MAJOR IN
INTERDISCIPLINARY LIBERAL ARTS

Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts
Clark Building, Room A-73
(970) 491-5421
libartsmajor.colostate.edu (http://libartsmajor.colostate.edu)

Kevin Foskin, Director

The Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts major offers instructional programs that provide an understanding of people, their cultures, histories, literatures, philosophies, media, and arts; knowledge of their social, political, economic, and environmental systems; skills of critical thinking and communication; and attitudes appropriate to its academic disciplines. Liberal Arts graduates will be able to:

1) Follow a line of reasoning and empathize with others;
2) Know there are multiple ways of reading the world;
3) Write clearly and persuasively;
4) Respect rigor not so much for its own sake, but as a way of seeking truth, for they will have a larger vision that calls for the humane use of knowledge;
5) Practice humility, tolerance, and self-criticism, for they will have begun to know and celebrate the wider world and will understand the history and the aspirations of other peoples;
6) Understand how to get things done in the world, and they will sincerely want to leave the world a better place than they found it;
7) Nurture and empower the people around them, for they know that nothing is accomplished by one person alone, that a free and flourishing community is essential to their freedom and their achievements.

During and contributive to the process of achieving these seven broader goals of personal growth, our graduates will accrue key career skills (critical thinking, fact-based argumentation, effective writing & speaking communication, information competency, cultural sensitivity, design virtuosity) and a comprehensive understanding of the need for interpersonal, cross-disciplinary, and transdisciplinary awareness in an increasingly complex 21st world and career workplace.

To further increase depth and focus, and to enhance expertise and career opportunities, Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts students are required to complete a second field of study, which can be any minor, or a second major, or 21 credits in a foreign language.

Learning Outcomes

- Writing effectively about the knowledge and cultural perspectives of their completed field of study.
- Speaking effectively for both critical argument and informative delivery.
- Communicating information (e.g., analysis, creative expression, research, data, digital humanities) effectively via the utilization of various media and visual/aural formats.
- Thinking critically about contemporary issues, particularly within various interdisciplinary perspectives and contexts, utilizing a research-based methodology and an analytically based practice premised on the three-tier Successful Intelligence Model: Creative, Analytical, and Practical.
- Working collaboratively and efficiently with others for problem-solving and innovation in real-world contexts and existing social/cultural/political and environmental realities.
- Maturing cultural understanding and sensitivity in the context of informed citizenry, premised on responsible social, political, and environmental stewardship locally, nationally, and internationally.

Accelerated Program
The major in Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts includes an accelerated program option (https://provost.colostate.edu/accelerated-programs/) for students to graduate on a faster schedule. Accelerated Programs typically include 15-16 credits each fall and spring semester for three years, plus 6-9 credits over two to three summer sessions (https://summer.colostate.edu/acceleratedprograms/). Students who enter CSU with prior credit (AP, IB, transfer, etc.) may use applicable courses to further accelerate their graduation. Visit the Office of the Provost website for additional information about Accelerated Programs (https://provost.colostate.edu/accelerated-programs/).

Potential Occupations
Graduates in Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts apply their education in a wide variety of careers—existing and forthcoming—and/or academic professions, including public policy, politics, healthcare, artistic production, mass media, engineering, law, city planning, business, information systems, international business, journalism, publishing, education, sales and marketing, management and administration, government, communications, museum work, entertainment, foreign service, and many others. Many also continue on to graduate or professional schools for more specialized study. To enhance their career, academic or professional opportunities, the Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts majors can take advantage of the widest variety of internships, professional practicums, and/or study abroad opportunities of any undergraduate degree on campus.