MASTER OF LIBERAL ARTS

Master of Liberal Arts (https://advanced.jhu.edu/academics/graduate/master-of-liberal-arts/)

For self-motivated learners with inquisitive minds and an interest in thinking across disciplinary boundaries, the Master of Liberal Arts program offers a diverse range of interdisciplinary courses designed and taught by faculty who build upon a foundation in the history of ideas while also incorporating contemporary topics, sources, and approaches to research, analysis, and discourse.

Established in 1962, the Johns Hopkins MLA program has gained national recognition for the quality of its teaching and for its rigorous interdisciplinary liberal arts education. The program is designed to serve independent thinkers from a variety of academic, professional, and personal backgrounds. Our program thrives on the curiosity, passion, and diversity of its students. The MLA is a unique non-traditional graduate degree. Whereas most graduate programs ask students to become more and more specialized, the MLA expects students to both broaden and deepen their educational experience. MLA students interact with professors and one another in a stimulating asynchronous online learning environment that is compatible with all work schedules and time zones.

In consultation with their academic adviser, candidates for the MLA degree enroll in topic-based interdisciplinary courses that draw from a wide range of subjects, including history, philosophy, religion, literature, music, art history, African-American studies, environmental studies, digital humanities, critical theory, psychology, and sociology. Given the breadth and flexibility of our program, the MLA is able to meet the different goals and expectations of our students, who represent the full range of professions and are at all stages of their careers.

Admissions Criteria for All Advanced Academic Programs (https://e-catalogue.jhu.edu/arts-sciences/advanced-academic-programs/Admission/#admissionrequirementstext)

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the materials and credentials required for all programs, the Master of Liberal Arts program requires applicants to submit a:

- Resume
- Statement of Purpose: Please provide a statement, up to one page in length, describing your personal background and/or a part of your life experience that has shaped you or your goals. Feel free to elaborate on personal challenges and opportunities that have influenced your decision to pursue a graduate degree at Johns Hopkins.

Program Requirements

Master of Liberal Arts program students must complete:

- One customizable core course
- Eight electives; any core courses taken after the first one may count as electives toward the degree
- One core culminating experience (capstone) course

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<th>Code</th>
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<td>Core Courses - Customizable</td>
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<td>MLA Core: Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Methods</td>
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<td>AS.450.627</td>
<td>MLA Core: Critical Theory</td>
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<td>AS.450.772</td>
<td>MLA Core: Ways of Knowing: Historical and Epistemological Foundations of the Liberal Arts</td>
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Core Course - Culminating Experience

Choose one of the following:

- AS.450.820 MLA Capstone: Portfolio
- AS.450.830 MLA Capstone: Graduate Project
- AS.450.850 MLA Capstone: Internship

Electives

Select eight of the following:

- AS.450.605 Art Since 1960
- AS.450.607 Through a Glass, Darkly: American Film Noir
- AS.450.608 Renaissance Women: Portraits, Patrons, and Painters
- AS.450.611 Social History of Medicine
- AS.450.612 Tough Neighborhood: A History of U.S.-Central American Relations
- AS.450.613 British Victorian Women
- AS.450.617 The Constitution and the Criminal Justice System
- AS.450.618 Going Underground: Subculture and Social Justice in Self-Publishing
- AS.450.620 Gender and Media
- AS.450.622 The Shape of Things: Embodiment and Sexuality in American Culture
- AS.450.630 Intimacies of East/West: Hegemony, Representation, & Literature
- AS.450.631 Western Theatre History: The Dynamic Interplay of Social, Economic and Cultural Forces
- AS.450.634 Italian Renaissance Art and Thought
- AS.450.642 Yesterday’s Tomorrows: Utopian and Dystopian Futures in Science Fiction Literature
- AS.450.643 Leadership and the Classics
- AS.450.646 Religion of Politics, Politics of Religion
- AS.450.648 Fakes, Lies, and Forgeries: A History of “Fake News” from The Flood to the Apocalypse
- AS.450.650 Nazi Germany and the Holocaust
- AS.450.651 Western Political Philosophy
- AS.450.652 Modern Black Political Thought
- AS.450.654 “When the lamps went out”: WWI as history, memory and commemoration
- AS.450.667 The Bildungsroman as Literary Form-Chronicling Personal Growth in Countries and Cultures
- AS.450.669 Family in Cross-Cultural Perspective

MLA Capstone: Internship

MLA Capstone: Graduate Project

MLA Core: Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Methods

MLA Core: Critical Theory

MLA Core: What is History?

MLA Core: Why Read the Classics?

MLA Core: Ways of Knowing: Historical and Epistemological Foundations of the Liberal Arts

MLA Core: Ways of Knowing: Historical and Epistemological Foundations of the Liberal Arts
AS.450.673  Monstrosity & Metamorphosis: Imagining Animals in Early Art & Literature

AS.450.675  Literary Analysis of the Hebrew Bible

AS.450.678  Religions of the Emerging World

AS.450.689  Introduction to Digital Humanities in the Liberal Arts

AS.450.694  Philosophy of Beauty

AS.450.695  American Political Theory and Practice

AS.450.697  All in the Family: Power, Scandal, and Fall

AS.450.699  Great Books in Great Contexts

AS.450.700  “The Souls of Black Folk”: Evolving Conceptions of Leadership in African American Literature and Culture

AS.450.710  The Mind of Leonardo Da Vinci

AS.450.717  School and Society: Education Reimagined, Possibilities Disclosed

AS.450.724  Science Fiction Film in the 20th Century

AS.450.736  Medieval England: From Beowulf to the Battle of Bosworth

AS.450.739  Race and Jazz

AS.450.741  Apocalyptic in the Bible, Religion, and Popular Culture

AS.450.745  Aristotle and Hobbes: Physics, Psychology, Ethics and Politics

AS.450.746  Deep Ecology: Environmental Ethic

AS.450.748  The Black Politics of Michael Jackson

AS.450.749  Exploring the Liberal Arts: On-Site Seminar

AS.450.762  Race and Ethnicity in the United States

AS.450.766  Deconstructing Capitalism

AS.450.771  Black Queer History

AS.450.774  Existentialism: Philosophy and Social Critique

AS.450.781  The Global Cold War

AS.450.790  Six Degrees of Miles Davis

AS.450.801  MLA Independent Study

Total Credits  30

Learning Outcomes

Graduates who earn the MLA degree should develop the ability to:

• Situate different methods of inquiry within the liberal arts, building upon a foundation in the history of ideas and enduring humanistic questions.

• Analyze complex topics from interdisciplinary perspectives.

• Conduct original research that is creative, critical, and well informed.

• Raise vital questions in response to social and ethical issues, interrogating dominant narratives and systems of power.

• Communicate ideas in ways that are accessible to diverse audiences and contexts.

• Articulate how their MLA studies have enhanced, extended, or challenged their knowledge and skills and will inform their future endeavors.