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		16
Junior Year		
First Semester		
PLS 30301	Ethics	3
PLS 30411	Scientific Inquiry: Theories and Practices	3
PLS 30501	Music and Meaning	3
PLS 33101	Great Books Seminar III	4
Elective		3
Hours		16
Second Semester		
PLS 30202	Lit II: The Longer Forms	3
PLS 30302	Political and Social Theory	3
PLS 33102	Great Books Seminar IV	4

Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		16
Senior Year		
First Semester		
PLS 40301	Christian Theological Tradition	3
PLS 40601	Intellectual and Cultural History	3
PLS 43101	Great Books Seminar V	4
PLS 48701	Thesis-Tutorial	3
Elective		3
Hours		16
Second Semester		
PLS 40302	Metaphysics and Epistemology	3
PLS 40412	Science, Society and the Human Person	3
PLS 43102	Great Books Seminar VI	4
PLS 48702	Thesis-Tutorial	2
Elective		3
Hours		15
Total Hours		95