Undergraduate Majors
- Bilingual Journalism
- Communication Arts+
- Criminal Justice
- English Language and Literature#
- Fine Arts+
- Global Studies
- Graphic Arts and Design
- History+
- International Studies+
- Medical Humanities
- Music+
- Music Education
- Philosophy+
- Political Science+
- Psychology++
- Social Science#
- Sociology+
- Spanish##+
- Studio Art
- Theology+
- Writing and Publishing

Undergraduate Minors
- Film Studies
- Gender Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Life Span Services
- Religious Studies
- Social Work

Graduate Program
- Master of Science in Clinical Psychology

# Teacher certification available
+ Also available as a minor
We are Benedictine

Benedictine University is more than just a place to educate the mind. At Benedictine, we believe in developing the whole person – academically, socially and spiritually.

Benedictine is a mosaic of people, religions, faiths and philosophies. We believe that by bringing together people from a variety of backgrounds to live, work and play, we better prepare students to participate in an increasingly global society.

At Benedictine, we value each individual, and we do all we can to ensure the success of every student personally and professionally. But while we respect the uniqueness of each person, we search for the commonality in all people.

At Benedictine, we believe that by unlocking those things we share, we find our differences are quite small.

For more information, visit www.ben.edu/arts
The College of Liberal Arts

Creativity. Excels.

A well-balanced study of the arts, humanities and social sciences combined with a practical, yet innovative way of looking at the world — that is what we promise our students. Our dedicated and accomplished faculty and contemporary programs build upon our Benedictine values and heritage of academic excellence to prepare students for entry into any number of fields through which they can critically affect their local communities and the world at large.

Among the skills that most companies value in their employees are communication, analytic, flexibility, leadership and teamwork – qualities that an education in the liberal arts can impart.

A liberal arts education is inherently broad and diverse. Choosing courses from many disciplines provides students with knowledge across a broad spectrum of subjects and helps them select certain areas for further study.

A liberal arts degree prepares students for hundreds of careers, their choices limited only by their imagination and willingness to work. A liberal arts degree can open the door to top graduate and professional schools, laying the foundation for a career in law, government, business, media, the sciences, the arts or education.

Why choose the College of Liberal Arts at Benedictine University?

Thousands of reasons.

For more information, visit www.ben.edu/arts
The Department of Communication Arts at Benedictine offers undergraduate programs in Bilingual Journalism, Communication Arts, Film Studies (minor only), Fine Arts, Graphic Arts and Design, Studio Art and Writing and Publishing taught by some of the finest teachers, writers and artists in the Chicago metropolitan area.
Communication Arts

Facilitating. Understanding.

Communication is the social interaction of giving and receiving information for the purpose of fostering understanding and facilitating social connection. It allows the expression of a shared set of physical, emotional and psychological needs. Through communication, meanings are created and relationships and cultural patterns are revealed.

The Department of Communication Arts at Benedictine University seeks to further the study and practice of communication across a broad range of mechanisms including personal interactions, public discourse, mass media and art. The department also seeks to create and promote an awareness of communication’s growing role in an increasingly global society.

A student who graduates with a degree in a communications-related area can pursue a career in advertising, broadcasting, journalism, public relations, web design or graphic arts. Communication majors also have success in fields such as business, education, government and law.

For more information, visit www.ben.edu/arts
History, Philosophy and Religious Studies

Critical Thinking.

Students who envision a future in law, education, business, government, medicine or other field that requires the ability to think critically and communicate effectively will benefit from the broad liberal arts education provided by the Department of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies.

The majors offered by this department in Global Studies, History, Philosophy, Social Science and Theology help students develop critical skills such as analysis, evaluation and synthesis. They train the mind to think clearly, organize ideas logically and to draw reasonable, workable and justifiable conclusions. Students investigate ethical principles and confront classic questions regarding the nature of the human person, and address the historical and contemporary social issues that define our reality.

Students are also confronted with the questions posed by an increasingly global society which is reflected by today’s modern workplace, where sensitivity and awareness to other peoples and cultures is one of the most significant issues facing employers and employees.

Minors are offered in Latin American Studies and Religious Studies.

For more information, visit www.ben.edu/arts
The Theology major is designed for the lay person who wishes a deeper understanding of the application of Catholic theology to the great questions of human life. The curriculum addresses the need for educated, aware Catholics in any field who are able to think theologically about politics, the economy, science, the family and community.
Language and Literature

*Breaking down the barriers between people.*

If communication is the doorway to fostering understanding and facilitating connection between different peoples, then the study of language and literature is the key that unlocks that door. By studying language and literature, we explore the foundation upon which cultures are built.

The Department of Language and Literature provides students with an opportunity to understand, appreciate, experience and compare cultures and cultural expressions of diverse societies, including their own through majors in English Language and Literature, Spanish, and a minor in Gender Studies. Our programs and courses prepare students to live in an increasingly multicultural world and help them recognize the close relationship between language and culture.

By studying language and literature, students also develop their analytical abilities, oral and written communication skills and awareness of the literary legacy of diverse cultures and traditions.

For more information, visit www.ben.edu/arts
Music

Music sounds better with you.

Music evokes emotion, stirs memories and even inspires action. Guided by nationally and internationally respected faculty, Benedictine music students are exposed to a variety of musical disciplines including pedagogy, theory, performance, technology and history.

Our strength in chamber music and small ensembles and the opportunity to participate in a number of choral and instrumental ensembles provide students with a base for artistic and intellectual growth. Benedictine’s Bachelor of Arts in Music Education is a comprehensive program of study that will fulfill all the requirements needed for certification as a K-12 music educator in Illinois.

The Bachelor of Arts in Music trains students to perform or pursue graduate studies in music scholarship, performance and composition. Students will be able to produce their own concerts, develop private studios and pursue their career aspirations with skill and confidence. The University offers a minor in Music and extracurricular activities such as the Benedictine PEP Band.

For more information, visit www.ben.edu/arts
The Benedictine University Artist-in-Residence Program brings Chicago-area performers in theater, arts and music to the Benedictine campus to share their experiences with students, faculty and staff members.
The Center for Civic Leadership (CCL), established by former Illinois Attorney General Jim Ryan and the Political Science department, prepares students for leadership roles in public service and as world citizens by sponsoring seminars and symposia led by prominent public figures.
Political Science

Commitment.
Citizenship.

Political Science is the study of the theory and practice of politics, the description and analysis of political systems, and the investigation of political behavior. Employing quantitative and qualitative methodology, Political Science students seek to understand and explain human behavior in a uniquely human system.

Political Science majors inquire into the interdependence of political and economic institutions, policies, problems and solutions. They study emerging markets and their democratization movements. They explore the challenges and opportunities related to ethnic strife, nationalism, and the redistribution of economic and military power.

Students also gain a better understanding of the concept of citizenship and commitment to service, and develop writing and research ability and critical thinking essential for success in any career choice. They acquire the knowledge, skills and values to serve as active citizens and leaders in their communities, their country and the world at large.

International Studies majors learn about the political and economic aspects of globalization while applying a global perspective to real world situations.

The trend toward a merging of financial, trade, cultural and political processes increases the need for emerging citizens and professionals to have international knowledge and understanding.

For more information, visit www.ben.edu/arts
Psychology and Sociology

Understanding human behavior.

Psychology and Sociology share an interest in the study of social interaction, but approach the subject from different perspectives. The psychologist examines how we perceive and act upon the world, whereas the sociologist studies how people create a complex social world and how that world then constrains or facilitates action.

Psychology students learn the principles of psychology, statistics and research methods while gaining practical experience in clinical and experimental laboratories. A student who chooses to pursue a degree in Sociology learns the principles of sociology statistics, research methods as well as how people organize themselves and behave in society through classroom work and a field placement at an off-campus agency.

Both disciplines lead to many and varied career options. A Sociology degree can be a pathway to a career in social work, criminal justice or life span services, while a degree in Psychology can be the basis for advanced graduate work and a successful career in clinical psychology, counseling, experimentation or sales.

The Criminal Justice major provides a well-rounded, liberal arts academic preparation for students who wish to work in the areas of law enforcement, probation and parole, the judicial system or attend law school to become a criminal law attorney.

Minors are offered in Life Span Services and Social Work.

For more information, visit www.ben.edu/arts
To prepare students to write well in their varied professions, the Writing Program offers a research writing course with four specialized emphases: Research Writing in Science; Research Writing in Social Science; Research Writing in Literature; and Research Writing in Business.
Interdisciplinary Programs

Creating well-rounded students for a changing world.

The College of Liberal Arts is home to the Core Curriculum, the Scholars and International Programs, a major in Medical Humanities and a certificate program in Environmental Studies.

The Core Curriculum prepares students for a lifetime of continued learning, a holistic understanding of human knowledge, and active and responsible citizenship. Designed for academically gifted undergraduate students, the Scholars Program provides an intensive immersion in the liberal arts tradition.

International study opportunities are available to students through Benedictine partner schools around the globe, while the Medical Humanities major integrates the fields of humanities, social science and the arts and their application to medical education and practice.

Students with an interest in the environment can earn a certificate in Environmental Studies by choosing specific environmental-focused courses from a number of disciplines and learning about the scientific, humanistic, educational and business aspects of sustainability.

For more information, visit www.ben.edu/arts
Master of Science in Clinical Psychology
Benedictine offers a Master of Science in Clinical Psychology, which includes all the courses required by Illinois for applicants to take the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) examinations and serves as an excellent foundation for future doctoral study.
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Political Science+
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