Liberal Arts

Multifaceted, diverse and adaptable graduates are increasingly sought by employers looking for people able to respond quickly and effectively to shifting needs and opportunities. Liberal Arts is an internationally-recognised approach to study that will prepare you for life in our rapidly changing world. With an emphasis on teamwork alongside individual development, our programme will equip you with skills of critical thinking, creativity and adaptability, through your study of a wider range of areas than is usually possible in a Single or Joint Honours degree. Royal Holloway is one of just a handful of universities in this country to offer this highly-prized yet rarely available degree, ideal for students who are creative and inquisitive with a wide range of interests.

LIBERAL ARTS AT ROYAL HOLLOWAY

- Truly interdisciplinary: explore a wide range of areas across the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, with far more choice than is usually available.
- Tailored: choose to specialise in a particular field or keep your options open.
- Skills-based: you will study a Modern European language in at least your first year, either from scratch or at advanced level, and you can develop your global perspective by spending a year abroad on one of two four-year programmes, with or without a language.
- Intensive: you’ll spend time with leading experts in different disciplines.
- Team-focused: a core course designed specifically for Liberal Arts students with opportunities for teamwork in years one and two.
- Individual: you have the ability to design your own programme as your degree progresses.
- Well-supported: a Personal Tutor will support you in your transition into university study.
- Valuable: as well as developing adaptability and flexibility, boost your skills by applying for work placements and taking advantage of the fantastic careers support Royal Holloway offers to graduate with superb employment prospects.

DEGREE PROGRAMMES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UCAS code</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Typical offer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Y000</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Liberal Arts with an International Year</td>
<td>Y001</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Liberal Arts with a language year abroad</td>
<td>Y002</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>ABB</td>
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CONTACT DETAILS

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WHAT YOU’LL LEARN

You will be able to select courses from a wide range of departments, so what you learn will be unique and different from every other student on the programme. However, there are a few common features.

All students on the Liberal Arts programme take a full unit of a foreign language in their first year; you may choose whether to pursue that language through the rest of your degree. Everyone on the programme will also take one full-unit core course in the first and second years. In your first year, ‘Cultural Encounters’ aims to give you a strong foundation upon which to base your study of particular disciplines, and also to help you think about how to bring different disciplines into conversation with each other. As you move into year two, the core course ‘Power & Dissent’ focuses on visual and verbal communication in culture and politics. Both core courses put an emphasis on group work and presentations. In your final year, you will undertake an independent research project to write a dissertation.

By the end of the course you will have at least a basic grasp of a foreign language, knowledge of a wide range of disciplines, strong communication skills (both oral and written), and experience of the techniques and skills necessary for interdisciplinary work.

EXAMPLE COURSE STRUCTURE

BA Liberal Arts

Year 1

Cultural Encounters
PLUS one unit in a modern language (French, German, Italian or Spanish)
PLUS a choice of two full units from courses offered in:
- Classics
- Drama
- English
- History
- Media Arts
- Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures
- Music
- Politics and International Relations
- Biology
- Criminology and Sociology
- Economics
- Mathematics
- Psychology

Year 2

Power & Dissent
PLUS a choice of three full units from courses offered in:
- Classics
- Drama
- English
- History
- Media Arts
- Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures
- Music
- Politics and International Relations
- Biology
- Criminology and Sociology
- Economics
- Mathematics
- Psychology

Year 3

Dissertation
PLUS a choice of three full units from courses (building on your second year choices) offered in:
- Classics
- Drama
- English
- History
- Media Arts
- Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures
- Music
- Politics and International Relations
- Biology
- Criminology and Sociology
- Economics
- Mathematics
- Psychology

Please see website for full details of each course currently offered. Please note that while we try to offer maximum flexibility, not all courses are available in every year and there may be an occasional unavoidable clash. Some courses have prerequisites that must be met.

STUDENT VIEW

“The beauty of Liberal Arts is its versatility and breadth. This allows me to create a unique programme which suits my strengths and interests. I can say I truly enjoy every aspect of this education.”

Elizabeth, BA Liberal Arts

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Typical offers:

For further information about A level, International Baccalaureate, BTEC and international entry requirements please see p.74.

Please refer to our website for A-level qualification equivalences for each course.

See p.134 for educational context advice.

Scholarships and bursaries:

Royal Holloway scholarships and bursaries are available (eligibility criteria apply).

See p.40 for full details.