LIBERAL STUDIES, MA

Dr. Susan Copeland, Director
SusanCopeland@clayton.edu

Mission and Goals
The Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree (MALS) is an interdisciplinary and flexible program designed for a wide spectrum of individuals: recent college graduates, professionals in the public and private sectors, current and prospective teachers, lawyers, state workers, non-profit arts administrators and private business owners.

Through a challenging, structured liberal arts curriculum, the MALS degree program offers graduate students various opportunities to:

• grow in their awareness of cultural tendencies;
• cultivate their analytical and communication skills to reach their full potential develop and expand a commitment to others;
• attain a liberal studies perspective on contemporary problems and opportunities;
• broaden their general knowledge and satisfy their intellectual curiosity;
• strengthen their capacity to think critically and creatively;
• gain insights into the relationships between disciplines, ideas, and historical developments; and,
• to prepare for a range of career options and further study.

Application Information
Students may begin the program any semester. Information about the application and admission process is available in the School of Graduate Studies section of this catalog and on the web: http://www.clayton.edu/graduate/

Advising
In order to keep students on track for completing the degree, the MALS program director will serve as advisor to all students. The student will be required to meet with his or her advisor before registering for courses each semester.

Academic Policies
Information regarding academic progress, residency requirements, transfer credit, application deferral, acceptance deferral, withdrawal from a course(s), and hardship withdrawal policies is in the School of Graduate Studies section of this catalog and on the web at http://www.clayton.edu/graduate.

Requirements
Each student will complete thirty-six (36) semester hours of MALS course work with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. At least twenty-seven (27) of these credits must be taken at Clayton State University. In their first semester, students should take the required Introduction to Graduate Studies course (3 hours). Also, in this and subsequent semesters, additional foundational seminars (9 hours) will provide students with a selected background in the Art, Literature, and Philosophy. Each student will also select an academic area of focus or concentration (18 hours). Students may select from one of five concentration areas in this degree program:

1. English,
2. History,
3. Liberal Arts (ART, CRJU, ENGL, HIST, IDST, MALS², PHIL, and POLS),
4. Mathematics, or
5. Philosophy.

Students have two options (6 hours) in completing the program:
Capstone Thesis Option or Capstone Non-Thesis Option.

Program Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MALS 5000</td>
<td>Intro. to Graduate Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ART 5000</td>
<td>Great Works in Art History</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 5000</td>
<td>Great Books</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 5000</td>
<td>The Nature of Social Thought</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 1: English</td>
<td>Choose six of any of the graduate level ENGL courses listed in this catalog or others which are offered and approved by the MALS program director and Dean of Graduate Studies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 2: History</td>
<td>Choose six of any of the graduate level HIST courses listed in this catalog or others which are approved by the MALS program director and Dean of Graduate Studies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 3: Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Choose a combination of any six graduate level courses as listed in this catalog with the following prefixes: ART, CRJU, ENGL, HIST, IDST, MALS², PHIL, POLS, or others which are approved by the MALS program director and Dean of Graduate Studies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 4: Mathematics</td>
<td>Choose six of any of the graduate level MATH courses listed in this catalog or others which are approved by the MALS program director and Dean of Graduate Studies.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 5: Philosophy</td>
<td>Choose six of any of the graduate level PHIL courses listed in this catalog or others which are approved by the MALS program director and Dean of Graduate Studies.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Capstone Experience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Thesis Option</td>
<td>Choose one option from the following:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis Option</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours

Or suitable course substitutions as approved by the MALS Program Director and Dean of Graduate Studies.

Excludes MALS 5000 Intro. to Graduate Studies and Thesis or Non-Thesis Capstone and Non-Capstone courses.
Capstone Experience Requirements

Non-Thesis Option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MALS 6890</td>
<td>Non-Thesis Prof Paper Research</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALS 6899</td>
<td>Non-Thesis Comprehensive Exam</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours: 6

The Non-Thesis option is available to candidates in all tracks. Candidates who choose this option must take two additional courses from any of the areas of concentration and must also either:

1. present a paper at a state, regional, national or international academic conference or
2. have an article accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

Students selecting this option must also pass a comprehensive exam of major coursework prepared by a committee comprised of at least three MALS faculty.

Thesis Option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MALS 6995</td>
<td>Master's Thesis Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALS 6999</td>
<td>Master's Thesis Preparation</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours: 6

Students who have completed all their course work in the areas of Foundational Seminars and at least fifteen hours in their Academic Concentration may select the capstone thesis option to fulfill the requirements for their degree. Students work under the supervision of three faculty advisors (from at least two different academic disciplines, one of whom must be designated the Thesis Chair), and may begin work on the thesis project only after a capstone thesis proposal has been formally approved. The thesis may take the form of academic or applied research, or it may be a creative work. The capstone thesis must be of a nature to warrant six hours of graduate credit. In general, the projects should yield a written piece of work, although products such as artistic/musical creations also may be acceptable.

Second Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Requirements

Students may pursue a second Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree program in a different concentration. The following policies and procedures must be followed:

- Students must meet normal admission requirements for the second degree program.
- Students must complete 36 hours of degree requirements for the second degree.
- Course and resident credit used to satisfy the requirements of one Clayton State degree cannot be used to satisfy the requirements of another degree.
- A maximum of 9 graduate credits from an accredited institution, including Clayton State, can be applied toward the requirements for a second Master’s degree as long as:
  - those credits were taken within 6 years of admission to the second degree program.
  - the courses are recommended by the student’s advisor, and
  - a first Master’s degree has been completed before admission to a second Master’s degree.
- Only transfer credits of a B or above will be considered, and no Pass/Fail credits will be accepted. Transfer credit must be contained on an official transcript from an accredited degree granting institution. See Policy on Transfer Credit at the Master’s Level in the Academic Policies section of the catalog.
- Students must complete a minimum of 24 credits in courses other than the capstone courses in the approved program of study. See Residency Requirement in the Graduation Requirements section of the catalog.
- Specialization in the second master’s degree must be different from that of the first master’s degree. No courses within that specialization can duplicate courses in the first master’s degree.
- Any specific requirements (Comprehensive Exams or Thesis Courses) must be completed as part of the second program.
- Please Note: Students will have to request a course substitution to ensure all coursework for the second master’s degree is 36 hours of distinctly different coursework from the first master’s degree.

Faculty

Augustine Ayuk
Scott Bailey
Roger Bates
Virginia Bonner
Benjamin Buckley
Brigitte Byrd
Randy Clark
Susan Copeland
Michael Dancs
Jelani Favors
David Gilbert
Randall Gooden
Barbara Goodman
Cantice Greene
Alexander Hall
Gwendolyn Harold
Lisa Holland-Davis
Todd Janke
E. Joe Johnson
Sipai Klein
Mary Lamb
Marko Maunula
Joshua Meddaugh
Greg McNamara
Nasser Momayezi
Eugene Ngezem
Kelli Nipper
Kathryn Pratt-Russell
R.B. Rosenberg
Amy Sanford
Patricia Smith
Steve Spence
Adam Tate
Robert Vaughan
Christopher Ward
Carol White