BA IN LIBERAL STUDIES (GENERAL)

In Workflow

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Approval Path

1. 2026-10-22T00:27:16Z
   Catheryn Koss (koss): Rollback to Initiator
2. 2026-10-23T00:00:52Z
   Catheryn Koss (koss): Approved for SSIS College Committee Chair
3. 2026-10-23T15:48:34Z
   Shane Nordyke (shane.nordyke): Approved for SSIS Dean

New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: 2026-10-22T21:45:03Z

Viewing: BA in Liberal Studies (General)

Last edit: 2026-10-22T21:45:02Z

Changes proposed by: Kristin Van Gaasbeck (101051492)

Academic Group: (College)

Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies

Academic Organization: (Department)

Asian Studies; Social Science & Interdisciplinary Studies

Catalog Year Effective:

2027-2028 Catalog

NOTE: This degree major program will be subject to program review evaluation within six years after implementation.

Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:

Name (First Last)	Email	Phone 999-999-9999
Kristin Van Gaasbeck	kavan@csus.edu	9162786342

Program Snapshot

Type of Program:

Concentration

Title of the Program:
BA in Liberal Studies (General)

Designation: (degree terminology)
Bachelor of Arts

Delivery Mode:
Fully Face to Face

Support Mode:
State Support

CIP Code:
24.0101

Please see the CSU/CIP Code Crosswalk: https://www.csus.edu/academic-affairs/curriculum-workflow/_internal/_documents/csu_codes_to_cip.pdf

Is this a pilot program?
No

Will this program require accreditation?
No

Provide a clear, concise overview of the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification. For NEW programs describe the purpose and focus of the program, identify the target student population(s), and highlight key strengths and distinguishing features of the program.
The Liberal Studies Council proposes creating a second concentration within the BA in Liberal Studies to meet the changing needs of undergraduate teacher preparation and provide greater flexibility for students who decide not to pursue a teacher-preparation pathway. The proposed major would include two concentrations: Elementary Education and General. This change would return the program to its previous structure, which included two concentrations. Specifically, the proposed changes would be listed as:
BA Liberal Studies (Elementary Education) – unchanged curriculum, name change only
BA Liberal Studies (General) – new program
The Liberal Studies Council includes faculty representatives from all colleges that contribute curriculum to the BA in Liberal Studies and its two concentrations. Specifically, the current council members represent Biological Sciences (NSM), Economics (SSIS), English (A&L), Geography (NSM), Kinesiology (HHS), Mathematics and Statistics (NSM), Music (A&L), Teaching Credentials (EDUC), and Undergraduate Studies (EDUC).

Maintaining substantial breadth and depth in the subject areas associated with elementary teacher preparation remains central to the proposed BA in Liberal Studies: General Concentration. California law requires bachelor's degrees in Liberal Studies to demonstrate subject-matter competency in multiple-subject areas, including Reading, Language and Literature; History and Social Science; Science; Mathematics; Physical Education; Human Development; and the Performing Arts.
Accordingly, the General Concentration would maintain depth in these areas while allowing students to select from a broader range of coursework. Much of the curriculum in the existing BA in Liberal Studies, which would be renamed the Elementary Education Concentration, consists of courses designed specifically for future teachers, with pedagogy incorporated in support of that outcome. However, these courses may be less accessible and flexible for students because they often require prerequisites and sequencing and may not be offered with sufficient seats or sections to meet student demand.
In addition, naming the concentrations would clarify the two intended advising pathways: one focused on teacher preparation for students intending to become elementary school teachers, and the other designed for students who have decided not to pursue that pathway. Increasingly, the program has had to submit major substitutions to accommodate this growing population of students.
In the interest of accessibility, equity, and transparency, the Liberal Studies Council proposes reinstating the BA in Liberal Studies: General Concentration.

There are no proposed budgetary changes, rather a splitting of the existing program into two concentrations that serve the same student population.

University Learning Goals

Undergraduate Learning Goals:

Competence in the disciplines
Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world
Intellectual and practical skills
Personal and social responsibility
Integrative learning

Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?

No

Curriculum Alignment and Assessment

Program Goals

Provide a brief statement of the program's overarching goals and priorities: • Describe the program's mission, focus, and intended impact on students. • Identify broad areas of emphasis (e.g., career preparation, research, community engagement, leadership development). • Goals may be aspirational or developmental and do not need to be directly measurable.

Program Goals Statement

The Liberal Studies program is an interdisciplinary major, which encompasses a wide variety of areas of knowledge in a multidisciplinary curriculum. The program provides a broad academic program that encourages academic excellence, diversity, community, and collaboration. There are two concentrations in the Liberal Studies Program: Elementary Education and General.

The General program is designed for students who are interested in a multidisciplinary major, but who do not necessarily plan to become teachers.

The Liberal Studies major is an excellent preparation for careers in government service, public administration, business, management, community service, counseling, law, librarianship, public health, as well as professional or graduate school. This major requires students to include a minor.

Program Learning Outcomes

Provide measurable, program-specific learning outcomes that reflect the most important competencies students will demonstrate upon completion of the program. Programs are expected to assess and use PLOs for continuous improvement.

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome
Breadth of Knowledge Demonstrate competency in the following areas: Reading, Language and Literacy, History and Social Science, Mathematics, Natural and Physical Sciences, Visual and Performing Arts, Physical Education and Human Development.
Depth of Knowledge Demonstrate depth of knowledge in one area of study, such as completion of a minor.
Interdisciplinarity and Personal/ Social Responsibility Identify connections among human cultures, the physical and natural world, and how these apply to personal and social responsibility.
Social Justice Critically analyze the socio-cultural impact that race, class, ethnicity, gender, and language have on society, and examine how human experiences are influenced by intersectional identities, socialization practices, and societal institutions.
Critical Thinking Develop the qualities needed to become life-long learners who can critically analyze and reflect upon various perspectives and sources of information, and apply learning to promote personal and professional growth.
Experiential learning Cultivate interpersonal and collaboration skills, as well as broaden an awareness of culturally diverse perspectives, through experiential learning opportunities.

Learning Outcomes Display

Course Code	PLO 1
Warning! Unable to parse program body. Data Invalid: Area header row cannot be followed by indented row.	

Please attach a Comprehensive Program Assessment Plan

LBST_AssessmentPlan_General.pdf

Please attach a Curriculum Map Matrix

LBST_General_CurriculumMatrix.pdf

Please attach a Five-Year Budget Projection. For NEW programs, also attach a Budget Narrative.

LBST_GeneralBA_Consultation.pdf
LBST_BudgetNarrative_rev_Oct2026.pdf

Please attach the updated roadmap:

Liberal Studies_4-Year Roadmap 2027-28_General.pdf

Catalog Description (catalog copy):

The Liberal Studies program is an interdisciplinary major, which encompasses a wide variety of areas of knowledge in a multidisciplinary curriculum. The program provides a broad academic program that encourages academic excellence, diversity, community, and collaboration. There are two tracks in the Liberal Studies Program: Elementary Education and General. Students interested in pursuing a future career in teaching at elementary education level should choose the Elementary Education concentration.

The General concentration is designed for students who are interested in a multidisciplinary major, but who do not necessarily plan to become teachers. The Liberal Studies major is an excellent preparation for careers in government service, public administration, business, management, community service, counseling, law, librarianship, public health, as well as professional or graduate school. This major requires students to include a minor.

The Liberal Studies major is a complex program requiring early and continuing contact with an advisor. Students meet with an advisor at least once each semester to provide a hands-on approach to learning. Students must complete 120 units and meet the University general education and graduation requirements in order to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree. Students are urged to obtain advice as early as possible to avoid delays in the completion of these requirements. The Liberal Studies program director and faculty and staff advisors are located in Lassen Hall 2008, (916) 278-6342.

Admission and Continuation Requirements (catalog copy): minimum GPA and prerequisites (if applicable), required coursework or preparation, portfolio, test scores, and/or letters of recommendation. For graduate programs: expectations for a relevant bachelor's degree (required or preferred disciplines, prerequisite knowledge, or equivalent experience), include evidence that program requirements conform to the minimum requirements for the culminating experience, as specified in Title 5 Section 40510 The Master's Degree and Section 40511 The Doctoral Degree.

Program Requirements (catalog copy):

Code	Title	Units
Core Requirements (90-98 units)		
Reading, Language and Literature		18 - 20
COMS 5	The Communication Experience	3
or COMS 4	Introduction to Public Speaking	
ENGL 5	Accelerated Academic Literacies	3
or ENGL 5M	Accelerated Academic Literacies - Multilingual	
or ENGL 11	Academic Literacies II	
or ENGL 11M	Academic Literacies II-Multilingual	
ENGL 20	College Composition II	3
or ENGL 20M	College Composition II for Multilingual Students	
Linguistics (3 units)		*3*
Choose one of the following:		
ENGL 16	Structure Of English	
ENGL 110A	Linguistics and the English Language	
ENGL 110J	Traditional Grammar and Standard Usage	
ENGL 110Q	English Grammar for ESL Teachers	
ENGL 116A	Studies in Applied Linguistics	
Applied Composition/Cultural Communication (3-4 units)		*3 - 4*
COMS 114	Communication and American Culture	
COMS 116	Intercultural Communication	
EDUC 120	Literature For Children	
EDUC 121	Multicultural Children's Literature	
ENGL 116B	Children's Literary Classics	
ENGL 120A	Advanced Composition	
ENGL 120C	Topics in Composition	
ENGL 120E	Digital Writing and Rhetoric	
ENGL 120L	Community Literacy and Public Rhetorics	
ENGL 120P	Intro to Professional Writing	

ENGL 120Q	Topics in Professional Writing	
ENGL 120R	Topics in Rhetoric	
ENGL 120S	Writing in the Social Sciences	
ENGL 120T	Technical Writing	
ENGL 120Y	Data Literacy and Writing	
ENGL 125A	Literature and Film for Adolescents	
ENGL 125B	Writing and the Young Writer	
ENGL 125E	Academic Reading and Writing for Second Language Students	
ENGL 140M	Modern British Drama, 1889-Present	
ENGL 165D	Postcolonial Literature	
ENGL 180B	Forms of African-American Fiction	
ENGL 180L	Chicano Literature	
ENGL 180M	Asian American Literature	
ENGL 185B	Twentieth Century Fiction by Women	
Additional Course in Reading, Language and Literature (3-4 units)		*3 - 4*
Choose one additional course above in either Linguistics or Applied Composition/Cultural Communication		
Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning		9 - 12
Choose two courses from the following:		6 - 8
MATH 17	An Introduction to Exploration, Conjecture, and Proof in Mathematics	
MATH 24	Modern Business Mathematics	
MATH 26A	Calculus I for the Social and Life Sciences	
MATH 29	Pre-Calculus Mathematics	
MATH 30	Calculus I	
MATH 107A	Fundamental Mathematical Concepts	
MATH 107B	Fundamental Mathematical Concepts	
STAT 1	Introduction to Statistics	
Additional course in Mathematics or Quantitative Reasoning		*3 - 4*
Choose an additional course from above, or from below:		
ECON 139	Economics of Personal Finance	
JOUR 116	Data Visualization	
POLS 102	Quantitative Reasoning in Political Science	
STAT 141	Introduction to Data Science	
Natural Science		14 - 15
BIO 7	Introduction to the Science of Biology	4
GEOL 8	Earth Science	3
GEOL 8L	Earth Science Lab	1
or GEOL 8T	Earth Science Lab for Teachers	
Choose two courses from below, one of which must be upper division		3 - 4
ASTR 4A	Introduction to the Solar System	
ASTR 4B	Introduction to Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology	
ASTR 4C	Introduction to Astrobiology	
BIO 103	Plants and Civilization	
BIO 105	Life in the Ocean	
BIO 109	Biology of Dinosaurs	
CHEM 6A	Introduction to General Chemistry	
CHEM 106	Chemical Concepts	
GEOG 113	Climate	
GEOG 115	Biogeography	
GEOG 116	Global Climate Change	
GEOG 119	Visualizing Global Environments	
GEOL 115	Volcanoes: An Introduction	
GEOL 130	Oceanography	
GEOL 170	Age of Dinosaurs	
GEOL 140	Geology and the Environment	
GEOL 180	Water Planet	

PHYS 30	Science and Pseudoscience	
PHYS 107	Conceptual Physics and Scientific Inquiry	
PHYS 181	Modern Physics for Everyone	
PHYS 182	Physics of Sports	
PHYS 184	Physics of Energy and the Environment	
PHYS 186	Musical Acoustics: Science and Sound	
PHYS 187	Seeing the Light	
Social Science and Humanities		24
HIST 17A	United States History, 1607-1877	3
or HIST 17B	United States History, 1877-Present	
HIST 50	World History I: to 1500	3
or HIST 51	World History from 1500 to the Present.	
GEOG 100	Themes In World Geography	3
LBST 110	California Studies	3
POLS 1	Essentials Of Government	3
or POLS 150	American Governments	
Choose three courses from below, two of which must be upper division		9
ECON 1A	Introduction to Macroeconomic Analysis	
ECON 1B	Introduction to Microeconomic Analysis	
ECON 114	The California Economy	
ECON 181	Economics of Racism	
GEOG 121	United States and Canada	
GEOG 131	California	
HIST 132	Topics In World History	
HIST 133	Twentieth-Century World History	
HIST 161	The American Vision	
HIST 169	Hollywood and America	
HIST 187	Topics in United States History 1600-1900	
HIST 183B	California History, 1860-1970	
HIST 185	California Indian History	
POLS 35	World Politics	
or POLS 130	International Politics	
POLS 180	California State and Local Government	
WGS 136	Gender, Race, and Class	
Visual and Performing Arts		9
Students choose one course from each of the three areas: Visual Arts, Music, and Theatre & Dance. At least two courses must be upper division.		
Visual Arts		*3*
ART 1A	Art, Religions, and Power before 1400	
ART 1B	Art, Empires, and Cross-Cultural Exchange, 1400-1800	
ART 1C	Global Modern and Contemporary Art	
ART 2	History of Islamic Art	
ART 20A	Beginning Drawing	
ART 3A	Traditional Asian Art	
ART 3B	Modern and Contemporary Asian Art	
ART 4	European Visual Traditions	
ART 5	Art of the Americas	
ART 7	Introduction to Art and Visual Culture	
ART 70	Form, Space Vision	
ART 102	Themes in World Art and Visual Culture	
ART 133	Art Education for Children	
ART 137	Art for Exceptional Children	
ART 148	Barrio Art for Ethnic Groups	
PHOT 11	Digital Photography I	
PHOT 20	The Photographic Self	
PHOT 102	Photography, a Social History	

Music		*3*
MUSC 8	Basic Music	
MUSC 9	Music In World Cultures	
MUSC 10A	Survey of Music Literature I	
MUSC 10B	Survey of Music Literature II	
MUSC 10C	Survey of Music Literature III	
MUSC 18	Music Appreciation	
MUSC 127	The American Musical Theater	
MUSC 129	American Society and Its Music	
MUSC 101	Experiences In Music	
MUSC 118B	American Popular Music: Jazz History	
MUSC 118C	History of Rock Music	
MUSC 118D	Hip-Hop in Urban America	
MUSC 119A	World Music: Asia	
MUSC 119B	World Music: Africa	
MUSC 119C	World Music: Latin America	
Theatre & Dance		*3*
DNCE 130	Appreciation and History of Dance	
DNCE 131	Dance Cultures Of America	
DNCE 132	African-Caribbean Dance	
DNCE 160	Creative Dance for Children	
THEA 1	Introduction To Theatre	
THEA 2	History of the Theatre: Ancient to Renaissance	
THEA 3	Theatre History After 1660	
THEA 5	Aesthetics of Theatre and Film	
THEA 9	Appreciation Of Acting	
THEA 106	Latin American Film	
THEA 115A	Multicultural Puppetry	
THEA 118	Children's Theatre	
THEA 140	Black Drama in the African Diaspora	
THEA 144	Women and Theatre: Staging Diversity	
THEA 155	Contemporary World Cinema	
THEA 170	African American Theatre and Culture	
THEA 173	Contemporary Chicano/Latino Theatre: Themes and Performance 1965-Present	
THEA 174	Multicultural Perspectives in American Theatre	
THEA 175	Multicultural Perspectives in American Film	
Physical Education		3
Choose one of the following:		
KINS 100	Recreation and Leisure Lifestyle Development	
KINS 115	Youth Development in Sport and Recreation	
KINS 138	Sport Pedagogy	
KINS 163	Recreation Services for Diverse, Underserved and Underrepresented Populations	
KINS 172	Movement Education	
KINS 177	Introduction to Adapted Physical Education	
Health Science		2 - 3
Choose one of the following:		
NURS 160	Human Sexuality	
PUBH 50	Healthy Lifestyles	
PUBH 114	Human Ecology and Health	
PUBH 124	Ethical Considerations in Public Health	
PUBH 134	Understanding Human Sexuality	
PUBH 136	School Health Education	
SOC 133	Sport in a Global Perspective	
SOC 144	Sociology of Health and Illness	
Human Development		6
CHAD 35	Child and Adolescent Development	3

or CHAD 30	Human Development	
Choose one of the following:		3
CHAD 143	Mind and Brain in Developmental Context	
CHAD 145	Contemporary Issues in Human Development	
CHAD 156	Child and Adolescent Development in Context	
EDUC 160	Urban Education	
EDUC 165	Sex Role Stereotyping in American Education	
FSHD 150	Family Stress and Coping: Multicultural Focus	
FSHD 152	Adolescent Development	
FSHD 155	Family Life Education	
FSHD 159	Adulthood and Aging in Human Development	
Field Experience		5 - 6
Choose two field experience classes from below:		
CHAD 35F	Human Development and Elementary Field Experience	
EDSP 101	Becoming an Education Specialist	
EDUC 124	Tutoring Children in Mathematics	
EDUC 125	Tutoring Children in Reading	
EDUC 127A & EDUC 127B	Field Experience in After School STEM Programs Field Experience in After School STEM Programs: Practicum	
EDUC 129	Teaching Science in Outdoor Settings	

Note: Students are required to complete a minor as part of the BA Liberal Studies General Concentration. Minor coursework may overlap with core requirements above.

Please attach the Curriculum Overview

LBST_CurriculumOverview_Oct2026.pdf

Reviewer Comments:

Catheryn Koss (koss) (Thu, 22 Oct 2026 00:27:16 GMT): Rollback: see 10/21/2026 email

Key: 656