

Liberal Arts Programs

Overview

The College of Liberal Arts houses three minor- and certificate-granting programs: Esports, Disability Studies, and Global Studies. These programs offer specialized learning pathways that enhance undergraduate degrees and enable students to deepen their understanding of video games, disability and society, and/or global politics and culture.

Undergraduate programs (<https://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2025-2026/liberalarts/lart-programs/undergraduate/>)

Contact Information

For additional information about these programs, please follow the links below:

Esports Certificate (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/liberal-arts/departments/esports-certificate/>)

Disability Studies Program (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/liberal-arts/departments/disability-studies/>)

The McDowell Center for Global Studies (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/liberal-arts/departments/mcdowell-center/>)

COURSES

DS 2301. TOPICS IN DISABILITY STUDIES. 3 Hours.

Special topics of interest in the field of Disability Studies. May be repeated for credit when the topic changes.

DS 3307. U.S. DISABILITY HISTORY. 3 Hours.

Examines the history of ideas about disability, the historical lives of people with disabilities, and the history of disability policy. The growth of asylums, the rise of the eugenics movement, a historical look at freak shows, the impact of industrialization on experiences of disability, the evolution of special education, the role of ideas about disability in colonialism, the historical treatment of disabled veterans, and the development of the disability rights movement. Offered as HIST 3307 and DS 3307; credit will only be granted once. Prerequisite: One of HIST 1301 or HIST 1331 and one of HIST 1302 or HIST 1332.

DS 3312. DISABILITY & SOCIAL WORK. 3 Hours.

Examines major themes in disability and social work. Topics include basic understandings of disability, lived experiences of people with disabilities, legal and policy perspectives, working with adults and children with a variety of disabilities, history of disability policy and disability rights, disability advocacy, and resources in the community, among others. Offered as DS 3312 and SOCW 3312; credit will only be granted in one department.

DS 3321. TOPICS IN DISABILITY STUDIES. 3 Hours.

Special topics of interest in the field of disability studies. May be repeated for credit when the topic changes.

DS 3322. DISABILITY ETHICS. 3 Hours.

Explores the philosophical literature pertaining to disability and disabled experiences. Topics include defining disability, healthcare allocation, de-institutionalization, assisted dying and euthanasia, and the ethics of genetic and reproductive technologies. Offered as PHIL 3322 and DS 3322; credit will only be granted once.

DS 3327. CYBORGS AND PROSTHETICS. 3 Hours.

Explores the history, theories, and evolving representations of prosthetics, bionics, cyborgism, and the post-human. Investigates the origins and development of the prosthetics industry, historical experiences of prosthetics users, and cultural depictions and debates about human-technology interactions. Offered as DS 3327 and HIST 4327 and previously as DS 3321 and HIST 4388; credit will only be granted once.

DS 3331. RESEARCH IN DISABILITY STUDIES. 3 Hours.

Introduction to the theories and methods that disability studies scholars use to conduct research and present their findings in written and oral form. Recommended: HIST 3307 or DS 3321.

DS 3346. DISABILITY IN MASS MEDIA. 3 Hours.

Explores how mass media frames disability and neurodiversity for the general public. Focuses on issues related to disability and mass media representation, including journalism, TV, film, advertising, photography, documentary, video games, and the Internet. Topics may include media models of representation, inspiration porn, disability blogs, accessible media, and disabled mimicry in TV and film, among others. Offered as DS 3346 and COMM 3346; credit will be granted in only one department.

DS 3355. UNIVERSAL DESIGN & ACCESSIBILITY IN THE PERFORMING ARTS. 3 Hours.

Explores the principles of Universal Design using the performing arts as a case study: creating environments, events, buildings, and products to accommodate the broadest spectrum of human ability, size, age, and other characteristics. Investigates how to put into practice the accessibility guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Performing is not required. Offered as THEA 3355 and DS 3355; credit will only be granted in one department.

DS 3399. DISABILITY AND ART. 3 Hours.

Explores the many connections between disability and art, including both art created by people with disabilities and the wide variety of artistic representations about disability. Examines the purposes of art-making by people with disabilities: for therapeutic reasons, as a means of self-expression, to achieve professional goals, or as an act of activism. Investigates historical depictions of disability in art as well as art's role as a visual voice for the disability rights movement. Offered as DS 3399 and ART 3399; credit will only be granted once. Prerequisite: Any two of the three courses ART 1309, ART 1310, and ART 1317; or permission from the instructor or Disability Studies.

DS 4100. WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL. 1 Hour.

Only open to adapted sports student athletes. May be repeated 10 times. Prerequisite: permission from the director of the Minor in Disability Studies.

DS 4191. CONFERENCE COURSE. 1 Hour.

Directed independent study for the advanced undergraduate. A close examination of a chosen topic through research and/or reading; format designed by instructor and student. Course may be repeated for credit once with a change in faculty. Prerequisite: Prior approval of the instructor and the director of the Disability Studies minor.

DS 4291. CONFERENCE COURSE. 2 Hours.

Directed independent study for the advanced undergraduate. A close examination of a chosen topic through research and/or reading; format designed by instructor and student. Course may be repeated for credit once with a change in faculty. Prerequisite: Prior approval of the instructor and the director of the Disability Studies minor.

DS 4326. TOPICS IN DISABILITY HISTORY. 3 Hours.

Special topics of interest in disability history, such as disability history in global perspective; hard-of-hearing histories, deaf histories, and Deaf History; or disability in the global South. May be repeated for credit when the topic changes. Offered as DS 4326 and HIST 4326; credit will be granted in only one department. Prerequisite: HIST 1301, HIST 1302.

DS 4329. DISABILITY & WORK. 3 Hours.

Explores the complex relationship between disability and work within the United States from a current and historical perspective. Topics include study of the Americans with Disabilities Act; research on the diversity, population, and changes in proportions of people with disabilities; employment rates and experiences of people with disabilities; attitudes and perspectives surrounding and affecting the employment opportunities and experiences of people with disabilities; and ways to provide inclusive, non-discriminatory workplaces. Offered as MANA 4329 and DS 4329; credit will only be granted once. Prerequisite: 60 hours or MANA 4326 or Disability Studies permission.

DS 4391. CONFERENCE COURSE. 3 Hours.

Directed independent study for the advanced undergraduate. A close examination of a chosen topic through research and/or reading; format designed by instructor and student. Course may be repeated for credit once with a change in faculty. Prerequisite: permission from the director of the Minor in Disability Studies.

DS 4395. DISABILITY STUDIES INTERNSHIP. 3 Hours.

Supervised internship in which students apply the academic skills they have acquired in Disability Studies courses by working in a related non-profit or business environment. Prerequisite: HIST 3307 or 3 hours of core disability studies courses; permission of the instructor.

DS 4491. CONFERENCE COURSE. 4 Hours.

Directed independent study for the advanced undergraduate. A close examination of a chosen topic through research and/or reading; format designed by instructor and student. Course may be repeated for credit once with a change in faculty. Prerequisite: Permission from the director of the Minor in Disability Studies.

COURSES

GLOBAL 2301. INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL ISSUES. 3 Hours.

Comparative perspectives on a broad range of cultural, linguistic, economic, political, and social issues confronting a globalized world today. Designed to draw attention to the multifaceted connections among nation-states, nongovernmental organizations, diverse ethnic, cultural and religious groups, and populations around the world.

GLOBAL 2315. INTRODUCTION TO LOCALIZATION AND LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGY. 3 Hours.

An introduction to localization and computational approaches to language and culture. Topics will include: computer-aided translation, machine translation, natural language processing, mining and semantic analysis of language data, machine learning/AI with natural language.

GLOBAL 3301. TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL CULTURES AND CIVILIZATIONS I. 3 Hours.

Intensive study of a particular world region and/or culture including, but not limited to, its language, geography, history, arts, commerce, politics, and government. Focus on its uniqueness as a culture and its integral place in global society. Repeatable for credit as topic varies. No prerequisite. Recommend enrollment in GLOBAL 2301 concurrently or previously.

GLOBAL 3302. TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL CULTURES AND CIVILIZATIONS II. 3 Hours.

Advanced study of a particular world region and/or culture including, but not limited to, its language, geography, history, arts, commerce, politics, and government. Emphasis on film, media, international communication, or other subjects of global study. Repeatable for credit as topic changes. No prerequisite. Strongly recommended: GLOBAL 2301 and GLOBAL 3301, concurrently or previously.

GLOBAL 3303. PUTINISM AND THE CULTURE OF RUSSIAN POLITICS. 3 Hours.

A course on Putinism as a governing system and incipient ideology in Russia. The course focuses on the cultural, historical, and biographical roots of Putinism as well as its sociological, institutional, and ideological foundations. The course also examines aspects of Putinism in practice, with a specific focus on the role of the Russian security services and organized crime. Offered as GLOBAL 3303 and HIST 3373. Credit will only be given in one department. Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 with a grade of C or better.

GLOBAL 3310. LOCALIZATION AND TRANSLATION. 3 Hours.

Introduction to cultural and linguistic issues in the translation of language texts. Students will explore current technologies used in various real-world translation contexts and how to adapt texts, products, and services to the locale for which they are intended. Prerequisite: GLOBAL 3301 in the language under study or permission of the instructor.

GLOBAL 3370. THE MAKING OF MODERN UKRAINE. 3 Hours.

This course introduces students to the forces that shaped modern Ukraine. Students will learn how Ukraine came into being and evaluate this post-imperial state and civic nation as an example of anti-colonial rebellion. Offered as HIST 3370 and GLOBAL 3370; credit will be given in only one department.

GLOBAL 4301. RESEARCH IN GLOBAL STUDIES. 3 Hours.

This course examines multidisciplinary problems that fall within the scope of human rights and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Students complete coursework which culminates in an original research project on a topic of their choice, which might involve novel approaches toward sustainability, food security, infrastructure, health, water conservation, sanitation, ecosystem resilience, urbanization, recycling, or other issues related to globalization. Students will investigate and propose solutions in the form of a proposal to carry out active field work in partnership with a non-governmental agency or non-profit organization working to promote sustainable global development. For students pursuing a minor or certificate in Global Studies, this course serves as their Capstone. Prerequisite: ANTH 2322, GLOBAL 2301, GLOBAL 3310, POLS 3302, or POLS 3304.

GLOBAL 4312. INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE FOR GLOBAL COMMUNICATION. 3 Hours.

A study of the differences between the U.S. and other cultures of the world with a focus on the development of intercultural competence: verbal and non-verbal communication, interpersonal skills, effective management strategies, and professional etiquette in multicultural settings.

GLOBAL 4393. INTERNSHIP. 3 Hours.

This course is a combination of field-related experience in the business or service sector with an academic component. Coursework may include journal writing, outside readings, and formal presentations. Prerequisite: Two GLOBAL 3000 level courses and/or permission of the instructor.