Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies Degree

Broaden your horizons through liberal studies and pursue a future in teaching. Our Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies is designed to prepare students with no prior teaching experience for a multiple subject teaching credential in California.

Field experiences are integrated throughout the program, finishing with a student teaching requirement that's above and beyond program coursework. And, you'll work with dedicated education staff who will help you through state licensures and other credential processes.

Top skills learned in this program:

- Classroom Management
- Lesson Planning
- Child Development
- Diverse Student Populations
- Reflective Teaching Practice
- Teaching
- Professionalism
- Leadership
- Learning Strategies
- Innovation
What can you do with a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies?

A BS/LS can prepare you to be:

- Elementary education teacher

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, job growth for kindergarten and elementary school teachers is projected to be as fast as average between 2020 and 2030.

BLS projections are not specific to University of Phoenix students or graduates.

Institutional accreditation

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.
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Total credits required: 121

Requirements and prerequisites

You'll need 121 credits to complete this Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies degree. Your course schedule may vary based on previous experience, training or transferable credits.

13 Core courses

Here’s where you’ll pick up the bulk of your program-specific knowledge. By the time you finish these courses, you should have the confidence and skills needed in a professional environment.

- GEN/201: Foundations for University Success
- EDU/300CA: Orientation to Teacher Education
- EDU/301CA: Foundations of Education
- EDU/305CA: Child Development
- EDU/311CA: Models and Theories of Instruction
- RDG/420CA: Elementary Methods: Reading and Language Arts
- ELL/300: Instructional Methods for English Language Learners
- SPE/300CA: Orientation to the Exceptional Child
- EDU/321CA: Classroom Management
- TPA/100: TPA Planning and Instruction
- EED/436CA: Elementary Methods: Social Science and Fine Arts
- EED/438CA: Elementary Methods: Mathematics and Science
- TPA/200: TPA Instruction and Assessment

27 General Education courses

These courses lay the foundation for all our degree programs. Because communication, math and writing skills aren’t just universally applicable in the world of teaching — they’re useful in daily life.
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- HUM/115: Critical Thinking in Everyday Life
- ENG/110: English Composition I
- ARTS/100: Introduction to the Visual and Performing Arts
- ENG/210: English Composition II
- SCI/220T: Human Nutrition
- HIS/110CA: U.S. History to 1865
- RDG/201CA: Reading and Writing Concepts
- HPE/270: Physical Education and Health for Educators
- HST/165: U. S. History 1865 to 1945
- CHM/110: Introductory Chemistry
- HST/275: Global Civilizations to 1500
- PHY/101: Fundamentals of Physics
- HST/276: Global Civilizations Since 1500
- BIO/101T: Principles of Biology
- MTH/215T: Quantitative Reasoning I
- MTH/216T: Quantitative Reasoning II
- ARTS/230: Survey of the Visual Arts
- SCI/209: Oceanography
- MTH/213: Mathematics for Elementary Educators I
- MTH/214: Mathematics for Elementary Educators II
- HIS/305: California State History
- ARTS/340: Exploration of Western Classical Music
- ENG/380: Applied Linguistics
- ENG/437CA: Literary Genres Across Cultures
- ENG/295: Children’s Literature
- PHL/310CA: Critical Thinking Across Disciplines
- HUM/375CA: Integrative Studies
- ENG/135: Essentials of Contemporary Communication
- GLG/220: Physical Geology

2 Clinical Practice/Student Teaching Courses

During your clinical practice experience — one of the final steps to complete your degree — you’ll complete a student teaching experience where you will apply your instruction and classroom management skills full time. Working under the supervision of a teacher and a University of Phoenix faculty supervisor, you’ll develop lesson plans, teach, work with diverse student populations and incorporate technology into the classroom.
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COE Central

College of Education students will find many helpful resources on COE Central. Program handbooks provide a wealth of information on topics such as professional expectations, clinical experiences, clinical practice, internships, edTPA and much more. Milestone roadmaps, technology and multimedia resources, and various toolkits are also available.

Schedule

Your academic counselor will help you schedule your classes.

Plus, you'll find support from our dedicated education program specialists who work with you 1:1 during your 100 required hours of clinical experience (or more if required by your state) and a minimum of 12 weeks of clinical practice (or more if required by your state). Our education program specialists also help you navigate your state licensure requirements for teacher certification, and can help with questions along the way.

What You'll Learn

When you earn your BS in Liberal Studies, you'll be equipped with a concrete set of skills you can apply on the job.

You'll learn how to:

• Design and implement effective instruction in the elementary classroom to produce a positive impact on student learning.
• Evaluate effective professional practice in elementary education.
• Apply professional ethics to their instructional practices in elementary education.
• Evaluate learning principles to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of diverse elementary student populations.
• Create innovative strategies and incorporate technology in an elementary classroom setting.

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. The program includes a clinical component requiring field experiences and student teaching above and beyond program coursework.

Requirements for licensure vary by state. See your state’s requirements.

There may be additional qualifications and/or disqualifications applicable in order to work as a teacher with any local, state or federal entity.

*While widely available, not all programs are available to residents of all states. Please check with a University Enrollment Representative.

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projections are not specific to University of Phoenix students or graduates.