

# College of Arts and Sciences

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A broad study of disciplines in the arts and sciences is the basis of higher education. Most students in the University—no matter which college they are in—devote a substantial portion of their studies to the arts and sciences.

The College of Arts and Sciences offers Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees. The college emphasizes general education through the NU Core. The college offers a large number of majors, as well as many interdisciplinary programs. These include national and international programs for study and experience; programs in field settings, both local and abroad; and programs involving affiliations in such areas as professional performing arts organizations, media organizations, and government offices. The college also emphasizes experiential education through cooperative education; service-learning; and other kinds of

internships, student-faculty research collaborations, and study abroad.

Students may choose a four- or five-year experiential education plan in most programs. Either plan offers co-op opportunities, often in an area related to the student's chosen academic area. Students are normally eligible to participate in co-op in the second semester of their sophomore year and after they have declared a major.

Students may enter the college with a declared major; however, considerable flexibility exists within the college and many students change majors during their first two years. Students not yet ready to commit to a major may choose the Program for Undeclared Students. Undeclared students are strongly encouraged to declare a major by the beginning of their sophomore year, particularly if they are interested in the co-op program. Entrance requirements vary by major. Please see the academic program section of the appropriate major for more information.

Many programs are flexible enough to allow students to pursue a double major, a major and a minor, or one of the college's specific integrated dual majors. In order to facilitate students' ability to pursue either a double major or an integrated dual major, the college allows double counting between major and NU Core courses with a few exceptions, such as ENG U111. The college also offers students the opportunity to create an independent major in cases where their interests and goals are not met by a specific major program.

## Academic Advising

The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) has a multilayered academic advising system with dean's office advisors located in the Center for Academic Services and faculty advisors located in the college's departments and program offices. Detailed advising information is available on the college Web site: [www.neu.edu/cas/undergraduate/support.html](http://www.neu.edu/cas/undergraduate/support.html). Prelaw advising ([www.neu.edu/prelaw/](http://www.neu.edu/prelaw/)) and premedical/preidental advising ([www.premed.neu.edu](http://www.premed.neu.edu)) are also available.

## Academic Progression Standards

The College of Arts and Sciences adheres to the University-wide academic progression standards described in the beginning of the catalog. Some majors have additional specific requirements in order to progress from year to year (see major requirements in departmental listings).

## Graduation Clearance Process

Students in the College of Arts and Sciences are required to meet with a dean's office advisor in 1 Meserve Hall to determine their remaining graduation requirements. Some departments also require a meeting with a faculty advisor in their major/program. This should be completed in the junior year to ensure ample time to complete any outstanding requirements.

## Transferring to the College of Arts and Sciences

Students who wish to transfer to an arts and sciences major should have a petition signed by a faculty advisor in the major in which they are interested and meet with the appropriate advisor in the Center for Academic Services in 1 Meserve Hall. For a list of dean's office and faculty advisors, please consult the college Web site at: [www.neu.edu/cas/undergraduate/facultyadvisors.html](http://www.neu.edu/cas/undergraduate/facultyadvisors.html). For specific internal transfer requirements please refer to the academic programs section of the catalog. To declare a minor in the college, have a petition signed by a faculty advisor in the department/program offering the minor.

## College Requirements

All students in the College of Arts and Sciences must successfully complete the University requirements of the NU Core (see page 42). In addition, students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree (BA) must fulfill the college BA requirements as outlined below.

### CAS KNOWLEDGE DOMAIN REQUIREMENT FOR BA STUDENTS

In the NU Core Knowledge Domain category, students pursuing a BA will complete one course in the arts domain and one course in the humanities domain (for a total of two arts/humanities core courses). The following are considered arts domain courses:

- a. Arts/humanities core courses in the ARC, ART, MUS, or THE departments
- b. Arts/humanities core courses cross-listed with courses in the ARC, ART, MUS, or THE departments

All other arts/humanities core courses are considered humanities domain courses.

### CAS LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT FOR BA STUDENTS

Each BA student must complete the CAS language requirement by demonstrating proficiency at the elementary level *and* at the intermediate level in one of the languages offered in the University's World Languages Center.

#### *Elementary Level*

Satisfy one of the following requirements:

- a. Complete elementary-level two (102-level) of a language with grades of C or better in all course work (pass/fail grades cannot be used to satisfy this proficiency requirement).
- b. Earn a 4 or 5 score on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam in one of the languages offered or receive transfer credit for the equivalent of elementary-level two (102-level). Students who have AP or transfer credit must also receive a satisfactory rating in a language-specific interview administered by the World Languages Center upon matriculation.
- c. Receive a satisfactory score (as determined by the World Languages Center) on a standardized placement exam and a satisfactory rating in a language-specific interview administered by the World Languages Center upon matriculation.

#### *Intermediate Level*

Satisfy one of the following requirements:

- d. Complete a course at the intermediate level (300-level or higher) in the language taken at the elementary level.
- e. Complete a course the subject matter of which is focused on some aspect of the culture, history, or society of a part of the world where the language taken at the elementary level is spoken or used by a significant portion of the population. For a course list, please visit the myNEU Web Portal ([www.myneu.neu.edu](http://www.myneu.neu.edu)), click on the "Self-Service" tab, then on "My Degree Audit."
- f. Demonstrate conversational proficiency by successfully completing a proficiency interview (scheduled through the World Languages Center). This option is available only for heritage speakers of a language or for students who have completed the elementary-level language requirement through (b) advanced placement or (c) standardized placement exam as outlined above.