

PROGRAM PURPOSE

Liberal Studies is an associate in arts degree designed for students whose educational goal is to transfer to another institution to earn a bachelor's degree or for students who are exploring their educational or career goals. This flexible degree program is designed to help students complete their general education core requirements before continuing their education at an institution that offers a bachelor's degree or in preparation for declaring a major for one of the NMCC's technical or occupational degree programs.

Liberal studies graduates may take advantage of an agreement between the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System to transfer to one of Maine's public universities. Under this agreement, students can complete up to 35 credits of their general education requirements and transfer that block of credits, for full credit, to other institutions within the two systems.

Graduates of the liberal studies program will gain a strong foundation in the traditional disciplines of the liberal arts (math, science social studies and humanities). Through this carefully designed program, students will gain the knowledge, skills and values that are essential for work and a lifetime of learning.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Associate in Arts degree option serves as a dynamic springboard for those who wish to continue their education and earn a bachelor's degree. The "2 years here, 2 years there" formula allows NMCC graduates to accrue far less debt than their peers while enjoying a seamless transition to their chosen university.

This smart pathway provides both a solid academic foundation and significant financial savings, setting you up for a successful and debt-conscious future.



APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedures constitute the admissions process:

- 1** Submit an NMCC application.
- 2** Submit official high school transcript and/or HiSET/GED scores (current senior's ranking period grades).
- 3** Official college transcripts for applicants who have attended other post-secondary schools.
- 4** If SAT scores are not available, placement testing may be required.
- 5** Meet with an Admissions Counselor.
- 6** A campus tour is highly recommended.



GET IN TOUCH

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LIBERAL STUDIES
2026-2027 Curriculum
Associate in the Arts Degree Program

LIBERAL STUDIES
2026-2027 Curriculum
Certificate Program

First Semester			C	L	CR	First Semester			C	L	CR
>	COL 103	College Success	1	0	1	>	COL 103	College Success	1	0	1
>	ENG 111	English Composition	3	0	3	>	ENG 111	English Composition	3	0	3
>	MAT 116	Quantitative Reasoning (or higher level math)	3	0	3	>	MAT 116	Quantitative Reasoning (or higher level math)	3	0	3
>		Diversity Elective (PHI 206 or HIS 206)	3	0	3	>		Diversity Elective (PHI 206 or HIS 206)	3	0	3
>		Humanities Elective	3	0	3	>		Humanities Elective	3	0	3
>		Social Science Elective	3	0	3	>		Social Science Elective	3	0	3
			16	0	16				16	0	16
Second Semester			C	L	CR	Second Semester			C	L	CR
>	ENG 226	Introduction to Literature	3	0	3	>	ENG 226	Introduction to Literature	3	0	3
>		Creative Arts Elective (ART 201 or ENG 239)	3	0	3	>		Creative Arts Elective (ART 201 or ENG 239)	3	0	3
>		Science Elective	3	2	4	>		Science Elective	3	2	4
>		Writing Elective (ENG 227 recommended)	3	0	3	>		Writing Elective (ENG 227 recommended)	3	0	3
		Elective	3	0	3			Elective	3	0	3
			15	2	16				15	2	16
Third Semester			C	L	CR	Minimum Required					32
>		Social Science Elective	3	2	3						
		Electives	12	0	12						
			15	2	15						
Fourth Semester			C	L	CR						
>		Ethical Reasoning Elective (PHI 201 recommended)	3	0	3						
		Electives	11-12	0	11-12						
			14-15	0	14-15						
Minimum Required			61/62								
> Major courses; a minimum grade of "C" or 2.0 is required											
Key: C=Class hours; L=Laboratory; CR=Credit hours											

Students are advised to select courses that provide a depth of knowledge when fulfilling the various program requirements. Pre-requisites must be considered in order to assure access to appropriate upper level courses. Students wishing to continue their education in a baccalaureate program should work with their academic advisor to select courses that ensure optimum transfer of credits. A minimum of 21 credits must be completed at the 200 level.

