DEPARTMENT OF LIBERAL STUDIES

The Department of Liberal Studies at Texas A&M Galveston campus offers four unique interdisciplinary undergraduate degrees:

1) A Bachelor of Arts degree in Maritime Studies
2) A Bachelor of Science University Studies degree in Maritime Public Policy and Communication
3) A Bachelor of Science University Studies degree in Tourism and Coastal Community Development
4) A Bachelor of Science University Studies degree in Marine Environmental Law and Policy

The mission of the Department of Liberal Studies is to provide a robust intellectual foundation for students pursuing occupational and leadership roles in areas such as government, communication, business, nongovernmental organizations, public policy, tourism policy, journalism and public relations, archeology and anthropology, museums and archives, professional diving, and preparation for graduate studies and law school.

Liberal Studies students participate in a variety of national programs such as the Model United Nations, and international educational opportunities around the world are frequently available through courses offered in the Texas A&M University Study Abroad Programs Office (http://studyabroad.tamu.edu).

With faculty maintaining research agendas in a variety of disciplines including politics, history, mass media and communication, English, popular culture, archeology, philosophy, museum studies, anthropology, genocide studies, African-American studies, and mathematics, Liberal Studies builds within students enhanced critical thinking and strong communication skills, while emphasizing the critical nature of multicultural thinking and collaboration in a global economy.

The Department of Liberal Studies provides the skills necessary for students to:

- Lead others through critical thinking, multi-dimensional problem solving, and issue advocacy;
- Be competitive in a multicultural world increasingly interested in college graduates with interdisciplinary backgrounds;
- Inform public policy creation and decision-making from both the governmental and business perspectives;
- Earn internships in areas such as politics, law and legal affairs, communication, for-profit and non-profit organizations, and museum management;
- Prepare for graduate school and law school opportunities;
- Understand the inalienable connections between liberal education, freedom, and democracy.

Faculty

Acero-Schertzer, Carmen E, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
PHD, University of Miami, 1996

Blomstedt, Larry W, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2008

Bosquez, Joseph J, Visiting Lecturer
Liberal Studies
BS, Texas A&M University, 2011
CERT, National Association of Underwater Instructors, 2011

Brooks, Stuart R, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MA, University of Houston Clear Lake, 2009

Brown, Philip R, Associate Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2000

Capper, David W, Instructional Assistant Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, Baylor University, 2013

Cole, Collier M, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
PHD, University of Houston, 1976

Coleman, Cheryl L, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
JD, Northwestern University School of Law, 1993

Curley, Stephen J, Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, Rice University, 1974

Davis, Carol, Associate Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, University of Southern California, 2007

DiGeorgio-Lutz, JoAnn, Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, University of North Texas, 1993

DiMarco, Frank P, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MS, Long Island University, 1981

Domskey, Darren K, Associate Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, York University, 2006

Echols, Katherine E, Instructional Assistant Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, University of Houston, 2015

Euresti, Vianne R, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
CERT, National Association of Underwater Instructors, 2014
BS, Texas A&M University, 2013
Furth, Brett H, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2015

Galvan Mandujano, Martha C, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
PHD, The University of Oklahoma, 2015

Garza-Horne, Julie A, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MA, University of Houston Clear Lake, 2010

Goodson, Joshua E, Instructional Assistant Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, Texas State University, 2012

Gracia, Pete A, Senior Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MS, University of Houston - Clear Lake, 1991

Haney, Adam D, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MA, Texas A&M University Commerce, 2014

Henderson, Edmund L, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MA, Texas Southern University, 2015

Hufton, Amie J, Instructional Associate Professor
Liberal Studies
MMR, Texas A&M University, 2010
CERT, National Association of Underwater Instructors, 2006

Johnson, Thomas S, Associate Professor Emeritus
Liberal Studies
PHD, The University of Texas at Austin, 1973

Josvoll, Kristin K, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MA, Johns Hopkins University, 2015

Kang, Cong X, Associate Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, The University of Texas at Austin, 1999

Lawhon, David R, Instructional Associate Professor
Liberal Studies
MA, University of Houston at Clear Lake, 2000

Luxemburg, Leon A, Associate Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, Texas A&M University, 1987

Maceo, Debra A, Instructional Professor
Liberal Studies
MS, University of Houston, 1995

Mark, Samuel E, Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2000

McCloud, Daisey, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
PHD, Walden University, 2005

Noack, Laurissa, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MMRM, Texas A&M University, 2008

Nyman, Elizabeth A, Assistant Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, Florida State University, 2010

Oertling, Thomas J, Instructional Assistant Professor
Liberal Studies
MS, Texas A&M University, 1984

Pangemanan, Adelaide P, Instructional Assistant Professor
Liberal Studies
MS, State University of New York at Stony Brook, 2002

Pearl, Frederic B, Associate Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2001

Presswood, Phillip H, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MS, University of Houston at Clear Lake, 2011

Qiu, Lin, Instructional Assistant Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, The University of Alabama, 2006

Ryan, James G, Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, University of Notre Dame, 1981

Slatton, Katie J, Instructional Assistant Professor
Liberal Studies
MED, University of Montevallo, 2003

Suen, Ching-Yun, Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, University of Houston, 1983

Szucs, Joseph, Professor Emeritus
Liberal Studies
PHD, Szeged University in Hungary, 1967

Theis, William D, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
MA, University of Houston, 1988

Traber, Daniel S, Associate Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, University of Houston, 2000

Udoetuk, Mayen, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
BS, Norfolk State University, 2006

Viser, Victor J, Instructional Assistant Professor
Liberal Studies
PHD, Temple University, 1995

Warren, Jesse T, Lecturer
Liberal Studies
PHD, University of Houston at Clear Lake, 2005
DIVE 250 SCUBA Diving I
Credits 3.2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Fundamental academic knowledge and practical application of SCUBA diving practices and theory; introduction to diving tables and diving physiology.
Prerequisite: Must complete a medical statement showing no contraindications to diving, or have a recreational SCUBA diver's physical examination.

DIVE 251 SCUBA Diving II
Credits 3.2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Methods to promote safe, self-reliant diving and improve the diver's comfort, coordination and strength in the water; to build competency in dive planning and organization.
Prerequisite: Must complete a medical statement showing no contraindications to diving, or have a recreational SCUBA diver's physical examination; open water certification from a nationally recognized agency; Divers Alert Network (DAN) insurance or equivalent.

DIVE 330 Rescue Diving
Credits 3.2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Relates skills necessary to perform basic life support, administer dive first aid, evacuate victim, assist and rescue other divers in water; illustrate proper dive planning; practice accident prevention and effective accident management.
Prerequisites: Must complete a medical statement showing no contraindications to diving, or have a recreational SCUBA diver's physical examination; certification as a SDI SCUBA diver or equivalent; Divers Alert Network (DAN) diving accident insurance or equivalent.

DIVE 331 Alternative Diving Technology
Credits 3.2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Illustrates the realities of operating in the scientific, public safety and military diving disciplines; practice real world training scenarios involving multiple aspects of each of the three fields.
Prerequisites: Must complete a medical statement showing no contraindications to diving, or have a recreational SCUBA diver's physical examination (or AAUS physical if rating with AAUS); certification as an Advanced and Rescue Diver or equivalent; Divers Alert Network (DAN) diving accident insurance or equivalent; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

DIVE 357 Dive Leadership – Divemaster
Credits 3.2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Examines divemaster-level dive knowledge, dive leadership theory and application, presentations skills, physical diving skills, logistics and planning, and operational execution; develops a multi-environment capable diving leader.
Prerequisites: Must complete a medical statement showing no contraindications to diving, or have a recreational SCUBA diver’s physical examination; certification as a SDI Advanced SCUBA Diver and SDI SCUBA Rescue Diver or equivalent; 60 varied dives logged; current certifications in First Aid, CPR and Emergency Oxygen Administration; Divers Alert Network (DAN) diving accident insurance or equivalent; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

DIVE 457 Dive Leadership – Instructor
Credits 3.2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Apply effective methods to teach skin and SCUBA diving in compliance with training agency instructional standards; evaluate instructional level dive knowledge, water skills and presentation performance in accordance with training agency teaching standards.
Prerequisites: Recreational SCUBA diver’s medical evaluation; certification as a SCUBA divemaster or equivalent; 100 varied dives logged; current certification in First Aid, CPR and Emergency Oxygen Administration; Divers Alert Network (DAN) diving accident insurance or equivalent; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.
MAST 101 Connections
Credit 1. 1 Lecture Hour.
A first year experience seminar to explore the connections between academic disciplines to develop creative and critical thinking strategies which will increase abilities to implement solutions, refine information literacy skills, and identify the resources available for a successful transition from high school to the university environment. Prerequisite: None.

MAST 265 Elissa Sail Taining I
Credits 3. 1 Lecture Hour. 6 Lab Hours.
Elissa Sail Training I. Fundamentals of seamanship on a late 19th century square-rigged sailing vessel. Students will learn to both sail and care for the 1877 barque ELISSA, operated by the Texas Seaport Museum. Lectures on maritime life supplement physical activity. Prerequisite: Department approval.

MAST 266 Elissa Sail Taining II
Credits 3. 1 Lecture Hour. 7 Lab Hours.
Elissa Sail Training II. Sailing and crewmanship on the 1877 barque ELISSA, operated by the Texas Seaport Museum. Includes sail training at sea. Prerequisite: MAST 265.

MAST 285 Directed Studies
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Lecture Hours.
Individually supervised research or advanced study on restricted area not covered in regular courses.

MAST 289 Special Topics
Credits 1 to 3. 1 to 3 Lecture Hours.
Credit Selected topics in a identified area of maritime studies. May be repeated for credit.

MAST 320 Introduction to Museums and Conservation
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.
Introduction to basic issues related to the conservation, curation, management and presentation of museum collections. Emphasis placed on archaeology and historical collections, or other collections with cultural significance. Basic conservation techniques for materials as well as proper care and store of collections. Museum planning and exhibit design will be discussed. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 321 Industrial Diving Orientation
Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.
Illustrates the realities of operating in the scientific, commercial and military diving disciplines; practice real world training scenarios involving multiple aspects of each of the three fields.

MAST 333 Viking Archaeology and Norse Mythology
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Overview of Viking Age (ca. 800 to 1100 C.E.) in Northern Europe; topics include Norse seafaring, world-view, society, archaeology, religion and cosmology as know from the archaeological and literary record. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 336 Maritime Foreign Policy
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Strategies used by governments to guide international actions; objectives of state leaders in decision making; sources, processes, objectives and outcomes of maritime policy choices. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 340 Museums and the Construction of Identities
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of the cultural construction of identity within the museum context; personal and collective, corporeal and virtual, national and global identities; ways in which those identities are formed and preformed. Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 345 Texas Maritime Culture and History
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
The coastal peoples, maritime history and culture of the Texas Gulf Coast ranging from pre-historic times to the present day; geography’s influence on exploration, resources utilization, development and inland access; Texas ports historic and modern; shipwreck sites and historical texts; La Salle’s La Belle, Texas Navy, Mexican War logistics; Civil War Naval actions, Texas Fisheries, tourism and recreation. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification.

MAST 350 A History of Wooden Ship Construction
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
This course is designed to give undergraduate students an overview of ship construction and possible cultural factors that may influence how a shipwright builds a vessel. Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification and ANTH 316 or ANTH 318.

MAST 352 Crafts of the Maritime World
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
An exploration of various crafts, skills and aesthetic/design used in and supporting the maritime world; hands-on activities and practical experience of various skills and processes, using traditional tools required to put a ship to sea; from carpentry to rope-making, sewing canvas sails to making blocks. Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification.

MAST 354 Ancient Egyptian Seafaring
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Archaeology, iconography and written records of ancient Egypt as they relate to local and international trade by land, river and sea, beginning in Neolithic times (c. 5000 B.C.) to the end of the New Kingdom (c. 1069 B.C.). Prerequisites: ANTH 316; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 356 Material Culture
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Examination of material evidence of human life, from cradles to graves, churches to forts, teapots to landscapes; material culture artifacts, the processes and technologies used to create them and their use in every day life; application to archaeology, museum studies and basic engineering. Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 359 Information Collections Care and Management
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Managing collections in libraries, archives and museums; media and collections storage; digitization and metadata processes; use of writing styles and citations. Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 361 Archaeology of the Pacific
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Overview of the archaeology, history and cultures of the Pacific Rim; emphasizing the cultures of Polynesia, Melanesia, and Micronesia. Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.
MAST 411 International Maritime Culture
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Strategies used in the exploitation of marine, coastal, and island habitats throughout human evolutionary history and the variety and complexity of adaptations in such environments. Classes will be devoted to lectures and group discussions with occasional slide or movie presentations. 
Prerequisites: ANTH 201 or GEOG 201. Senior Classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 425 Thesis and Technical Writing
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Rhetorical techniques for professional expository prose; intertextual argumentation and analysis.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification; ENGL 104 and ENGL 203 or ENGL 210.

MAST 441 Maritime Piracy
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
Research of social, economic, political and cultural aspects of piracy from ancient to modern times; presentation of findings; understanding modern perception of pirates through modern art, literature and movies.
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification and approval of instructor.

MAST 470 Advanced Museum Studies
Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.
The diversity within museums, how each facet interacts with each other, their function to museums as a whole; museum professions and their respective responsibilities, strategies and approaches used in planning, development, and implementation.
Prerequisite: MAST 320.

MAST 480 Honors Seminar in Service Learning
Credit 1. 1 Lecture Hour.
Opportunities for community service through active community participation; includes structured time for reflection; use of skills and knowledge in real-life situations; extend learning beyond the classroom; foster a sense of caring for others.
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification or permission from the instructor and must be a member of the Honors Program.

MAST 481 Seminar in Maritime Studies
Credit 1. 1 Lecture Hour.
This course is intended to provide students with the opportunity to conduct in-depth research on a particular issue, event, period, or people in maritime studies.
Prerequisite: This one-credit hour course is open to senior maritime studies majors or approval of instructor.

MAST 484 Undergraduate Internship
Credits 0 to 6. 0 to 6 Other Hours.
Supervised study in a research or teaching laboratory remote from TAMUG. Student involvement is to consist of real-life learning or research, teaching, management, or a combination of these.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 485 Directed Studies
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Lecture Hours.
Individually supervised research or advanced study on restricted area not covered in regular courses.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 489 Special Topics
Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Lecture Hours.
Selected topics in a identified area of maritime studies. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MAST 491 Research in Maritime Studies
Credits 0 to 4. 0 to 4 Other Hours.
Research conducted under the direction of faculty member in Maritime Studies. May be repeated 2 times for credit. Please see academic advisor in department. Registration in multiple sections of this course is possible within a given semester provided that the per semester credit hour limit is not exceeded.
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification and approval of instructor.

MAST 493 Maritime Studies Travel Experience
Credits 1 to 6. 1 to 6 Lecture Hours.
Combination of classroom and travel emphasizing cultural, archaeological, political and historical aspects of maritime humanities related topics. May be taken two times for credit.
Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.