Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies

Approx. program length: 4 years
Credits: 121
Cost per credit: $398
Tuition Guarantee

Broaden your horizons through Liberal Studies

Gain the subject proficiency and teaching preparation you need to pursue multiple subject credentialing with a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies. This program is designed to prepare students with no prior teaching experience for initial teacher licensure in California. Field experiences are integrated throughout the program, concluding with a student teaching requirement that’s above and beyond program coursework.

Students in the BS in Liberal Studies will learn to:

- Design and implement effective elementary classroom instruction
- Apply professional ethics to teaching practices
- Meet the instructional needs of diverse elementary student populations
- Create innovative strategies and incorporate technology into the classrooms
- Gain knowledge, skills and dispositions to meet California Teaching Performance Expectations

You can complete your degree in four years. And most courses are just 5 weeks long, so you can balance work and life on the path to your degree.

What sets us apart?

When you choose our Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies program, you’ll benefit from:

Relevant curriculum
Learn one course at a time through a curriculum that includes fieldwork and student teaching to give you real-world experience.

Industry alignment
Gain skills needed to be a successful elementary grade teacher from courses that align with California Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs).

Dedicated support
You’ll work with dedicated education staff who will help you through state licensures and other credential processes.
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Projected job growth:
7%
According to Bureau of Labor Statistics

Job opportunities

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job growth for kindergarten and elementary school teachers is projected to be 7 percent between 2016 and 2026. A Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies can help prepare you to be an:

- Elementary education teacher
- Elementary school teacher
- Elementary teacher

Networking opportunities

Access powerful networking tools through our PhoenixLink™ career services platform. Take advantage of personal career coaching. Search and apply for jobs, or make your résumé visible to employers. And connect with employers and alumni through career fairs and mixers. It's all about connections. And we help you make them.

Learning outcomes

Along with the knowledge and skills related to the University Learning Goals, graduates should gain program-specific knowledge, skills and abilities. Each college or school creates a set of Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs) to describe the knowledge, skills or attitudes students will possess upon completion of the program of study. By the time you complete your Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies, you should be able to perform these learning outcomes.

Program purpose statement

The Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies is an undergraduate degree program intended to prepare students with no prior teaching experience for initial teacher licensure in California. The program includes a clinical component requiring field experiences and student teaching above and beyond program coursework. There may be additional qualifications and/or disqualifications applicable in order to work as a teacher with any local, state or federal entity.

View state licensure requirements for more information.

The goal of accreditation is to ensure that education provided by institutions of higher education meets acceptable levels of quality. Accreditation is your assurance the University meets quality standards.

Institutional accreditation

Regional accreditation is an institution-level accreditation status granted by one of six U.S. regional accrediting bodies. Accreditation by more than one regional accrediting body is not permitted by the U.S. Department of Education.

University of Phoenix is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), hlcommission.org. Since 1978, University of Phoenix has been continually accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and its predecessor.
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Course length: 5 weeks*
*Some course lengths vary

Total credits required: 121
Max. number of transfer credits: 90

Requirements and prerequisites
You’ll need 121 credits to complete this program. These may be earned through a combination of required and elective courses. Required courses may vary based on transferable credits.

View general requirements

Course alignment
This program is aligned with California Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs) and the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) standards. The program is approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC).

Transfer credits
Earn your degree faster by transferring eligible college credits. Contact an enrollment representative at 844.YES.UOPX for more information.

Core courses

While widely available, not all programs are available in all locations or in both online and on-campus formats. Please check with a University Enrollment Representative.