

Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Concentration: Social Sciences

The social sciences at Wesleyan includes disciplines such as government, economics, sociology, history, American studies, anthropology, psychology, political science, and more. Courses provide students with excellent research and critical analysis skills, making further independent study and content development a simpler, richer, and more rewarding task.

Educators pursuing a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) degree with a social sciences concentration gain an increased skill set in research and analysis, as well as the ability to write articulately and fluently about the topics of most interest to them.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: MALS/Social Sciences – 12 courses (36 credits)

6 courses (18 credits) within the social sciences concentration. Students may choose six courses from our social sciences curriculum, or propose independent studies, that best meet their professional needs. Their academic plan may include a mixture of history, government, anthropology, and psychology, or may be restricted to European and American studies, or psychology, or globalization, etc. All students are encouraged to take a foundational writing course option within the social sciences concentration, to receive more extensive feedback on their work through more frequent writing assignments and individual meetings with the instructor.

Recent courses and course areas in the mathematics have included:

- The Constitution
- Emotions, Motivation & Development
- Religion, Science, and Empire
- Diplomacy and Decision-making
- International Politics
- Conceptual Development
- Cinematic Cultural Encounters:
- War & Society: Religion on the Flat Screen
- The Crusades
- Positive Psychology
- History of Astronomy
- History of Europe Since 1945

6 courses (18 credits) outside the social sciences concentration. Of the remaining six courses, students must choose from at least two of the other areas of concentration (arts, humanities, mathematics, sciences), but may distribute their credits in a way that most effectively accomplishes their personal and professional goals. Below is a sampling of highly relevant out-of-concentration courses for educators:

- The European Novel (Humanities) – European Cultural History
- New York City in the 1940s (Humanities) – American Studies
- Adolescent Brain Development (Sciences) – Student Dynamics/Education Studies
- Applied Data Analysis (Mathematics) – Statistics/Data Analysis
- Testing and Educational Policy (Sciences) – Education Studies
- Cross-Cultural Childhoods (Sciences) – Education Studies

Optional master's essay instead of twelfth course. MALS candidates may choose to replace their twelfth course with a Master's Essay, a 25- to 30-page capstone project of publication quality. Students must go through a comprehensive proposal process, working one-on-one with librarians, the GLS writing consultant, and a faculty advisor.