

Liberal Arts Major

LAM Tips for 2011-2012

Designing a LAM

Liberal arts study enhances research, analysis, and communication skills, while increasing general knowledge. So think broadly and creatively about all the types of skills and knowledge that could help make you more intellectually resourceful. Could an ethnic studies course make you a better communicator? Could a philosophy course make you a better leader? The LAM encourages study across as well as within liberal arts disciplines. Consult with advisors and faculty—they know the curriculum, and may be able to arrange valuable independent studies or internships. Visit “Undergraduate Programs” under “Catalogs” on the university’s home page. Review course descriptions for all of the disciplines in the College of Arts and Sciences:

Anthropology	History	Media Studies	Social Science
Arts	Humanities	Music	Sociology
Biology	Information and	Natural History	Spanish
Computer Forensics	Computer Sciences	Philosophy	Theater
Chemistry	Intermedia Arts	Physics	Women’s Studies
Communications	Information Studies	Political Science	Writing
Ethnic Studies	Linguistics	Reading	
Geography	Literature	Religious Studies	
Geology	Mathematics	Screenwriting	

LAM Course List Form

When you’ve selected at least 32 upper division credits for your LAM, fill in the grid called “Proposed LAM Program” on the LAM Course List Form, showing all of the courses that make up your LAM, whether those courses are now completed, current, or planned for the future.

LAM Rationale of Coherence

Write a thoughtful and detailed essay and *edit it carefully*. Address all five points recommended under “Rationale of Coherence” in the “LAM Guidelines” document. Do not include courses without explaining why they’re there. Your LAM is your major—so explain what you are majoring in.

Submit Your LAM Proposal

There are four parts: Rationale of Coherence, Course List, Checklist and a Major Declaration Form. Submit these in hard copy to Prof. Shannon Skarphol Kaml (700 E. 7th St.; St. Paul, MN 55106) or by email as pdfs. Alternately, The faculty committee that reviews LAM proposals meets once a month and students should hear back from the committee about two weeks after the application deadline. LAM proposal deadlines for 2011-12 are:

Aug. 29, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, and Dec. 13, 2011; and Jan. 23, Feb. 20, Mar. 26 and Apr. 23, 2012

Do Not Delay Until You Need to Get a LAM Approved in Order to Graduate!

University policy says that students should declare majors when they have 80 credits. Delay in proposing a LAM could result in taking courses that won’t apply, or in postponing graduation.

Contact Professor Shannon Skarphol Kaml, 651-999-5946; Shannon.SkarpholKaml@metrostate.edu