PENN STATE | ONLINE
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Liberal Arts
Interdisciplinary Degrees
“Our degree programs combine commitments to digital fluency, preparation for a global world, and engagement with the traditional liberal arts values of communication, analytic thinking, ethical decision making, civic engagement, and appreciation for other cultures and other times.”

—Susan Welch
Dean of the College of the Liberal Arts
Professor of Political Science
An education in the liberal arts can prepare students to think critically and communicate well in any business or organization. The liberal arts degrees and curriculum delivered through Penn State World Campus can support your understanding of the wider world in which we live, helping you to create more just and ethical relationships with others and imagine new possibilities.

Our education model allows you to reach your highest academic goal by achieving important milestones along the way. The credits you earn in our undergraduate certificates may transfer to an associate degree, and in turn, the applicable credits you earn to complete an associate degree may transfer to a bachelor’s degree. Your achievement for studying at Penn State World Campus can be almost immediate.
Bachelor of Arts in Letters, Arts, and Sciences

You can customize a Bachelor’s Degree in Letters, Arts, and Sciences to fit your area of interest. Our 120-credit online program focuses on developing your skills in communication and analysis along with your leadership abilities.

You will work closely with an adviser to design a program that creates intellectual depth in an area of study that is unique to your interests, but also aligns with the theoretical foundation of a liberal arts degree.

The goal of the Bachelor’s Degree in Letters, Arts, and Sciences is to provide a broad education that introduces methods of analysis used in the liberal arts disciplines. However, it can also prepare you for the complex social, cultural, and organizational issues that you may face in most leadership positions. The degree is an excellent choice for anyone, but is particularly suitable if you can bring real-world experience to your studies.

Who Should Apply?

• adults who have not earned an undergraduate degree
• adults who wish to complete a degree
• adults who wish to customize a degree to fit their career goals

Career Possibilities

• government agencies
• for-profit organizations
• education
• health care
• business

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—Denise Zeiler, Bachelor of Arts in Letters, Arts, and Sciences
The 60-credit online Associate in Arts in Letters, Arts, and Sciences at Penn State is a multidisciplinary, student-designed major that allows you to use elective courses to enhance your learning experience in business, history, or math.

- 24 major course credits
- 21 General Education credits
- 15 elective credits

A Letters, Arts, and Sciences Associate Degree provides a general background compatible with various career opportunities. This degree may be used independently or can be used as a stepping-stone for one of the College of the Liberal Arts’ bachelor’s degrees.

—Judge Worsham
Associate Degree in Letters, Arts, and Sciences
The 123-credit online Bachelor of Arts in Law and Society is a multidisciplinary program intended to provide you with a greater understanding of law, legal principles, and the legal systems of the United States.

This program is ideal if you have an interest in law enforcement agencies, law offices, labor organizations, regulatory agencies, public policy, or social service agencies’ court services—or if you deal with legal topics in your small business or are preparing to go to law school.

Typical courses include historical and contemporary issues in law, critical thinking, writing, human behavior, and legal institutions.

Who Should Apply?
- people who have to work with legal issues as part of their job duties
- students planning to attend law school
- students aspiring to attend graduate school
- law enforcement and corrections officers
- community service professionals
- members of the armed services who want to enroll in a degree-completion program

Career Possibilities
- business
- public service
- social services
- legal administration
- nonprofit organization
- law or graduate school

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“I live overseas but no matter that. I have been an active contributor to the Penn State spirit. I’m an ambassador for the World Campus.”

—José Llompart Quiros
Bachelor of Science in Integrated Social Sciences

Employers now seek people who can innovate, create, and synthesize information, as well as develop systems and apply theory to practice—and practice to theory. This 120-credit online interdisciplinary degree can help you acquire these skills that are applicable across many professional fields and specializations. And if you need only a few credits to complete your bachelor’s degree, or if you want to complete it with a particular focus on the social sciences, this program could be well suited for you.

The course of study draws upon core social science disciplines, including anthropology, communication arts and sciences, economics, political science, psychology, and sociology. The final capstone portfolio will show how you have integrated and synthesized major themes explored in the curriculum.

Upon completion of this program, you should be able to understand in-depth the interrelationships between the social sciences and use your knowledge to communicate effectively, think critically, and apply social science perspectives to society’s problems. In addition, you should be able to formulate, debate, and articulate arguments about social phenomena, as well as recognize and solve ethical dilemmas in social contexts.

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The Value of the Learning Portfolio

The interdisciplinary degree programs value out-of-classroom learning. You are encouraged to share your rich learning experiences in the Experiential Learning Portfolio course (L A 201W). Internships provide you with opportunities to integrate your knowledge into real-world experiences. You can join other students from interdisciplinary majors to intern in embassies, law offices, foundations, corporations, businesses, schools, government agencies, and community agencies—blurring the lines between the classroom and the community.

A Military-Friendly University

We appreciate the sacrifices that our active-duty military personnel, veterans, and military dependents make as they serve our country. As a military or veteran student, you are eligible for services and benefits unique to members of the armed forces and their dependents. Through our commitment to increasing access to education for military personnel, veterans, and military family members, we have aligned our online programs, student support services, policies, and procedures to address your unique needs. To help you understand and take advantage of these services, the Penn State World Campus Military Team can work with you to help you merge education goals with your military obligations and benefits.
Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Penn State World Campus the best choice for me?

Flexibility and convenience:
Penn State knows that adults need flexible and convenient learning options in order to continue meeting their professional and personal commitments. You can take courses when and where you please, earning your degree at your own pace. Even the internships have been carefully created to allow you to fulfill the requirements in your own community setting.

Reputation:
Penn State is universally regarded as one of the finest educational institutions in the United States. Putting a Penn State degree or certificate on your résumé is a great way to broaden your career options and prove to current and potential employers that you are a well-educated professional.

What types of student support are available?

As a distance education pioneer, Penn State has developed a nationally recognized support system for students who are geographically removed from campus. With our team of academic advisers, technical support experts, customer service representatives, and Penn State instructors, we’ll help you get where you want to go successfully—through distance education.

Can I obtain financial aid to pay for my courses?

Penn State realizes that one of the biggest challenges of returning to school is the cost. That’s why our advisers have been trained to help you make the most of the financial aid options and opportunities available to you.

To obtain additional information, visit worldcampus.psu.edu

“For someone who was terrified of having to go to school online, I personally would prefer not to get my education any other way. It allows you a certain level of freedom where you can take care of your obligations but, at the same time, get your education at your own pace.”

—Allyson Deloatch, Bachelor of Arts in Letters, Arts, and Sciences
Why Penn State?

➢ **Online Delivery Experience—Penn State World Campus**

In 1892, Penn State founded one of the nation’s first correspondence courses. Over the years, our distance education options have evolved to include technology-enhanced learning experiences, culminating in the foundation of Penn State World Campus in 1998. As a pioneer in distance learning, we have significant experience in understanding the needs of off-campus students.

You can experience courses that are:

- designed around best practices in online delivery
- taught by faculty with experience teaching in an online environment
- created using technology to support successful learning outcomes, not just convenience

➢ **An Exceptional Student/Alumni Body**

Whether you take our courses online or in a traditional classroom, you become a “Penn Stater” who is part of:

- an institution with more than 150 years of excellence in teaching, research, and service
- a global community of exceptional adult learners from all 50 states, more than 40 countries, and 7 continents
- a proud worldwide network of more than 645,000 alumni, and, upon your graduation, you may join the largest alumni association in the world, with more than 177,000 members

To obtain additional information, visit [worldcampus.psu.edu](http://worldcampus.psu.edu)
Begin Your Application Today

Choose your program of interest:

- Letters, Arts, and Sciences—worldcampus.psu.edu/las
- Law and Society—worldcampus.psu.edu/lws
- Integrated Social Sciences—worldcampus.psu.edu/isc

• Click the “Apply Now” button to access your application

Application Materials

• online application and fee
• official high school or GED transcripts
• official transcript from each college or university attended
• TOEFL or IELTS score, if applicable

Please visit our admissions website for a more detailed description of the requirements and application procedure:
worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions

Did You Know?

➢ In 2016, for the second consecutive year, U.S. News & World Report ranked Penn State World Campus as No. 1 in the country for having the best online bachelor’s programs.

➢ Penn State credits and degrees earned online are identical to those earned on campus, with no mention of distance or online education.

➢ Our online courses involve frequent interactions between students and with instructors.

➢ Recruiters in a Wall Street Journal survey ranked Penn State as No. 1 for producing the best-prepared, most well-rounded graduates.