Liberal Arts

Explore it

Achieve it

nottingham.ac.uk/go/liberalarts
Undergraduate guide 2019
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.

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

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

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

Develop a global experience through studying at our campuses in China and Malaysia as well as our partners in Europe and the United States.

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.

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Studying liberal arts at Nottingham

Liberal arts is a commitment to interdisciplinary thinking. Within our beautiful University campus, you will find exciting new connections to provide you with knowledge, skills and experience.

At a glance

- Study one of the oldest disciplines in the world, at the core of academic teaching and research
- Develop critical and creative ways of thinking within our core liberal arts modules and pursue study options in our partner institutions in Asia, Europe and North America
- 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 solutions 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 scholars are diverse and flexible in their thinking and build a lifelong commitment to learning new skills and acquiring knowledge.

Learn a language

We offer optional languages for students of all disciplines allowing you to diversify your degree course by choosing a language module for credits. At the University of Nottingham’s Language Centre the focus is on providing language modules with an emphasis on communication. The modules are supported by the virtual learning environment Moodle, digital classrooms and a Self Access Centre for independent learning. The levels range from Stage 1a (complete beginners) to Stage 6 (near native speaker competence). It is possible to improve existing skills or start a new language.

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

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.

nottingham.ac.uk/go/liberalarts

Why study with us?

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree title</th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>A levels</th>
<th>IB</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single honours</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Y002</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>AAA^</td>
<td>36/32^^</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^ Selecting English modules requires A or A* in A level English, or equivalent. Selecting mathematics modules requires A or A* in A level maths, or equivalent. Selecting music modules requires A in A level music or music technology, or equivalent.


Our course

BA Liberal Arts is the most rewarding degree 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

Modules are available in the following subject areas*:
- American Studies
- 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

Our liberal arts degree is built on the outstanding reputation for teaching and research across the University of Nottingham. It provides you with the flexibility to examine subjects you're fascinated by, to engage in new areas you might not have encountered before, and to develop your own research. This is a degree programme for those who do not want to be limited to a single approach and who want to design, experiment and explore how interdisciplinary perspectives can transform society.

We believe that the most exciting and original research arises from the connections made across disciplines. Working with faculty members from a range of departments means you will create links between diverse ways of studying that can provide insight and develop new perspectives and opportunities.

English language requirements
IELTS  7.0 (no less than 6.0 in any element). For details of other English language tests and qualifications we accept, please see nottingham.ac.uk/go/alternativerequirements

Academic English preparation
If you require additional support to take your language skills to the required level, you may be able to attend a preessional course at the Centre for English Language Education, which is accredited by the British Council for the teaching of English in the UK.

Students who successfully complete the preessional course to the required level can progress onto their chosen degree course without retaking IELTS or equivalent. Find out more at nottingham.ac.uk/cele

The core liberal arts modules are designed to support this work. They introduce the value of thinking differently, provide rich and exciting instruction in key categories of analysis, and develop skills of independent research and inquiry.

Our holistic approach includes working with you to develop your connections outside campus in volunteer, outreach and paid work opportunities, as well as study abroad programmes.

Through established schemes such as our Nottingham Advantage Award or placement opportunities within business enterprise schemes, the value of thinking differently can be demonstrated. You will graduate with an original perspective on the world, you will be trained across a range of disciplines and you will be able to enact change, lead and innovate.

* Due to the cross-subject nature of the programme timetabling restrictions mean that not all combinations of core modules, subject modules and language learning may be possible.
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 open up new ways of thinking and examining. Rather than based on a single disciplinary approach, we encourage you to take a range of modules to explore the exciting and dynamic research undertaken here at the University of Nottingham.

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 psychology. You will work with your liberal arts tutor to map out your programme of study and begin to think about how we work as interdisciplinary scholars. 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 enhance your career profile and to gain a global perspective.

Final year
In your final year of study, you will begin to carry out independent research projects across the core liberal arts modules. You will be able to participate in a cross-disciplinary forum with natural sciences students, examine the role of power and protest or pursue original research towards a dissertation. This work will be supervised by your liberal arts tutors to ensure that you can be supported in your module choices and potential career options.

You will be able to choose modules from across 16 different disciplines alongside your core liberal arts work. 40 credits out of 120 credits each year will be the core liberal arts modules with the rest up to you. This provides you with flexibility as well as the chance to focus on particular issues and areas of research. All students will work with liberal arts tutors to develop their own unique programme of study which develops their skills and experiences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year one</th>
<th>Year two</th>
<th>Final year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core liberal arts modules</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Time, Scale and Measurement: An Introduction to Interdisciplinary Thinking</td>
<td>- Migration, Displacement and Identity</td>
<td>- Dissertation</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Space, Place and Belonging: The Experience of the Modern City</td>
<td>- Objects and Consumerism</td>
<td>- Interdisciplinary Project (Liberal Arts and Natural Sciences)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Empires and Identity (Classics and Archaeology)</td>
<td>Example subject modules</td>
<td>- Power and Protest</td>
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<tr>
<td>- English Through Time (English)</td>
<td>- History and Politics: A Problem or a Solution? (History)</td>
<td>- Mediating Disaster (Culture, Film and Media)</td>
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<td>- Social and Global Justice (Politics)</td>
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<td>- The Geographical Imagination (Geography)</td>
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<td>Example subject modules</td>
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<td>- The Rights and Wrongs of Climate Change (Politics)</td>
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<td>- Studying the Greek World (Classics and Archaeology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Language and Context (English)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Roads to Modernity: An Introduction to Modern History 1789-1945 (History)</td>
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<td>- Appearance and Reality (Philosophy)</td>
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<td>- Social Psychology (Psychology)</td>
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Modules may change, for example due to curriculum developments. The above list is a sample of typical modules that we offer, not a definitive list. The most up to date information can be found on our website at nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/liberalarts

nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/liberalarts
Engaging study, incredible results

Liberal arts provides a unique learning environment. It is challenging but hugely rewarding, as we are able to engage you with the latest research across disciplines to understand the complex perspectives we can take in tackling global issues. 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 methods to engage you and to meet different learning styles:

- Research labs – these are on-site 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 apply 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 but also assist others in developing their own skills and abilities.

How we teach
Within the core liberal arts modules, we believe that you are able to achieve the highest grades and develop key skills through inquiry-driven learning. Our courses pose questions and encourage you to explore solutions to complex issues, instead of focusing on the accumulation of an established body of knowledge.

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

Assessment
As liberal arts focuses on interdisciplinary thinking we use a range of assessments beyond the traditional format of essays and examinations. We want you to be prepared for the work you will do outside the University as well as on campus. 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.

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

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 and social sciences. As such, liberal arts students are well-placed to pursue postgraduate study and careers across various sectors of work. 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. The skills you acquire during your degree are significant as 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 plan or need some inspiration, your Careers and Employability Service is here to 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 to thrive in the job market of the future.

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 able to make an informed choice about what your next steps should be. Working with liberal arts tutors, you will be able to consider the MA programmes at Nottingham and other universities, developing skills and knowledge suited to a variety of potential careers, including PhD research.
How to apply

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.

Your personal statement
This is the section of your UCAS form that tells us most about you, and you should make the best use of it. Be as specific and detailed as you can – we would like to see that you are a student who can work hard, be self-motivated and make the best possible use of the opportunities that our courses offer you. We would also like to hear about any skills you have gained through extracurricular activities.

Minimum entry requirements
Unless otherwise stated in individual course profiles, all UK applicants should have GCSE English grade 4 (C) as a minimum.

Alternative qualifications
In this brochure you will find our A level and International Baccalaureate entry requirements but we accept a much broader range of qualifications. For more details, visit nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/applying

GCSE reform
Following the reform of GCSE grading in England from A*–G to 9–1, we have adopted Ofqual’s recommended equivalence. This means that GCSE grade A*=9, A=7, B=5/6 and C=4. GCSE qualifications taken outside of the UK will still be graded A* to G.

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

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/go/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.

Equal opportunities policy
The University aims to create the conditions whereby students and staff are treated solely on the basis of their merits, abilities and potential, regardless of gender, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, age, socio-economic background, disability, religious or political beliefs, trade union membership, family circumstances, sexual orientation or other irrelevant distinction.

How do I apply?

Around one-third of our UK students receive our means-tested core bursary, worth up to £2,000 a year (2018 entry figure; subject to change). For details, see nottingham.ac.uk/financialsupport

Experience it

Accommodation to suit every budget and personal choice
nottingham.ac.uk/accommodation

One of the UK’s leading universities for sport* with over 70 student sports clubs
nottingham.ac.uk/sport

* British Universities and Colleges Sports Standings, 2016-17.

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For undergraduate enquiries contact:
Student Recruitment Enquiries Centre

nottingham.ac.uk/go/liberalarts

@LiberalArtsNott

nottingham.ac.uk/contact

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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 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.