Mission Statement

The faculty and students of the College of Arts and Sciences share a belief in the value of a comprehensive college education—an education that requires foundational study in the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and fine arts, as well as a concentration in one of 20 majors. A degree in arts and sciences helps students build fulfilling and meaningful lives and is a strong basis for a preprofessional education. Careers in the 21st century require great creativity, critical thinking and fine writing. The ability to think is more important than any narrow job preparation. The arts and sciences curricula require demanding study while providing extensive faculty support in small classes and laboratories.

Whether a student is pursuing a bachelor of science or bachelor of arts degree, he or she is part of a learning community in which students and faculty are makers of knowledge, not simply receivers and dispensers. Faculty and students study and experience a society increasingly defined by global, scientific and cultural awareness and a diversity of populations. The course of study provides ample opportunity for students to participate in internships that help to bridge their education and its application. The college also offers programs that connect directly to professional preparation, including the five-year master of arts in teaching program, taught in conjunction with the School of Education.

Most importantly, students in the arts and sciences engage in an exciting, well-rounded program of study that is both fulfilling and rewarding.

General Requirements

The requirements for the bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees are qualitative and quantitative. Completion of 120 credits with a grade point average of C or better is not in itself sufficient to qualify for graduation. In addition to the general Quinnipiac requirements, eligibility for most bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees also requires the satisfactory completion of both arts and sciences requirements and those in a major or field of concentration. Specific major requirements are noted below under the individual departmental or area descriptions. Students should be cautioned that an average of C, or 2.0, in the student’s major is a minimum requirement for each major and that some departments may require higher standards as noted.

Of the 120 credits required for the bachelor’s degree, only 6 credits of workshop courses and/or physical education courses may be applied. Primary responsibility for knowing and completing all course requirements rests with the student.

University Curriculum and College of Arts and Sciences Requirements

The College of Arts and Sciences offers two tracks: the liberal arts track and the sciences track. Students on either track are required to pursue a balanced program of study, as described below.

Liberal Arts Track

The requirements listed below apply to students who are pursuing a BA or BS in computer science, criminal justice, economics, English, game design and development, gerontology, history, independent majors, legal studies, mathematics, philosophy, political science, psychology, sociology, Spanish or theater.

Students, in consultation with their advisers, select courses to satisfy the UC requirements in conjunction with their major and College of Arts and Sciences requirements.

The College of Arts and Sciences requirements for this track include:
• one course outside the major in the social sciences
• one course outside the major in the humanities
• one course outside the major in the fine arts
• three 300-level courses outside the major
• one foreign language through the 102-level (chosen from ARB 102, CN 102, FR 102, GR 102, HBR 102, IT 102, JP 102 or SP 102)

A student pursuing a double major is exempt from these College of Arts and Sciences requirements, with the exception of the foreign language requirement.

Some courses may be used to satisfy more than one requirement. For example, a sociology major could use a 300-level English course to satisfy two requirements—the outside-the-major requirement in the humanities and one course in the non-major 300-level courses. A minimum of 72 credits must be taken from outside the student’s major.
**Sciences Track**

The requirements listed below apply to students who are pursuing the BS in biochemistry, biology, chemistry or behavioral neuroscience.

Students, in consultation with their advisers, select courses to satisfy the UC requirements in conjunction with their major requirements in the natural sciences. In contrast to students in the liberal arts track, students are advised to enroll in their science core in the first semester of their freshman year.

Whatever their intended major, students in the sciences track should understand that many of their introductory courses are available only as sequential, fall/spring offerings. For example, BIO 101 General Biology I and CHE 110 General Chemistry I are offered only in the fall, and BIO 102 General Biology II and CHE 111 General Chemistry II are offered only in the spring. Further, advanced courses absolutely require the introductory courses as prerequisites.

Because of these curriculum considerations, students are well advised to review the suggested four-year curriculum for their major in the University Catalog, as well as take full advantage of the recommendations of their faculty adviser.

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**Academic Advising**

The College of Arts and Sciences has a program that places every student, upon matriculation, with an individual faculty adviser who can best help him or her form a personalized academic plan. An outcome of each academic adviser’s individualized guidance is that students come to understand the relationship between a particular discipline and a range of satisfying careers. Students also learn how an arts and sciences major can prepare them especially well for a life of consequence and meaning. Although the primary responsibility for setting academic goals and selecting courses rests with the student, the academic adviser fosters an ongoing conversation that cultivates self-reflection and development.

Students who enter the College of Arts and Sciences with a declared major are matched with a faculty adviser in that department. Each undeclared student works individually with an academic adviser to design a plan that is uniquely tailored to his or her needs and interests. During the preregistration period each semester, all students in arts and sciences meet with their academic advisers before selecting and registering for courses.

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**Career Development**

In the College of Arts and Sciences, the career development office works with students to explore majors and career interests through individual consultations and group sessions, guide them through a career development process, and provide coaching for resume preparation, employment interviews and graduate school applications. Students can participate in experiential learning through community service as well as internships, part-time and summer employment.