



Liberal Arts

Enriching critical and conceptual thinking.

The success of today's most recognized artists, designers, and creative leaders hinges on more than their mastery of studio technique. Successful and influential creative works address multiple dimensions of life and experience. They push boundaries and ask the audience to respond in intellectually and emotionally sophisticated ways. They entertain, delight, and move us, leading audiences into a deeper understanding and appreciation of our complicated world.

Today's trailblazers know what questions to ask and to whom they are speaking—skills acquired in the comprehensive Liberal Arts program at Ringling College. Liberal Arts courses comprise a third of your total degree requirements, but they are taught in interactive and visually-oriented ways you won't experience at a community college or public university. Liberal Arts courses will help you find your unique voice and learn how to communicate your perspective. They'll offer you a deeper understanding of our cultural milieu—where it has come from and where it is going.

Designed for Creatives

In your Liberal Arts classes, you will discover a curriculum built for emerging creatives by active artists, designers, writers, historians, scholars, and scientists. Classes are designed to complement and amplify your studio work and are taught in a style that works for visual learners. Through your Liberal Arts classes, you will:

- **Encounter content, ancient and contemporary, that enriches your work**
- **Connect with students from other majors**
- **Open your mind to diverse viewpoints**
- **Place your own work in historical context**
- **Explore your sense of social identity**
- **Adopt a more global and cosmic perspective**
- **Develop a deeper sense of your own artistic voice**
- **Learn strategies to overcome barriers to creativity**

Explore New Topics

In the Liberal Arts program, we are all about exploration and discovery. As a Ringling student, you have your choice from over 80 classes in a variety of disciplines, such as:

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| Classical Mythology | Writing Tabletop Games |
| Ecology of Water | Digital Culture, Media, & Society |
| Consumer Culture & Behavior | Western Music & Painting |
| Japanese Art & Culture | Literature of Comics & the Graphic Narrative |
| Film Noir | Sociology of Fashion |
| LGBTQ Literature | Gender, Race, & Culture |
| Introduction to Gender & Sexuality Studies | Global Body Art |
| Writing Comics & Graphic Narratives | |
| History of Modern Architecture | |

Visiting Speakers

The Liberal Arts program hosts national and international scholars to inform and inspire your studio work. Professionals from all industries have participated, including contemporary artists, architects, environmental activists, filmmakers, literary agents, art critics, journalists, historians, entrepreneurs, religious leaders, actors, mystery writers, orchestra conductors, and poets. We even have a resident futurist.



Residency and Study Abroad Programs

Living and studying overseas will change your perspective and bring a whole new dimension to your art. Ringling College students have the opportunity to participate in study abroad programs in Ireland, France, Spain, Italy, and the United Kingdom.

Mission Statement

Our mission in Liberal Arts is to instill students with knowledge about the interconnectedness of global systems and cultures, a perspective of the planetary scale within which we reside, and a sense of curiosity about the world. We equip students for engaged global citizenship and the creation of a more inclusive and just society through the power of art, design, and critical thinking to change the world and transform media products and brand experiences into innovative and inclusive industry practice.

Student Learning Outcomes

The liberal arts education competencies outlined below are the intended outcomes that all students should attain by the time they graduate from Ringling College. Students have multiple opportunities to develop and demonstrate these abilities as creators, communicators and collaborators.

Written Communication

Critical Thinking

Scientific and Quantitative Literacy

Integrative Learning and Problem Solving

Cultural and Historical Global Contexts

Critical Information Literacy

Teamwork Skills

Diversity and Inclusion

Faculty

Our Liberal Arts faculty are anthropologists; architects; art therapists; children's book, fiction, and video game writers; art, cultural, and design historians; environmental scientists; mathematicians; philosophers; sociologists; and theatre directors, who are passionate about shaping the next generation of creative leaders.

Learn more about our faculty: www.ringling.edu/faculty

About Our Faculty

Our faculty is comprised of creatives who are passionate about helping you become globally aware, socially responsible successful artists, designers, and writers. They come to Ringling College to teach because they want to engage with and inspire the next generation of creative thinkers. Here, you might take Liberal Arts courses from:

- Anthropologists
- Architects
- Art historians
- Art therapists
- Children's book authors
- Cultural historians
- Design historians
- Environmental scientists
- Fiction writers
- Film critics
- Mathematicians
- Philosophers
- Sociologists
- Theatre directors
- Video game writers

