Adult Liberal Studies at UT

The adult liberal studies (ALS) program allows adults — whose jobs, family or community obligations may have prevented regular college attendance — to earn their degrees. ALS students integrate their wealth of knowledge and real-world experiences with formal learning to meet their personal learning goals and gain the rewards of academic achievement.

UT’s adult liberal studies program includes topical seminars in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences that provide the foundation of the program. These examine a wide variety of studies including anthropology, art, drama, geography, history, literature, music, philosophy, political science and sociology. Students benefit from taking a wide scope of subjects; attending seminar-formatted, student-driven classes that focus on a specific topic; and exploring events and attitudes through critical thinking and interaction with other adult students.

Students also pick a concentration related to an area that meets their professional or personal goals. Students take an active role in determining the direction and content of their learning. The capstone requirement of the program is the Senior Thesis, which builds upon the concentration selected by the student. This program can also serve as a degree completion option for those with existing college credit.

What to expect when you graduate

Graduates find their broad education valuable in finding employment opportunities in all business, industry and service sectors. Students may choose to pursue advanced degrees in law; and other areas of special interest. Many students also use this program as a pathway to graduate school or personal fulfillment.

Online Option

This degree can be completed 100 percent online. Minimum computer skills are advised for online distance learning courses, such as Internet navigation, e-mail and basic knowledge of Microsoft Office. Students who need assistance with basic computer skills should consult with their adviser for information.
Suggested Curriculum*

**UT CORE**
- Orientation 1
- One math course or CLEP Test 3
- English Comp I 3
- English Comp II 3

**COLLEGE CORE**
- ALS 1900 Introductory Seminar 2
- Humanities General Education 9
- Social Science General Education 9
- Natural Science General Education 9

**LIBERAL STUDIES CORE**
- ALS 3040 Social Science Seminar 12
- ALS 3050 Humanities Seminar 12
- ALS 3060 Natural Science Seminar Concentration** (3000-4000 level) 9
- ALS 4910 Senior Thesis** 4

**ELECTIVES**
Course electives are selected in consultation with the adviser. Many of these may be fulfilled by transfer credit if applicable.

Students are required to complete a minimum of three classes (nine hours) of upper-division courses (3000/4000) that are associated with an area of academic investigation or with a knowledge base that is related in theoretical content. The senior thesis, a capstone requirement of the adult liberal studies program, pulls together all the learning they achieved during the program, as well as the work and life experience they brought into the program. It is a four-credit-hour project undertaken with a faculty member as the thesis adviser. Students should seek the advice of an academic adviser and must turn in the appropriate paperwork before enrolling in this final requirement. Students are expected to integrate their thesis theme with their concentration courses.

**Prior Learning Assessment Program**
The University of Toledo allows you to receive college credit for relevant work, volunteer and life experiences through Prior Learning Assessment (PLA). Students demonstrate their college-level learning through the following methods:

- **Portfolio Development:** Involves compiling evidence detailing the student’s prior college level learning and practical experiences. Students will be required to take a three credit hour Portfolio Development course.
- **College Level Examination Program (CLEP):** A U.S. credit-by-examination program that helps students satisfy a requirement by getting credit for what they already know. CLEP tests may be used to fulfill the Humanities, Social Science, Natural Science and Math general education requirements in Adult Liberal Studies. The College also recognizes DANTES/DSST and ACE evaluated academic credits.

**Credit by Examination:** Course specific examinations created and evaluated by UT faculty assessors from the department/school in which the course is offered.

**Honors**
ALS also offers an optional Honors program that provides a valuable foundation of writing and research for students who want to be admitted into advanced graduate or professional programs or for those wanting a stimulating learning experience.

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* Sample curriculum is subject to change. Please consult the department for up-to-date information.
For more detailed program requirements, visit catalog.utoledo.edu

**Area of Concentration and Senior Thesis**

For more information, please contact:
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