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You will be able to forge your own unique pathways of learning by choosing courses from various disciplines. You will learn to think laterally and become a life-long learner, who is able to navigate with ease the rapid pace of change in the world today.

Uditi Sen, Assistant Professor, BA Liberal Arts

Study in one of the most creative cities in the UK
From the vibrant arts scene in the Creative Quarter to the new businesses in the University’s Innovation Park, Nottingham is a place for liberal arts students to thrive.

Build skills as a researcher, innovator, communicator and leader that will help you develop an exciting career.

Think global
Study at our campuses in China and Malaysia, as well as our partner universities around the world.

Gain practical experience
of using your interdisciplinary skills on work placements in the local area through the Nottingham Advantage Award.

Choose modules from 16 disciplines
to make your own degree programme, follow your interests and explore new areas of study.

Be involved in shaping the programme through the Undergraduate Learning Forum and work with staff to develop new initiatives.

Gain practical experience
Learning outside campus
Part of our work within liberal arts is practising the importance of interdisciplinary scholarship. Throughout your degree programme, we will use field trips, site visits and engagement events with local, national and international institutions to broaden your horizons and to apply your thinking outside the University. These opportunities can also include studying abroad in North America, Europe, China or Malaysia, or working with a local business on developing new enterprises. Liberal arts scholars are diverse and flexible in their thinking and build a lifelong commitment to learning new skills and acquiring knowledge.

Field trips are optional and costs for students vary according to the trip, with some being wholly subsidised by the department.

At a glance
- Study a degree with one of the broadest choices of subjects, on a truly interdisciplinary programme
- Develop critical and creative ways of thinking within our core liberal arts modules, as well as optional modules from 16 different disciplines
- Take advantage of our international study and language options
- Graduate with a global degree and enhance your aspirations towards an exciting future career

Inspiring learning environment
As a liberal arts student you will benefit from the world-leading research of our lecturers as well as innovative teaching techniques which emphasise student involvement and personalised one-to-one supervision.

You will be able to build your understanding of a range of disciplines to enhance your academic performance, create innovative work and open up a range of career destinations. As a liberal arts scholar, you will be able to adapt, build and find answers in our complex world.

New concepts and thinking differently
We believe that innovation and creativity comes from making links between subject areas and being able to apply new ways of thinking. To encourage this work, we use our core liberal arts modules throughout the degree programme to develop exciting, inquiry-based sessions which ask you to examine issues from multiple perspectives and develop your own responses.

Liberal arts students are highly sought after by potential employers and well-suited for further study because they look to address problems from a range of viewpoints and thereby create innovative and exciting solutions.

Why choose liberal arts?
I chose to study Liberal Arts because the course provided me with the freedom to explore diverse disciplines and unusual subject combinations. During my first weeks, I have found the support given to me to be incredible.

Marina Munday, BA Liberal Arts

Connect with us on Twitter
@LiberalArtsNott to keep up to date with the latest liberal arts news and events

nottingham.ac.uk/liberalarts
A diverse choice of modules

Alongside core liberal arts modules, you can choose to study modules from 16 different subjects areas.

Subject areas for BA Liberal Arts
- American Studies
- Classics and Archaeology
- English Language
- English Literature
- Film and Television Studies
- Geography
- History
- History of Art
- International Media and Communications
- Mathematics
- Modern Languages and Cultures
- Music
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology

Every liberal arts degree is unique to each individual student. We will work with you to ensure that the modules you choose align with your interests, your research passions, and your career objectives.

Interests
You can choose your optional modules on the basis of interest or enquiry. You may choose to study subjects in which you already have a strong academic background, expanding your knowledge through new perspectives. For instance, you may wish to continue to study a particular literary genre, foreign language, historical event, or philosophical theory. You may also explore subjects of which you have no prior knowledge; whether you’re new to classics, archaeology, languages, or politics, the Liberal Arts programme enables you to find exciting ways to engage with new subjects.

Research
The array of subjects available to liberal arts students will enable you to try out new ideas and, soon enough, develop your own area of research. Whether you’re interested in equality, democracy, business, innovation, ethics or representation, the module choices from a range of different disciplines will allow you to tailor your degree to your research area.

Career
Throughout the liberal arts programme you will have the opportunity to select modules on the basis of a future career. Your personal tutor will help you to select areas of study that align with the future you want. You might choose modules in English to support a career in journalism, or modules in Sociology and Politics in order to pursue law. You can also choose modules with postgraduate work in mind.

See page 30 for more information about careers and employability.

Think digital
The University of Nottingham’s Digital Transformations Hub enables students to use specialist software and equipment for their digital research and project work. The Hub’s volunteer scheme also gives students the opportunity to learn transferable digital skills and gain valuable work experience in areas such as archiving and marketing.

At the University of Nottingham, archaeologists are working with geographers to investigate climate change, and a medievalist is collaborating with biomolecular scientists on a project about antibiotic resistance.

Did you know...?

See nottingham.ac.uk/artsdigitalhub

Why study with us?
Engaging study, incredible variety

Liberal arts provides a unique learning environment. We engage with the latest research across disciplines to understand complex perspectives on tackling global issues. Beyond the classroom, we also work with archives, museums, galleries, charities and businesses across the local area to provide placements, skills training and opportunities to enrich your educational experience.

Teaching and learning
To study liberal arts means being able to benefit from engaged and committed tutors who work with students individually to build confidence, abilities and knowledge. The liberal arts tutors utilise the traditional lectures, tutorials and seminars within the core modules but they also employ a range of engaging methods to promote different learning styles:

- **Research labs** – these are activities away from the university campus where lecturers work with you to research, analyse and build solutions to problems
- **Workshops** – these provide you with close supervision and guidance on developing practical skills, decision-making, creative thinking and intellectual development
- **Project work** – these provide an opportunity for you to collaborate with each other and use your knowledge within ‘real world’ scenarios where you apply interdisciplinary thinking to wider issues

You can also take advantage of the peer-mentoring scheme to guide and assist your work within the degree. This offers you the ability to reflect on how you learn and acquire knowledge and assist others in developing their own skills and abilities.

How we teach
Within the core liberal arts modules, we believe that you achieve the highest grades and develop key skills through enquiry-driven learning. We pose questions and encourage you to explore solutions to complex issues, as well as building upon an established body of knowledge.

We encourage you to solve problems, be innovative and think differently. In our liberal arts modules we explore areas such as time, space, objects, identity, memory and power as a means of developing new and exciting ideas that can make a difference to wider society.

Assessment
As liberal arts focuses on interdisciplinary thinking we use a range of assessments as well as the traditional format of essays and examinations. We want you to be prepared for the work you will do outside the University. Therefore, assessments will range from writing reports, curating exhibitions, presentations, student-led seminars and conferences, blogs, videos, designing objects, planning the cities of the future and building educational resources. We want you to be as flexible and adaptable in your work as you are in your thinking and we support the development of a range of skills in our assessment exercises.

BA Liberal Arts is one of the most rewarding degrees you can undertake. It encourages you to think differently, to approach problems from a variety of angles and to think about issues on a global scale. Your degree in liberal arts at the University of Nottingham will enrich your knowledge, skills, experiences and employability and enable you to shape the future.

Ross Wilson, Director of BA Liberal Arts

[nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/liberalarts]
The importance of interdisciplinary thinking

The liberal arts degree at the University of Nottingham is an opportunity to enhance your perspective on our world. Learning about geography, archaeology, sociology or politics enables us to think more broadly about space, objects, people and power. Interdisciplinary thinking is what drives liberal arts.

By thinking differently, across the boundaries of subjects and disciplines, we can make new connections to address wider issues and solve global or historical problems. For example, take the issue of climate change. It often seems only to be addressed in terms of science, politics and technology. However, we need to understand human behaviour and relationships if we want to alter peoples’ habits and actions. We need a firm grasp on psychology, sociology, history, media and cultural studies if we are to alter how we inhabit this planet.

Consider the development of Artificial Intelligence. Whilst advances in computer engineering might allow us to build a machine that thinks independently, we need to understand the impact of AI on how we live, work and engage with one another. All the issues that we face are complex and it is only through an interdisciplinary perspective that we can innovate, adapt, and safeguard our future.

With opportunities to study abroad and study subjects that encourage global thinking, Liberal Arts is a degree programme for students who want to broaden their horizons.

BA Liberal Arts

Liberal arts equips you with the knowledge, skills and confidence to lead and innovate. This degree opens up new opportunities for career options and postgraduate study because you will be able to show that you are adaptable, creative and dedicated.

This three-year programme is designed to broaden your ways of thinking and examining. Instead of using a single-disciplinary approach, we encourage you to take a range of subjects. We want you to explore the exciting and dynamic research undertaken here at the University of Nottingham, and around the world.

Year one
During the first year you will be able to choose the disciplines you would like to explore. These may be familiar subjects like history and English, or new disciplines that you may not have encountered before such as philosophy and history of art. You will work with us to map out your programme of study and consider how you will become an interdisciplinary scholar. Through study trips and site visits we will demonstrate how thinking differently defines what it means to be a liberal arts student.

Year two
The second year provides you with the chance to enhance your research skills and to think about creative and innovative solutions to problems. You will be able to focus your interests in specific subjects and use the core liberal arts modules to experiment with connecting approaches and methods to address key issues. You will also be able to take work placements through the Nottingham Advantage Award, and study abroad to gain a global perspective.

Final year
In your final year of study, you will carry out a collaborative research project alongside students from the Natural Sciences programme. The core module Power and Protest will hone your skills as an individual researcher. You will also have the option to pursue original academic research towards a supervised dissertation. You will be supported by your tutors to ensure that, where possible, your research supports your passions and future ambitions.

Four-year programme option including a third year abroad
There are specific language modules which must be taken in years one and two to qualify for the third year abroad, turning your BA Liberal Arts into a four year programme. In the fourth year there is a compulsory language module, exclusive to the four-year cohort, alongside other core and optional modules.

You can make the decision to follow the four-year programme in consultation with your tutor during your year-one module registration period. If after your second year you elect not to take your third year abroad, you will join your three-year programme cohort for the final year.

See page 27 for more information.

nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/liberalarts
Core modules in liberal arts

Our core modules are designed to develop your interdisciplinary skills and focus on some of the key issues in today’s global society. They allow you to build your knowledge across a range of subjects and to understand how problems can be solved by thinking across subject boundaries.

Year one
- Introduction to Liberal Arts
- Space, Place and Belonging in the City

Year two
- Objects: Design and Communication
- Migration and Identity in a Global Context

Year three
- Synoptic Module
- Power and Protest

Why choose liberal arts?

"When I discovered I could explore a variety of subjects – whilst being able to construct my own degree – I leapt at the chance to come to Nottingham. Here, you are given great flexibility when selecting the route for your course and incredible personal attention from tutors – fostering an atmosphere of openness and belonging to the Liberal Arts programme. This truly makes it a welcoming environment, where everyone can flourish."

Ella Moore, BA Liberal Arts

Modules may change, for example due to curriculum developments or timetabling. More information can be found on our website nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/liberalarts
Introduction to BA Liberal Arts

Year one, one semester, 20 credits

Summary of content
This module introduces students to interdisciplinary thinking by exploring the theme of time. Students will identify, examine and analyse the ways that we use time to make sense of the universe, our world, our lives and to understand the past, present and future.

Within this module, we will explore scientific, philosophical and artistic approaches to examining time. From the astrophysical time that is used to examine the development of galaxies, to the geological movements that have shaped the Earth, we will assess how time was ‘invented’ and used to explore issues at a grand level. Using the ideas about chronology and change from historians, sociologists and politicians, we will explore how societies across the world have created structures of time. Using philosophy, art and psychology, we will examine how time can be represented and experienced differently by individuals and communities.

Finally, we will use literature and contributions from the wider humanities to explore the future; how the world might develop and change over the next few decades, centuries and millennia. Students will be encouraged to think in terms of scale, measurement and process. One of the key skills within research and analysis is being able to conceive of issues in the long term, in the immediate context and to plan into the future. Students will develop a strong knowledge of interdisciplinary approaches and skill-sets in applying these ideas to practical situations.

Method and frequency of class
There will be three modes of delivery: lectures, seminars and research labs. The lectures will deliver core information to students on methods and approaches, introduce the assessment exercises and develop key skills. The seminars will be an opportunity for students to reflect on particular modes of enquiry, debate these ideas and decide how they should be applied. The research labs will be used to support the group project and individual assignments, and will also provide time to conduct any site visits and develop ideas.

What you will learn
By the end of the module, students will:
- Comprehend how time has been conceptualised in different ways within different disciplines and a variety of theoretical frameworks
- Develop an understanding of scale, process and chronology in relationship to time
- Demonstrate an awareness of how cultural differences inform ideas of time
- Use innovative means, including photographs, videos and blogs to express complex academic ideas
- Demonstrate an awareness of interdisciplinary analysis
- Communicate ideas individually and within a group environment

The learning outcomes for this module will include:

Knowledge and understanding:
- A strong understanding of how to conduct interdisciplinary work
- Key knowledge regarding the methods and approaches of disciplines within the arts and humanities
- Critical engagement with different conceptualisations of time

Intellectual skills:
- The ability to think of issues in terms of scale and duration
- The ability to utilise a diverse array of data

Professional skills:
- Group work and collaborative development capabilities
- Communication and presentation skills
- Time management and scheduling
- Writings skills including composing blog posts and reports
- Research and analytical skills
- Problem solving skills

Assessment tasks
There are two assessment tasks for this module:
- Group project – 30%
- Portfolio – 70%

Teaching and learning activities
The weekly subjects for this module could include:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Theme</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Induction Week</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>The Past: Deep Time</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>The Past: Historical Time and Ages</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>The Past: Manifestations and Traces in the Archives</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>The Present: Can the Past Haunt the Present?</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>The Present: Personal Time and Individual Time</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>The Present: Modernity and Clock Time</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>The Present: Accelerationism and Technology</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>The Future: Time Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>The Future: Afro-futurism and Queer Time</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Revision and Presentation</td>
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Space, Place and Belonging in the City

Year one, one semester, 20 credits

Summary of content
This module explores the theme of space by examining the way in which cities are designed, developed, experienced and represented. The module will draw on history, sociology and politics to examine how urban planners and governments have created cities to change peoples’ habits, values and ideologies. Students will be able to develop theories from geography and history of art to explore how urban spaces have been experienced by individuals and communities, whilst literature and psychology can be used to assess how cities are perceived emotionally and physically. As such, cities are the ideal laboratories for understanding the use of an interdisciplinary approach.

The majority of the world’s population now live in cities and this course will use case studies from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas to develop a global understanding of urban development. Through case studies and study trips, students will be able to begin developing their own ideas on how cities could be built for future.

Students will complete two assignments for the module. The first assignment will use Nottingham as a ‘laboratory’ to demonstrate how using skills from history, archaeology, cultural studies, art history, modern languages, politics and sociology enriches our perspectives about the diversity of the world in which we live. Students will work in groups to produce a guided tour of Nottingham. This guided tour will utilise text, images and video to take into account the historical, political, social and economic circumstances of the city and put forward an interdisciplinary analysis to assess life within Nottingham for its citizens.

Students will then draw upon this work to complete the final assessments: an essay of 2,500 words and a poster exhibition about Nottingham’s future. This assessment allows students to develop their own designs for how the city of the future could be planned, represented and experienced.

Method and frequency of class
Students will be taught through interactive lectures and seminars. There will also be a number of site visits and tours which will be timetabled and organised within the class to suit schedules. These visits will support student learning but will not be compulsory and will not contribute to the final grades.

What you will learn
By the end of the module, students will:
■ Comprehend the history, present and future trajectory of urban living across the world
■ Define key issues within urbanism and the challenges faced by global society
■ Use a range of data to discuss the processes and significance of global thinking on the issue of urbanisation
■ Demonstrate an awareness of global thinking
■ Communicate their ideas individually and within a group environment
■ Be able to assess urbanism through an interdisciplinary framework

The learning outcomes for this module will include:

Knowledge and understanding:
■ Students will learn how to think globally and to develop a global awareness
■ Students will develop key skills in comparative analysis and planning solutions

Intellectual skills:
■ Students will be able to consider perspectives from across the world
■ Students will be able to examine how they can effect change for cities through thinking globally

Professional skills:
■ Management and innovation
■ Strategy and decision-making
■ Research and analysis methods
■ Leadership skills
■ Problem-solving techniques

Assessment tasks
There are two assessment tasks for this module:
■ Guided trail – 30%
■ Report and poster – 70%

Teaching and learning activities
The weekly subjects for this module could include:

| Week 1 | Why Cities Matter |
| Week 2 | What Makes a City? |
| Week 3 | Case Study: Nottingham |
| Week 4 | Designing Urban Spaces |
| Week 5 | Creating Urban Communities |
| Week 6 | Eco Cities |
| Week 7 | Creative Cities |
| Week 8 | Safe Cities |
| Week 9 | Global Cities |
| Week 10 | Future Cities |
| Week 11 | Urban Utopias |
Migration and Identity in a Global Context

Year two, one semester, 20 credits

Summary of content
Population mobility and displacement represents one of the key challenges for the twenty-first century. As a result of war, climate change, or persecution, the number of refugees, stateless populations and internally displaced people has risen exponentially. In this module students will explore different patterns of displacement in a global context and how a range of migrant identities, such as refugees, settlers and IDPs, affect society, politics and economies.

By focusing on the Global South, where the vast majority of the world’s refugees live, the module explores how the causes of mass-displacement and responses to refugees/migrants have differed through time. The module will use specific case studies to illustrate particular patterns of displacement and identity-formation. Topics covered can include:

- How the creation of nation states through partition has generated refugee crises of unprecedented scale and complexity in India/Pakistan and Israel/Palestine
- The cycle of violence and displacement that has taken place in the context of decolonization, civil war and genocide in Rwanda
- Development-induced displacements, and the creation of IDPs
- The impact of climate change on displacement and the rise of climate refugees, particularly in South-East Asia
- The refugee crises unleashed by the global war on terror and the rise of Islamic State
- How surveillance and national security impact the lives of refugees

Method and frequency of class
The module will consist of a weekly lecture and a weekly student-led seminar. The lecture provides an overview of the topic, whilst the seminar will provide students with an opportunity to deepen their engagement through student-led debates and analysis of a range of texts, including policy documents, media images, documentaries and interviews with refugees.

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<td>Lecture</td>
<td>1 per week</td>
<td>1 hour 30 mins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
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What you will learn
The learning outcomes for this module will include:

Knowledge and understanding:
- Knowledge of the shifting definitions of the refugee
- Understanding of the historical patterns of displacement
- Awareness of a body of secondary literature that interprets the connections between displacement and nation-building, ethnic violence, development and climate change

Intellectual skills:
- Interdisciplinary analysis
- Critical reading and reflection
- Constructing coherent arguments

Professional skills:
- Leadership and design skills
- Outreach and engagement skills
- Ability to synthesize and analyse information from multiple sources
- Ability to plan, research and write a sustained piece of interdisciplinary research
- Collaboration, oral and written communication skills, lateral thinking, and global awareness

Assessment tasks
There are three assessment tasks for this module:
- Short essay – 30%
- Research project plan – 20%
- Literature review – 50%

nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/liberalarts
Objects: Design and Communication

Year two, one semester, 20 credits

Summary of content
In this module students will explore how objects have altered our habits, values and identities in the modern era. We live in a world defined by objects: we buy, we collect, we make and we recycle objects innumerable times throughout our lives. Within this module, students will explore the 'material world' and examine issues of design, consumption and use.

Students will assess the role of objects through an interdisciplinary perspective. We consider objects at the core of all our lives – from the personal keepsakes to the grand symbols of the nation-state. Students will study objects that can be used, sold, exchanged and displayed whilst also assessing how objects can communicate knowledge and practical information to diverse audiences. The course will utilise different types of objects, from the venerated and respected artefacts in local museums and art galleries, to the desirable goods for sale in shops, to the everyday items that we employ almost unconsciously.

In this module, students will critically engage with the material world to assess issues of design, function, economics, ethics, reuse and exchange.

Method and frequency of class
The module will be divided into lectures and seminars. The lectures will deliver core information to students on the theories of objects, introduce the assessment exercises and assist in developing key skills. The seminars will be an opportunity for students to debate the issues regarding leading, learning and exchange through material culture. The seminar will also be used to support the group project and individual assignments.

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<td>Seminar</td>
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What you will learn
By the end of the module, students will:
- Understand the various theories and techniques regarding object learning
- Assess the role of objects within human society
- Use objects to lead change and communicate ideas to diverse audiences
- Demonstrate innovation and design skills
- Understand how to communicate ideas to an audience
- Use multimedia to inform and raise awareness

The learning outcomes for this module will include:

Knowledge and understanding:
- Students will learn how to reflect on their own learning styles
- Students will develop key skills in leadership and managing change

Intellectual skills:
- Students will be able to design programmes of learning and consider how individuals and communities can be enriched through education
- Students will be able to assess how we can develop new skills, knowledge and confidence as a means of enabling change

Professional skills:
- Leadership and design skills
- Outreach and engagement skills
- Ability to synthesize and analyse information from multiple sources
- Ability to plan, research and write a sustained piece of interdisciplinary research

Assessment tasks
There are three assessment tasks for this module:
- Research project – Formative
- Short essay – 30%
- Research project portfolio – 70%

nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/liberalarts
Power and Protest

Year three, one semester, 20 credits

Summary of content

The fundamental concept in social science is power, in the same sense in which energy is the fundamental concept in physics.

Bertrand Russell, Power: A New Social Analysis.

Power operates in all aspects of our lives. Within states and at a governmental level, it can take the form of politics, laws and executive force. At a societal level, it can operate through customs, traditions and institutions, while at an individual level it can inflict overt violence as well as more subtle forms of discipline and influence. At each level, the operation of power is bound to ideas of justice, ethics and responsibility. The operation of power is frequently called into question through protests, which can vary widely in form and in efficacy.

In this module, students will explore power and protest in two parts. In the first part, students will explore the different ways that power can be conceptualised, using insights from philosophy, politics, anthropology, and history. The topics include the exploration of colonial power, disciplinary power, cultural domination, material power, ethics and responsibility. In the second part, students will use case studies to explore how particular individuals and/or movements have protested against powerful regimes, unjust laws or government policies. This can include the Haitian Revolution, Gandhian non-violence, the Stonewall riots and the Miners’ Strike of 1984.

Method and frequency of class

The module will consist of a weekly faculty-led seminar, followed by a combination of workshops, tutorials, or student-led seminars designed to support project work.

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What you will learn

The learning outcomes for this module will include:

Knowledge and understanding:
- Understand how power has been conceptualised within the social sciences and humanities
- Understand how notions of responsibility and ethics relate to power
- An in-depth knowledge of a number of protest case studies

Intellectual skills:
- Critical reading and reflection
- Analytical writing
- Inquiry-led independent learning
- Primary source analysis
- Conceptualisation and execution of independent research projects

Professional skills:
- Synthesize and analyse information from multiple sources
- Plan, research and execute an independent research project
- Oral communication and presentation skills
- Group-work and leadership skills

Assessment tasks

There are three assessment tasks for this module:
- Seen exam – 30%
- Group presentation – 10%
- Research project – 60%
Synoptic Module
Year three, one semester, 20 credits

Summary of content
The Synoptic Module gives students the opportunity to take part in an interdisciplinary group project, run collaboratively with the Natural Sciences programme. Students will be assigned groups and a particular topic to research. The topics could be as diverse as climate change, health, environment, artificial intelligence, bio-engineering, water management or food security. These issues cannot be solved through one perspective: an interdisciplinary agenda is required.

Using perspectives from the arts, humanities and social sciences, Liberal Arts students will work with Natural Sciences students to research the great issues of our planet. By sharing ideas, building new frameworks and demonstrating how these can be communicated across society, students will demonstrate the significance of interdisciplinary work.

What you will learn
The learning outcomes for this module will include:

Knowledge and understanding:
- Project Planning
- Time Management
- Goal Setting
- Meeting Deadlines
- Problem Solving
- Prioritising Work

Intellectual skills:
- Make use of information services facilities to research a topic
- Critically evaluating information
- Analysing Data
- Using ideas, processes and skills in novel situations
- Identifying the variables in a situation
- Proposing an explanation based on observations
- Making and using models
- Expressing thoughts that reveal originality, imagination and flexibility in thinking

Professional skills:
- Collaboration
- Project Management
- Research and Development
- Writing clearly and accurately using appropriate language
- Expressing ideas clearly and in a logical order
- Communicating ideas to audiences with different levels of knowledge
- Public Speaking
- Effective use of IT to communicate ideas

Method and frequency of class

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Assessment tasks
There are three assessment tasks for this module:
- Magazine article – 10%
- Literature report – 30%
- Report and presentation – 60%
A global education: a global education

A liberal arts education requires you to be committed to your studies, open to new experiences and to be able to apply your knowledge to issues faced by contemporary society.

You will inevitably be ‘problem solvers’ and approach your modules with a view to developing awareness of the past, present and future. As you study subjects such as history, sociology, politics and philosophy, your objective will be to understand their applications in the real world. As you work across disciplines, you will generate a unique insight into how global cultures and communities face similar issues and concerns. You will observe that to develop a solution, a variety of approaches and perspectives are applied to accommodate multiple views and create a framework that addresses the complexity of our global society.

Study in Malaysia or China
We teach liberal arts programmes across our campuses in the UK, China and Malaysia. You are able to study for a semester or during the summer at these sites to enhance your liberal arts education and to develop new ideas. From business and economics in Malaysia, to politics and international relations in China and to history and media in the United Kingdom, you will be able to view our campuses as one. This facilitates an international student experience and enables you to gain a truly global perspective.

Study abroad

Experience the world, gain valuable life skills, and enhance your CV by studying abroad. There are a range of options that give you the chance to travel and experience different cultures while working towards your Nottingham degree.

University-wide opportunities
The University of Nottingham’s range of travel schemes, available to all undergraduate students, mean that you can choose to study in any of the five continents, including our campuses in China and Malaysia.

The opportunities vary from six-week summer schools to one semester or even a whole year abroad. There is a range of practical and financial support and advice available both before and during your stay.

See nottingham.ac.uk/studyabroad

A full year abroad (language pathway)
If you wish to pursue a language as part of your degree, Liberal Arts students may follow a four-year programme with the third year spent abroad. You will need to take specific language modules in years one and two. You can make this decision in consultation with your tutor in year one.

There is a specialist team in the School of Cultures, Languages and Area Studies to support year abroad students.

See nottingham.ac.uk/clas/year-abroad

You can also study languages without a year abroad and continue in a three-year course with alternative modules in your final year.

See pages 28-29.
Ways to study languages in liberal arts

English is an established global language. However, despite – or perhaps because of – globalisation, intercultural communication is more important than ever. Our liberal arts degree offers various language modules from beginners to post-A level.

Optional language modules
At the University of Nottingham, it is possible to learn a language as a complete beginner, or improve existing language skills. Optional language modules are offered throughout your degree. The levels range from Stage 1a (complete beginners) to Stage 6 (near native speaker competence). See nottingham.ac.uk/language-centre

You can choose to study:
- Arabic
- Dutch
- French
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Mandarin Chinese
- Russian
- Spanish

Support for language learning
As well as a dedicated team of language tutors, the University of Nottingham’s Language Centre provides a wide range of language learning resources for self-study.

Facilities at the Language Centre
- 30 PCs
- Suite of multi-media language-learning materials including: books, video, audio, live TV, magazines and newspapers

Find your route to studying languages

New to languages?
- Not studied a language before?
  - Explore the language with an introductory 40 credit module
- Studied a language at GCSE?
  - Enhance your knowledge with a specialist 20 credit module
- Studied a language at A level?
  - Develop your language skills with a focused 10 credit module

or

have an A level/GCSE and want to take a language as an additional module?
- Option to build your skills with a further 10 credit module
- Option to refine your skills with a specialist 10 credit module

or

not studied a language before?
- First year
  - 40 credit module
- Second year
  - Further your knowledge with a 40 credit module
- Third year
  - Option to stay in Nottingham or study abroad
- Fourth year
  - Take further modules to develop your language skills

nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/liberalarts
Outstanding careers support

Liberal arts is a degree programme that enables you to become interdisciplinary and innovative researchers, designers and leaders as you build your abilities across a range of subjects.

In a world filled with new challenges and opportunities, liberal arts provides you with the skills to solve problems by connecting ideas and approaches from across the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. As such, liberal arts students are well-placed to pursue postgraduate study and careers across various sectors.

Graduates from the University of Nottingham enter into a diverse array of careers after their degree. This includes journalism, law, publishing, business, finance, civil service, charities, teaching, administration, libraries, archives, museums, accounting and planning.

Valued skills and experience

The skills that you acquire through a liberal arts degree are highly valuable. You will be adaptable, knowledgeable and willing to innovate which will prepare you for a leading role in a wide range of professions. You will be able to:

- analyse diverse sets of data
- construct detailed and coherent arguments
- create, build and design solutions to complex problems
- engage audiences as you communicate your work
- undertake independent and innovative research
- utilise a range of methodologies and perspectives
- work independently and collaboratively

Amplify your potential

Whether you already have a career plan or need some inspiration, our Careers and Employability Service can help.

Academic excellence and employability go hand in hand at Nottingham. Your course, and the diverse student experiences we offer, will enable you to develop the skills and professional competencies required for you to thrive in your chosen career.

We will help you explore your options so you feel confident making choices about what you want to achieve. Our team will support you as you build your CV, search for jobs, prepare applications, practise your interview technique, and much more.

Get the Advantage

The career-enhancing Nottingham Advantage Award recognises and rewards your extracurricular activities. With a choice of over 200 modules, you can hone the key skills employers are looking for. From developing your leadership skills and learning a language to public speaking and volunteering, you will leave university with demonstrable experience that sets you apart from other graduates. For further information, visit nottingham.ac.uk/careers/advantage

Postgraduate study

Liberal arts students are well-suited to the demands and rewards of postgraduate study. With a background in a variety of methods and approaches, as well as a strong commitment to independent and innovative research, you will be academically prepared to take on postgraduate study, if you wish. See nottingham.ac.uk/pgstudy

96.5% of our students were employed or in further study six months after graduation*

*Known destinations of full-time home undergraduate from the University of Nottingham who were available for work or study, 2016/17.

200+ modules offered on the Nottingham Advantage Award across all campuses

Accelerate your career at one of the universities most targeted by Britain’s leading graduate employers

The Graduate Market 2013-2018, High Fliers Research

nottingham.ac.uk/careers/students
How to apply

Our students come to us from diverse backgrounds and with a wide range of life experiences. What unites them is their passion, dedication, curiosity, and proven ability to excel in learning and independent thinking.

All applications for undergraduate study at Nottingham, including applications by international students, must be made through UCAS. You can apply online at ucas.com and will be notified of decisions through UCAS Track.

Tips for getting it right
- Apply early
- Visit us
- Ask questions

International applicants
The University provides a range of information and advice for international applicants. If you are unable to attend an open day, we can meet you in your country at one of our overseas events or arrange an individual visit to the University. For further information please visit nottingham.ac.uk/studywithus/international-applicants

Deferred entry
Applicants who wish to defer their entry by a year will not be at a disadvantage. Please tell us something about your plans for your gap year in your UCAS personal statement.

Flexible admissions policy
In recognition of our applicants’ varied experience and educational pathways, we employ a flexible admissions policy. If we judge that your situation has adversely affected your achievement, then we will consider this when assessing your academic potential. Some courses may make a slightly lower offer. For more information about this policy, see nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/applying

Mature applicants
We encourage applications from mature applicants who have a significant gap in education. You should apply through UCAS. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/mature

Currently around one-third of our UK students receive our means-tested Core Bursary, worth up to £2,000 a year (2019 entry figure; subject to change). For details, see nottingham.ac.uk/financialsupport
How to write a personal statement for BA Liberal Arts

We all have different interests but what brings us together as liberal arts scholars is our interdisciplinary approach to our work. That’s why we don’t only look for subject-specific A levels, International Baccalaureate profiles or their equivalents in any application to our liberal arts degree.

When applying to study liberal arts at the University of Nottingham, it’s important that you tell us what motivates and excites you, and how you plan to use the interdisciplinary nature of the liberal arts degree to explore connected areas of thought.

Stand out from the crowd

When writing your personal statement, we want to learn more about you. We want to find out what you are interested in, and what subjects you want to study here at the University of Nottingham.

Writing personal statements for liberal arts can seem complicated because of the range of subjects available to you, but this is an opportunity to tell us more about you. You might be interested in architecture, gaming, politics, culture or society. You may want to study issues related to the environment, equality or education. You may want to change how we live, work and engage with one another. We want to hear about your work and your hobbies, your passions and your ambitions, whatever they may be, and how they’ve led you to apply for a degree in liberal arts.

Tips

You could use your personal statement as a chance to:

1. Describe your current subjects of study and explain why you want to explore these further
2. Explain how you plan to combine different subjects and approaches
3. Tell us about the areas you would like to study here at Nottingham and why
4. Tell us about the books, films, television programmes, music, art, or political movements that have inspired you or made you think differently
5. Describe any important experiences – whether travel, work, or volunteering – that have influenced you
6. Tell us why you want to study liberal arts at the University of Nottingham

Throughout your time at the University of Nottingham, we will work with you to develop a degree programme that reflects your interests and which opens up opportunities for your future. There’s no need to tell us in your personal statement your exact route through liberal arts; this is something we can explore together when you begin your studies here.

Student Service Centres on all UK campuses for support and advice

nottingham.ac.uk/studentservices

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This brochure has been drafted in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this brochure is accurate at the time of publishing, but changes (for example to course and timetabling content) are likely to occur given the interval between publication and commencement of the course. It is therefore very important to check our website for any updates before you apply for the course by following nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy. Where there is a difference between the contents of this brochure and our website, the contents of the website take precedence.