

College of Arts and Letters

The College of Arts and Letters is committed to the goal of nurturing humanists and artists, and of providing a broad liberal arts education to all Cal State L.A. students. Its seven departments and two interdisciplinary programs offer a variety of learning opportunities, from major, minor, and certificate programs to general education and elective courses in the humanities and visual and performing arts. The College's co- and extra-curricular activities provide both the University and off-campus communities with opportunities for cultural enrichment, production, and participation. These include art exhibits; musical, dance, and theatrical performances; and lectures and readings—all by students and faculty as well as distinguished scholars, writers, and artists. There are also numerous student organizations devoted to cultural, creative, and intellectual pursuits. Dedicated to ethnic and cultural diversity, with nationally recognized faculty and programs, and with students who have garnered numerous awards, the College of Arts and Letters strives to be the heart and soul of the University.

Students in the College may pursue a variety of undergraduate and graduate degree programs that offer opportunities to study a wide range of subjects, from animation, broadcasting, dance, and design to creative writing, the classics, and voice. Its seven departments are Art, Communication Studies (including separate programs in Speech Communication and Radio/Television Broadcasting), English, Modern Languages and Literatures, Music, Philosophy, and Theatre Arts and Dance. The interdisciplinary Liberal Studies program offers the Bachelor of Arts degree in two options: a General Option and a Multiple Subject Matter Option, which prepares students for the elementary teaching credential. Students may consolidate various Asia-related courses across campus into an Asian Studies minor in the Asian and Asian American Studies program. The Multiple Subject Matter Program is also offered through the Philosophy Department. Students wishing to pursue a high school teaching career may prepare for the Single Subject credential through degree programs in the following departments: Art, English, Communication Studies (for the English credential), Modern Languages and Literatures (for French, Japanese, Spanish), and Music. The Music Department offers both the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music degrees. The Master of Arts degree is offered in Art, Communication Studies, English, French, Music, Philosophy, Spanish, and Theatre Arts. Students may also choose programs leading to the Master of Fine Arts in Art or the Master of Music degree. In addition to minor programs in all the major subjects listed above, students may also minor in Chinese (Modern Languages and Literatures Department), Classics (Philosophy Department), Comparative Linguistics (Liberal Studies Program), Creative Writing (English Department), and Women's Studies (Liberal Studies Program).

The departments in the College offer a rich menu of opportunities for nurturing and showcasing student talent and for experiencing the best in presentations by professional artists and distinguished scholars. The Fine Arts Gallery presents exhibitions of artwork by established professional artists as well as faculty and students, while the student-run exhibition space, COMA Gallery, presents rotating exhibitions of student artwork. The Music Department offers an extensive program of musical events every year, from faculty recitals and group performances to individual student recitals. There are vocal and instrumental groups for every musical inclination, from the Brass Ensemble and Chamber Singers to the Latin-Jazz Ensemble and Symphonic Band; each group performs several times a year both on-and off-campus. For the past five years, the Anderson Quartet has been in residence in the department. The Department of Theatre Arts and Dance offers comprehensive programs in play and dance production and children's theatre. The University Dance Ensemble offers the opportunity for students to perform, choreograph, design costumes, design lighting, and compose sound for dance. There are several performances each year ranging from mini-concerts to full productions, and the

latter have been well reviewed in the *Los Angeles Times*. The department also presents six or more theatrical productions during the year, including faculty and student directed workshops and major productions. One of the full-scale productions is the Teatro Universitario en Español, a joint effort with the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures that offers students the opportunity to participate in the staging of plays in Spanish and English. Through the Communication Studies Department, students may join the award-winning Forensics Teams or help produce the *University Times*, whose editors have established an outstanding record and received top awards and national scholarships. The departments of English and Modern Languages and Literatures also produce literary magazines for students to publish both creative and academic writing in English and other languages. The English Department is the home of the American Literature Association, a national coalition of author societies devoted to the study of American writers. Faculty members in the Department of Communication Studies edit the prestigious scholarly journals *Text and Performance Quarterly* and *Journal of Film and Video*. A full program of distinguished speakers (sponsored by the departments of Philosophy, English, Communication Studies, and Modern Languages and Literatures) provides the entire campus community the opportunity to hear and exchange views with eminent scholars, writers, poets, and critics. The Chinese and Japanese Studies Centers are affiliated with the Modern Languages and Literatures Department, and promote the study and understanding of Chinese and Japanese culture.

The College of Arts and Letters is committed to academic excellence in the arts and humanities. Through its numerous programs, the College prepares students for professional success through a liberal arts education. A broad foundation in intellectual, philosophical, and cultural inquiry allows our diverse student body to undertake personal development and to achieve effective participation in a democratic society.