

# HUTCHINS SCHOOL OF LIBERAL STUDIES

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## Overview

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A nationally recognized leader in the movement for reform in higher education, the Hutchins School has maintained its commitment to innovative pedagogy and interdisciplinary inquiry into vital issues of modern concern since its inception in 1969. The program is designed to encourage students to take themselves seriously as readers, writers, and thinkers capable of continuing their own educational process throughout their lives.

The Hutchins School is an interdisciplinary school within Sonoma State University offering lower-division students an alternative General Education program that integrates material from the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences. It offers upper-division students a similarly integrated major in Liberal Studies leading to a B.A. degree. It offers a multiple subject preparation program for pre-credential students, and a blended program leading to a B.A. and multiple subject teaching credential in four years. A minor in integrative studies is also offered.

The Hutchins School has several distinctive features:

- Courses organized around themes or questions, rather than according to the traditional division of subject matter into disciplines (Please see course descriptions below.);
  - Encouragement to engage in independent study projects and study abroad programs;
  - Internship/field study to bridge academic studies with career placements and community service; and
  - An opportunity for student-instructed courses.
- Hutchins is also committed to offering students opportunities for contributing to and learning from local communities. Some seminars include a service learning component which enhances the reading, writing, and discussion of shared materials through applied service projects. These seminars provide hands-on experience for students while also creating valuable partnerships with local community organizations. Through service, Hutchins students can draw connections between what they discuss in seminar with how they live their lives, enabling them to integrate critical thinking, active participation, and careful reflection.
- Students in other majors may complete a Hutchins School integrative studies minor to help place their disciplines in a wider intellectual context.

## Careers in Liberal Studies

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Hutchins School graduates do especially well in teaching, counseling, social services, law, media, journalism, and many types of businesses. They have entered graduate programs in fields as diverse as American studies, anthropology, business, counseling, English, history, law, library science, management, medieval studies, physics, religion, sociology, and theatre arts.

Students seeking a teaching credential in elementary or early childhood education can enroll in the Track II: Subject Matter Preparation for the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential. If they prefer an accelerated track, they can enroll in the Track III: Blended Program, which allows them to complete their B.A. degree and complete all requirements for the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential in four years. Students may transfer to another program at the end of any semester without loss of credit successfully completed in the Hutchins program.

Whatever their particular interests, all Hutchins students are challenged to read perceptively; to think both critically and imaginatively; to express their thoughts and feelings in writing, speech, and other media; and to make productive use of dialogue and discussion. By developing these skills, students will be ready to take a position in a democratic society as thoughtful, active citizens conversant in a broad range of disciplinary perspectives. Through seminar discussions, essays, research, and other assignments, students will be prepared for a wide variety of careers in which creative, independent thinking and effective written and oral communication are the prime requisites.

## Admission

In general, the Hutchins School accepts students at the freshman or junior level for fall admission only, although exceptions are made depending on space availability. When applying to the University, all students seeking admission to the Hutchins School should list Liberal Studies/Hutchins, Hutchins School as their major (select code 49015 on paper application).

Students applying as freshmen must have a grade point average of 3.00. Students seeking admission into the Hutchins Blended Program as freshmen must test into college level English and math (through passage of the ELM and EPT or their equivalent).

Students already at Sonoma State seeking admission into the Hutchins program must file a separate Hutchins application form by February 15 for the fall semester and by October 1 for the spring semester. Application forms are available in the Hutchins School Office or online: <http://www.sonoma.edu/hutchins/pages/academic/admissions/admissions.htm>

Students seeking admission to Track II as junior transfers must complete all lower-division general education requirements, with specific requirements in the following areas. Students may take these courses while enrolled in the major.

BIO 110: Biological Inquiry (or equivalent)

CHEM 107: Introduction to Physical Sciences (or equivalent chemistry, physics, or astronomy course)

GEOL 107: Introduction to Earth Science (or equivalent course)  
Geology or physical geography

MATH 150: Geometry (General Education math fulfills this requirement for off-campus transfers)

A course in the history of the visual arts

A course in the performing arts: dance, music, or theatre

Whether transferring into the Track III Blended Program as freshmen or into track I or II as juniors, students must file a separate application available at: [http://www.sonoma.edu/hutchins/pages/academic/forms/\\_applying.htm](http://www.sonoma.edu/hutchins/pages/academic/forms/_applying.htm).

Degree Requirements	Units
General Education Lower-Division (May include 48 units in LIBS Integrative GE)	51
Major Requirements (up to 3 units may be applied to upper GE Area E)	40
General Education Upper-Division (Waived upon completion of Tracks II or III)	9
SSU Electives (Track I) or Subject Matter Preparation (Track II)	20
<b>Total units needed for graduation</b>	<b>120</b>

## Interdisciplinary General Education Program Lower-Division

The lower-division program of the Hutchins School fulfills, with the exception of mathematics, all of the Sonoma State University lower-division general education requirements. Upon completion of the lower-division General Education program in Hutchins, students may elect to continue in the program as a liberal studies major, or they may transfer into another major at any point in the program. The program consists of four interdisciplinary seminars of 12 units each, taken successively as follows:

LIBS 101: The Human Enigma (Fall)

LIBS 102: In Search of Self (Spring)

LIBS 201: Exploring the Unknown (Fall)

LIBS 202: Challenge and Response (Spring)

Each of these seminars is made up of 10 to 15 students and a professor. Learning proceeds by a process of reading, writing, and discussion, in which all students are urged to take an active part. There are generally four to six sections of each seminar offered simultaneously, so that each seminar is part of a larger learning community that meets together once a week for lectures, field trips, labs, and other group projects. The curriculum for these seminars is developed collaboratively by the faculty facilitating each seminar section, thus drawing on a wide range of disciplinary expertise.

Strongly emphasizing excellence in written communication, the program includes extensive writing projects and regular tutorials. Several of the small seminar sections come together once a week for group activities, including field trips, labs, lectures, films, group presentations, and other hands-on learning experiences. The emphasis throughout is on the critical examination of contemporary problems in their historical contexts. Each student is expected to arrive at conclusions that result from personal reflection and exploration of the ideas of major thinkers in diverse fields.

At mid-semester, students meet individually with the professor to discuss their progress. At this point, they have an opportunity to reflect on and assess their own learning, a key ingredient in developing the skill of lifelong learning. At the end of every semester, the student receives an official grade of credit or no credit. The student also is given a copy of a detailed evaluation of his or her work, which is placed in the student's Hutchins file but not entered on the official University record or used to compute a grade point average. This evaluation assesses the student's cognitive skills, seminar participation, understanding of the course content, writing skills, independent project, and special course assignments. A written commentary addresses each student's particular strengths and indicates the way in which the student should improve in order to become an effective, lifelong learner. Thus, the evaluation conveys a great deal more information than does a single letter grade. Unofficial grades can, at the student's request, be made available to other schools, agencies, or prospective employers who need a quantitative measure of performance.

A student who does not work well within the Hutchins program may receive credit with a probationary or terminal qualification, or a terminal no credit. If the student's enrollment remains probationary for two semesters, or is terminated, he or she must transfer out of the Hutchins program.

### **Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies Upper-Division**

Options for the bachelor's degree include: **Track I**, the General Liberal Studies Major plan; **Track II**, the Subject Matter Preparation (pre-credential) plan; and **Track III**, the Blended Program/B.A. plus Multiple Subject Credential.

The general pattern for the major in all three tracks is outlined in the table below. During their first semester in the upper-division, all transfer students are required to take LIBS 302. In this course, students work on the skills required in the major, develop their own learning plans, and begin the portfolio, a document the student expands throughout the upper-division and brings to a close in LIBS 402 Senior Synthesis. LIBS 302 is a prerequisite for all upper-division Hutchins courses. Students continuing from Hutchins lower-division, however, are exempt from LIBS 302. Any student earning a grade lower than a C in LIBS 302 will not be allowed to continue in the Hutchins program.

Also, in each of their first two semesters, students will take a key course designed to involve them in a discussion and critique of some of our most fundamental beliefs and values, viewed in a worldwide context. (Please see LIBS 304 and 308.)

#### **Requirements for the Major**

##### **First Semester**

	<i>Units</i>
LIBS 302 Introduction to Liberal Studies, and	3
LIBS 304 We Hold These Truths (Fall) or	3
LIBS 308 The Practice of Culture (Spring)	3

##### **Subsequent Semesters**

LIBS 304 and 308 (2 semester sequence)	6
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##### **One course from each of 4 core areas:**

LIBS 320A Society and Self	3
LIBS 320B Individual and the Material World	3
LIBS 320C The Arts and Human Experience	3
LIBS 320D Consciousness and Reality	3

<b>Additional requirements and electives (per track described below)</b>	<b>15</b>
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##### **Final Semester**

LIBS 402 Senior Synthesis	4
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**Total units Hutchins Major 40**

#### **Core Seminars**

Building on the foundations laid in the key courses, the student chooses at least one seminar from each of the following four core areas:

Core A Society and Self

Core B The Individual and the Material World

Core C The Arts and Human Experience

Core D Consciousness and Reality

The core seminars are a key element of the curriculum in the Hutchins Major. Core areas are designed to ensure that the intensive learning experience provided in the small seminar format is spread across the disciplinary spectrum, although all core courses offer an interdisciplinary perspective on a particular theme.

#### **Track I Interdisciplinary Studies**

Those students wishing a broad interdisciplinary major as a foundation for their career choice (e.g. the arts, the law, public service, etc.), or who are motivated by intellectual curiosity and wish to pursue an individualized study plan, often choose interdisciplinary studies. Track I students may use up to 9 units from other majors or 12 units from approved study abroad program as part of their emphasis in the Hutchins major, and we strongly encourage these students to consider doing a minor in another field. Alternatively, students majoring in interdisciplinary studies will complete the 17 additional units by choosing from a wide variety of courses which include elective seminars, workshops, independent and directed studies, internships, and Study Away opportunities.

LIBS 310/315/410/415 Directed or Independent Study

LIBS 396 Field Study

LIBS 397 Study Away

LIBS 399 Student Instructed Course

LIBS 499 Internship

Students in Track I may organize an area of emphasis within the 40 units required for the major which reflects their career plans and/or intellectual interests. Track I students may use up to 9 units from other majors as part of their emphasis in the Hutchins major, and we strongly encourage these students to consider doing a minor in another field. Alternatively, students may engage in artistic and creative activities, research and scholarly investigations, Hutchins community projects, social and community action opportunities, or gather together a variety of experiences that they find intellectually satisfying. Many Track I students have found the internship or Study Away program (one of which is required for the major) valuable.

The Study Away/internship requirement, often preceded by a semester of independent study related to the placement, allows students to include, as part of their major, experiences as diverse as (1) a period of domestic or international study and travel; (2) an independent project in a nearby community; (3) an internship with a local arts organization, business, school, or social service agency; (4) substantial involvement in a program with another department on this or some other campus; or (5) other options and activities created by the student in consultation with an advisor. Whether close at hand or far away, the Study Away/internship experience can help students relate their education to specific career choices,

greater intellectual understanding, and their place in an ever-larger world.

### Sample Four-Year Plan for Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies, Track I

FRESHMAN YEAR:: 30 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
ENGL 101 (A2) (3)	BIOL 110 (B2) (4)
Math GE (B4) (3)	Ethnic Studies (D1) (3)
Humanities GE (C1) (3)	PHIL 101 or 102 (A3) (3)
Physical Science GE (B1) (3)	World History GE (D2) (3)
Elective (3)	Elective (2)
SOPHOMORE YEAR:: 30 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
Written and Oral GE (A1) (3)	Humanities GE (C3) (3)
Humanities GE (C2) (3)	Humanities GE (C4) (3)
POLS 200 (D4) (3)	Specific Emphasis Science (B3) (3)
Physical Science GE (B1) (3)	U.S. History GE (D3) (3)
Elective (3)	Elective (3)
JUNIOR YEAR:: 30 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
LIBS 302 (3)	LIBS 308 (3)
LIBS 304 (3)	LIBS 320 (3)
Upper-Division GE Course (D5) (3)	LIBS 310 (3)
Elective or Emphasis (6)	Electives or Emphasis (6)
SENIOR YEAR:: 30 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
LIBS 320 (3)	LIBS 320 (3)
LIBS 499 (3)	LIBS 320 (3)
Upper-Division GE Elective (3)	LIBS 402 (4)
Electives or Emphasis (6)	Electives (5)
<b>TOTAL UNITS:: 120</b>	

### LIBS/M.B.A. Advising Pathway

The flexibility of the Track I program in liberal studies lends itself to a broad variety learning experiences and careers. For example, by following the pathway below, a liberal studies major may complete the requirements to enter a Master of Business Administration program upon graduation.

### Sample Four-Year M.B.A. Prep Advising Path

FRESHMAN YEAR:: 31 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (15 units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (16 units)</i>
LIBS 101 (12)	LIBS 102 (12)
Elective Units (3)	Math 165 (4)
SOPHOMORE YEAR:: 32 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (16 units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (16 units)</i>
LIBS 201 (12)	LIBS 202 (12)
ECON 201A (4)	ECON 201B (4)
Declare Business Minor	
JUNIOR YEAR:: 31 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (16 units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 units)</i>
LIBS 304 (3)	LIBS 308 (3)
LIBS 320 (3)	LIBS 320 (3)
LIBS 499 (3)	LIBS 410 (3)
BUS 231A (4)	BUS 230B (4)
Upper-Division GE (3)	BUS 295 (2)
Pass PCCR Exam	Take GMAT
Take WEPT	
SENIOR YEAR:: 28 Units	
<i>Fall Semester (14 units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (14 units)</i>
LIBS 320 (3)	LIBS 402 (4)
BUS 360 (4)	LIBS Elective (3)
BUS 344 (4)	LIBS 320 (3)
Upper-Division GE (3)	BUS 370 (4)
<b>TOTAL UNITS:: 122</b>	

### Track II Multiple Subject (Pre-Credential) Preparation

The Hutchins School offers a state-approved subject matter preparation program for students intending to earn a California Elementary Teaching Credential or an Early Childhood Emphasis Credential. While students are no longer allowed to waive the California Subject Exam for Teachers (CSET), the B.A. pre-credential option ensures interdisciplinary subject matter proficiency as well as possession of the high-level analytic, synthetic, creative, and expressive academic skills required of future educators. Coursework is carefully planned to meet state-mandated content standards for prospective elementary teachers and provides excellent preparation for the CSET exam, as well as for admission to a professional teacher training program. In addition to the courses described above, students will be required to take the following courses as part of their major. Upper-division GE requirements can be met through the completion of the Multiple Subject program, which includes concentration in a specific subject. (See Hutchins website for details):

LIBS 312: Schools and Society	3
LIBS 327: Literacy, Language, and Pedagogy or	
ENG 379: English Language	3-4
LIBS 330: The Child in Question	3
MATH 300A: Elementary Number Systems	3
MATH 300B: Probability and Statistics	3

### Sample Four-Year Plan for Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies, Track II

#### FRESHMAN YEAR:: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
ENGL 101 (A2) (3)	CHEM, Physics, or Astronomy (B1) (3)
MATH 150 (B4) (3)	Ethnic Studies (D1) (3)
ARTH, THAR, or MUS (C1) (3)	PHIL 101 or 102 (A3) (3)
BIOL 110 (B2) (4)	World History GE (D2) (3)
Elective (2)	Elective (3)

#### SOPHOMORE YEAR:: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
Written and Oral Analysis GE (A1) (3)	Humanities GE (C3) (3)
Humanities GE (C2) (3)	Humanities GE (C4) (3)
POLS 200 (D4) (3)	GEOL or Physical GEOG (B1 or B3) (3)
Concentration Course (3)	U.S. History GE (D3) (3)
Elective (3)	Concentration Course (3)

#### JUNIOR YEAR:: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
LIBS 302 (3)	LIBS 308 (3)
LIBS 304 (3)	LIBS 320 (3)
MATH 300A (3)	LIBS 312 (3)
KIN 400 (3)	MATH 300B (3)
Concentration Course (3)	ARTH, THAR, or MUS (3)

#### SENIOR YEAR:: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
LIBS 320 (3)	LIBS 320 (3)
LIBS 330 (3)	LIBS 320 (3)
LIBS 327 (3)	LIBS 402 (4)
EDMS 470 (3)	Electives (5)
Concentration Course (3)	

**TOTAL UNITS:: 120**

### Track III Blended Program

The Blended Program incorporates the lower-division Hutchins General Education program and the basic course work for Track II with courses from the School of Education beginning in the junior year, allowing students to complete a B.A. in liberal studies and a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential as follows:

### Sample Four-Year Plan for Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies with Teaching Credential, Track III

#### FRESHMAN YEAR:: 34 Units

<i>Fall Semester (17 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (17 Units)</i>
LIBS 101 (12)	LIBS 102 (12)
EDMS 100 (2)	EDMS 200 (2)
MATH 150 (3)	CHEM, Physics, or Astronomy (3)
Take CBEST or CSET: Writing Skills Exam spring/summer.	

#### SOPHOMORE YEAR:: 35-36 Units

<i>Fall Semester (18 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (17-18 Units)</i>
LIBS 201 (12)	LIBS 202 (12)
LIBS 312 (3)	LIBS 330 (3)
GEOL or PHYSICAL GEOG (3)	Performing Arts Elective: Certificate of clearance - Apply Music, Theater For Live Scan and Clear TB test. or Dance survey or history (2-3)
Apply to Education Program (Nov.- Jan).	Interviews April

#### JUNIOR YEAR:: 36 Units

<i>Fall Semester (18 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (18 Units)</i>
LIBS 304 (3)	LIBS 308 (3)
LIBS 320 (3)	LIBS 320 (3)
LIBS 320 (3)	KIN 400 (3)
LIBS 327 (3)	MATH 300A (3)
EDMS 470 (3)	EDMS 463 (3)
EDMS 411 (3)	EDMS 475 (3)
Take the WEPT during academic year. Apply for fall graduation by audit deadline.	Re-apply to SSU as post-baccalaureate student Aug 1 – Aug 31.

#### SENIOR YEAR:: 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (16 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (14 Units)</i>
LIBS 320 (3)	EDMS 482F: Student Teaching (10)*
LIBS 402 (4)	EDMS 464 (2)
MATH 300B (3)	EDMS 471 (2)
EDMS 474 F(3)	EDMS 476F (3)
EDMS 464S (2)*	

\*Enrollment in EDMS 476S is optional.

\* Students will attend EDMS 482S on-site, but are not required to enroll in course, and will complete CWS-2 E-Portfolio.

**TOTAL UNITS:: 135-136**

Some courses may be taken during the summer.

In order to continue in the program after the first year, students must have the recommendation of their professors in LIBS 101, LIBS 102, EDMS 100, and EDMS 200.

