



**2018-2019 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**  
**Degree: Bachelor of Arts**  
**Major: Liberal Arts - General Studies**

**About This Major . . .**

While Colorado Mesa University provides a wide range of programs, the university may not offer a standard bachelor's degree program that serves a student's particular need. A liberal arts degree, however, is designed to offer a student the opportunity to craft a plan of study to suit his/her individual career and academic aspirations. Under the direction of an advisor, a liberal arts major will design a coherent program by choosing appropriate courses that focus on a very specific field of study.

For more information on what you can do with this major, go to <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/career/whatmajor.html>.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, communication fluency, quantitative fluency, and specialized knowledge/applied learning. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Evaluate the interconnections of knowledge within and across at least two major disciplines;
2. Synthesize insights, content, and/or methodologies of two or more major disciplines
3. Develop solutions to specific problems by drawing from several relevant fields of study
4. Effectively defend conclusions in verbal and written presentations

**Advising Process and DegreeWorks**

This document is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a degree. The suggested course sequencing outlines how students could finish degree requirements. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters, while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and altering the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended degree(s).

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a degree and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

**Graduation Process**

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html>.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be her/his responsibility to consult the Registrar's Office regarding next steps.

### **INSTITUTIONAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

The following institutional degree requirements apply to all CMU baccalaureate degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- 120 semester hours minimum.
- Students must complete a minimum of 30 of the last 60 hours of credit at CMU, with at least 15 semester hours in major discipline courses numbered 300 or higher.
- 40 upper-division credits (an alternative credit limit applies to the Bachelor of Applied Science degree).
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- No more than six semester hours of independent study courses can be used toward the degree.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed 30 semester credit hours for a baccalaureate degree; A maximum of 15 of the 30 credits may be for cooperative education, internships, and practica.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Degree Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and degree requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See “Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates” in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

### **PROGRAM-SPECIFIC DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

- Before declaring a Liberal Arts—General Studies major, the student must have the permission of an academic advisor, who will also work with the student in constructing an appropriate course of study and Capstone Experience.
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in coursework toward the major content area.

**ESSENTIAL LEARNING REQUIREMENTS** (31 semester hours)

See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is an Essential Learning option and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection for the Essential Learning requirement.

**English** (6 semester hours, must receive a grade of “C” or better and must be completed by the time the student has 60 semester hours.)

- ENGL 111 - English Composition (3)
- ENGL 112 - English Composition (3)

**Mathematics** (3 semester hours, must receive a grade of “C” or better, must be completed by the time the student has 60 semester hours.)

- MATH 110 - College Mathematics (3) or higher

**Humanities** (3 semester hours)

- Select one Humanities course (3)

**Social and Behavioral Sciences** (6 semester hours)

- Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course (3)
- Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course (3)

**Natural Sciences** (7 semester hours, one course must include a lab)

- Select one Natural Sciences course (3)
- Select one Natural Sciences course with a lab (4)

**History** (3 semester hours)

- Select one History course (3)

**Fine Arts** (3 semester hours)

- Select one Fine Arts course (3)

**OTHER LOWER-DIVISION REQUIREMENTS**

**Wellness Requirement** (2 semester hours)

- KINE 100 - Health and Wellness (1)
- Select one Activity course (1)

**Essential Learning Capstone** (4 semester hours)

Essential Learning Capstone must be taken after completion of the Essential Learning English and Mathematics requirements, and when a student has earned between 45 and 75 hours.

- ESSL 290 - Maverick Milestone (3)
- ESSL 200 - Essential Speech (1)

**FOUNDATION COURSES** (6 semester hours, must earn a “C” or better in each course)

Two consecutive classes in the same foreign language. Must receive a grade of “C” or better. FLAS 114 & 115 will NOT fulfill this requirement.

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**BA: LIBERAL ARTS, GENERAL STUDIES REQUIREMENTS** (40 semester hours)

**Capstone Experience**

3 semester hours of upper-division independent study, internship, or other coursework as recommended by an academic advisor.

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**Other Upper Division Courses**

37 credits of upper division coursework in any discipline.

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**GENERAL ELECTIVES** (All college-level courses appearing on your final transcript, not listed above that will bring your total semester hours to 120 hours. 37 semester hours.)

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