

Associate of Science in Liberal Arts

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Program Mission

A strong educational foundation is vital for reaching your career goals. Knowledge and skills in a variety of areas can help you become a well-rounded professional. The online Associate of Science in Liberal Arts is designed to develop your critical-thinking skills and begin your journey to higher education.

Program Purpose and Goals

The Associate of Science in Liberal Arts exists to provide a biblically-anchored, affordable, and accessible college education to Grace College students in a fully-online format.

Those learners who complete the Associate of Science in Liberal Arts program of Grace College will be evaluated in three domains:

Discovering Self – Graduates completing the Associate Degree in Liberal Arts program will identify and examine (assess) God-given abilities and gifts to maximize their potential.

Relationship to Others – Graduates completing the Associate Degree in Liberal Arts program will examine and interpret information that expands their knowledge of their community and the world.

Demonstrate Knowledge – Graduates completing the Associate Degree in Liberal Arts program will interpret and integrate relevant content to be successful in the pursuit of professional endeavors or in order to further develop themselves by continuing their education.

Program Description

This program allows students to complete a 60-hour Associate of Science degree in Liberal Arts. This degree can easily lead to the completion of a bachelor's degree through our various degree-completion program offerings. ***Schedule and Delivery Format***

The A.S. in Liberal Arts degree is delivered in a fully online format. The online format enables students to work full time and take 8-week-long courses. The format is flexible enough that students can complete their course assignments around their own specific weekly schedule.

Technology Requirements

Information regarding the technology and user-skill requirements are available on the Office of Information Technology page of the institution's website:

<https://online.grace.edu/admissions/technology-requirements/>

Admission Requirements

1. Applicants to the A.S. Liberal Arts degree must submit their high school transcript or college transcripts. The high school transcript is not necessary if the student was previously enrolled in a higher learning institution; then, only the college transcript is necessary.
2. Minimum 2.0 GPA
3. Students may transfer in up to 30 credit hours. Students should contact the School of Professional and Online Education for further details about transfer credits.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Grace College and Seminary is a private, not-for-profit, faith-based exempt organization as described in Section 501 (c) 3 of the Internal Revenue code. In compliance with applicable federal and state laws, Grace College and Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability in its administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs and activities, or in employment.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the Notice of Nondiscrimination:

Carrie Yocum, Title IX Coordinator and VP of Administration and Compliance
Grace College and Seminary
McClain 102
1 Lancer Way
Winona Lake, IN 46590
yocumca@grace.edu
574-372-5100 x6491

Inquiries may also be addressed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights at 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-1100.

Note about the Catalog

Each program at the institution maintains a catalog in which basic academic information related to the program's goals, expectations, admission, policies, accreditation, and other pertinent information is described. This applies to undergraduate, non-traditional (e.g., online, adult degree completion), graduate, and seminary programs.

Grace makes every attempt to provide information that, at the time of publication, most accurately describes the policies, procedures, and requirements of the institution and its individual programs.

The provisions of the academic catalogs are, therefore, to be considered a guide and not to be regarded as a contract between any student and the institution. Course content and institutional policies governing admissions, tuition, and campus life are under constant review and revision.

Grace reserves the right to change any statement contained within the catalog at any time and without prior notice including academic provisions, policies, or requirements (e.g., modifications to classes, fees, personnel, academic policies, and programs) and the right to withdraw or amend the content of any courses described in the catalogs as may be required or desirable by circumstances. Grace will, however, make every attempt to give students reasonable prior notice to changes in policies and other catalog content when possible and rarely implements policy changes during an academic year.

Courses of study for non-traditional, graduate, and seminary programs and check sheets for undergraduate students may undergo revisions; however, these are implemented typically in the fall of the new academic year.

All students are expected to be familiar with the catalog(s) associated with their selected program(s) of study with the understanding that policies and procedures of their selected program(s) may change from year-to-year. The current year's catalog should, in most situations, be considered the catalog applicable to the student.

In some programs, students are asked to acknowledge in writing their receipt of the program's catalog.

Changes to an academic catalog that are necessary following the start of the fall semester will be noted as an addendum to the original catalog.

Archived catalogs are maintained on the institution's website.

It is each student's responsibility to schedule regular meetings with his or her academic advisor and to be knowledgeable about institutional requirements, academic regulations, and calendar deadlines specified in the catalogs and academic program publications. Students should read the catalog carefully and consult with an advisor to determine how these policies relate to their individual circumstances.

Contact

For additional information about admission requirements or course enrollment and completion, please contact the staff at the Grace College School of Professional and Online Education at 888-249-0533 or email onlineadmissions@grace.edu.

CURRICULUM

An associate degree is comprised of 60 hours.

All courses are designed and approved by the Grace College faculty and are comparable to those taught at the main Grace College campus. Courses are taught by Grace faculty or Grace-approved instructors.

BHS 2520 Leadership Principles of Development
BIB 1050 Exploring the Bible
BIB 2010 Scripture and Interpretation
MGT 3405 Organizational Behavior
COM 1100 Public Speaking

COM 2130	Interpersonal Communications
ECN 3000	Consumer Economics
ENG 1100	Effective Writing
FYE 1000	First-Year Foundations
GEO 1010	World Geography
HIS 1380	Contemporary America and the World
HUM 2100	Creative Arts and Culture
HUM 3500	Liberal Arts Capstone
ISM 1200	Integration of Software Tools
MAT 1120	College Algebra
MAT 1185	Quantitative Reasoning
PHI 3010	Christianity and Critical Thinking
PSY 1100	Introduction to Psychology
SCI 2030	Faith, Science, and Reason
SOC 1100	Introduction to Sociology

COURSES

FYE 1000 First-Year Foundations

This is a practical, academic course which is intended to prepare new students to engage in three key areas of their first-year transition into college: Understanding who we are, understanding who they are, and understanding our Call. This course is designed to make their years at Grace the best experience possible. This course will help students discover their God-given strengths, navigate through current college issues, and help the student better understand what makes a Christian liberal arts education valuable. It will also introduce students to the value of service in the local community and introduce students to prospective departments and faculty within the institution, assisting in the selection process of choosing a major and a career. Three hours.

ENG 1100 Effective Writing

This course is designed to help you develop and hone the skills necessary for clear and persuasive writing at the college level and beyond. The primary focus of the course is scholarly writing, though we will also explore other genres such as the personal expressive narrative, rhetorical analysis, and position paper. In particular, this course will help you engage complex issues and competing points of view while articulating and supporting an argument using appropriate sources.

BIB1050 Exploring the Bible

This course provides a survey of the biblical story in its progressive unfolding of the history of redemption within the framework of creation, fall, redemption, consummation. Attention is given to the literary, historical, cultural, and theological dimensions of Scripture as it offers a meta-narrative or "worldview-story." Emphasis is placed on the unity of Scripture as it reaches its fullness and fulfillment in Christ, while at the same time recognizing key developments and differences between the various chapters of the biblical storyline. Three hours.

COM 1100 Public Speaking

A study of communication theory as applicable to public speaking. Students explore the components of an effective speech, as well as current applications of speaking skills. Emphasis will be placed on practicing and displaying these skills in a laboratory setting. Three hours.

BIB2010 Scripture and Interpretation

Foundational principles of effective Bible study will be applied for personal study and small group Bible study leadership. Observational skills of the English text will be developed through hands-on activities and assignments. Hermeneutical principles will be applied to various biblical genres with the goal of equipping the learner to interpret the text based on its historical/cultural and literary context.

Application of the meaning of the text for spiritual formation will be emphasized as well. Three hours.

MAT 1120 College Algebra

Course description: Topics include algebra operations, functions, graphing, polynomials, exponentials, sequences and series. Applications will include least squares analysis, finance, permutations, and expected value. Three credit hours.

GEO 1010 World Geography

This course is designed to give students a general synopsis of the cultural and physical elements of human habitats, the significance of the elements of the earth to humans, and the use of maps and their importance. The course will specifically focus on human geography from a social science perspective, while integrating natural science concepts from the physical standpoint. Three hours.

PSY 1100 Introduction to Psychology

An introduction to psychology as the study of human behavior. Basic principles of psychology will be explored including the process of learning, memory, perception, sensation, motivation, and emotion. Personal and social aspects of human development will be emphasized. Three hours.

HUM 2100 Creative Arts and Culture

Through a global, thematic approach, this course explores the human phenomenon of creativity. Posing the question "Why creative arts?" this course focuses on exploring how culture and creativity reflect each other within the realm of visual and performing arts. Through themes of survival, religion, the state, and self, this course examines artists' roles within cultures, the way art is made or performed, how meaning is derived, and how art is used, kept or destroyed. Required experiential activities for engaging in visual and performing arts include such things as attending museum exhibits, concerts or theatrical productions. Three hours.

BHS 2520 Leadership Principles and Development

This course has been designed to expose students to a variety of leadership principles and models used in business, ministries, educational institutions, and other organizations. This course was originally designed by Learning House, Inc. and has been modified by Grace College instructors over the past 5-6 years. In this course, students will interact with and engage the content in order to think critically, apply theory to past, present, and future leadership opportunities, and synthesize a personal, yet research-based approach to various leadership opportunities. Three hours.

SCI 2030 Faith, Science, and Reason

Faith, Science, and Reason is designed to assist the student in (1) demonstrating the scope and magnitude

of science and mathematics; (2) why we study these subjects; (3) knowing the limitations of these subjects; (4) where the Christian fits and operates within the scientific paradigm; and (5) how a Christian

can incorporate their faith and reason within the scientific enterprise and how to use it as a productive platform when communicating to those of different worldviews. Three hours.

MAT 1185 Quantitative Reasoning

This is a course on mathematical applications which uses algebra, logic, networks, and other mathematical concepts to study and model the world around us. Topics include Fibonacci numbers, the golden ratio, voting theory, and networks. Three credit hours.

SOC 1100 Introduction to Sociology

An introductory study of humans functioning in society. Basic principles of sociology will be experienced including organization, structure, strata, and problems in American society. Emphasis will be placed on observational techniques that will help to develop a spirit of active participation in the world. Three hours.

COM 2130 Interpersonal Communication

An examination of the process of communication and interpersonal relationships focusing on the role of the self, people perception, the environment, and the interaction of interpersonal orientations. Personal skills in resolving conflict and stimulating friendships are examined through exposure to theory, practical exercises, and the analysis of experiences in current relationships. Three hours.

PHI3010 Christianity and Critical Thinking

This course will critically examine the beliefs and presuppositions of philosophers and philosophies over the centuries and their impact on modern Christianity and the Christian Worldview. A critical examination will begin by utilizing the lens of Scripture as the basis of truth in evaluating these beliefs. The application of that examination will be centered on the reasons for God as well as the nature of suffering and evil as learners are encouraged to formulate a biblically sound Christian Worldview. Three credit hours.

ISM 1200 Integration of Software Tools

This course is designed to introduce students to some of the programs within the Microsoft Office 2016 Suite and use them to be productive in their classes and future jobs. Introductory to advanced skills will be taught in Word 2016, Excel 2016, and PowerPoint 2016. If the students desire, this class will help prepare them to take the Microsoft Office Specialist Exams. Students will be expected to fully engage in the class by performing the assigned activities and exercises. This class is full of hands-on assignments where students will need to problem-solve while using the programs. Such work can include searching the program help files, researching internet resources, or asking the instructor whenever needed. No matter what field a student is studying, knowing these programs will give them a greater chance to find jobs and advance in their positions. Three hours.

MGT 3405 Organizational Behavior

This course deals with human behavior in organizations. Conceptual frameworks, case discussions, and skill-oriented activities are applied to course topics which include: motivation, learning and development, group dynamics, leadership, communication, power and influence, change, diversity, organizational design, and culture. Class sessions and assignments are intended to help participants acquire skills and analytic concepts to improve organizational relationships and effectiveness. The course also examines selected personnel functions in an organization including job analysis, recruitment, and hiring, training, performance appraisal, and compensation. Three hours.

HUM 3500 Liberal Arts Capstone

This capstone is the final course for the Associate of Science program. The course seeks to integrate the concepts, techniques, and knowledge within the course work of the liberal arts program. Students select an area of interest related to their academic studies, and future goals

for continued education or employment to create a research project. The project will be comprehensive in nature demonstrating their knowledge of the program outcomes.

ECN 3000 Consumer Economics Consumer Economics is a course designed to prepare students to understand the economic system from a Biblical perspective and how it affects individuals as consumers, producers, and citizens. Students will integrate knowledge skills and practices required for management of resources in a technologically expanding global economy. Real world topics covered will include income money management spending and credit as well as saving and investing. Core skills in decision making problem solving critical thinking goal setting management of multiple roles and using technology are integrated into the course content. Three hours.

HIS 1380 Contemporary America and the World

This course is a topical approach to the cultural history of the United States from the end of the Second World War to the present, with special emphasis on America's role in global affairs. Students will not only gain a broad understanding of America's place in recent world events but also a specialized knowledge of various relevant topics and their historical context. Topics covered in this class have included the Cold War, the 1960s, American evangelicalism, and terrorism. Three hours.