

Liberal Arts Graduation Requirements:

For students who started at RISD 9/1/2025 or after
and transfer students who started at RISD in Summer/Fall 2026 or after
with S301 course requirement

Notes

Courses designated as LAEL or SCI do not count toward HPSS, THAD, or LAS credit.

Courses in business or engineering are typically not accepted for Liberal Arts credit unless they are taught from a liberal arts perspective (e.g. sociology of business).

Theory + History of Art + Design THAD

12 credits required

THAD courses include the theory and history of art and design.

- THAD-H101 Theory + History of Art + Design I (3 credits)*
- THAD-H102 Theory + History of Art + Design II (3 credits)*
- THAD Elective (3 credits)
- THAD Elective (3 credits)

Literary Arts and Studies LAS

9 credits required

LAS courses include courses about literature, literary movements, literary theory, and creative writing.

- LAS-E101 First-year Literature Seminar (3 credits)*
- LAS Elective (3 credits)
- LAS Elective (3 credits)

History, Philosophy, and the Social Sciences HPSS

9 credits required

HPSS courses may include anthropology, economics, geography, history, linguistics, philosophy, political science, psychology, religious studies, and sociology.

- HPSS-S301: Advanced Inquiry Seminar (3 credits)*
- HPSS Elective (3 credits)
- HPSS Elective (3 credits)

Liberal Arts Electives LAEL

9 credits required

Liberal Arts elective courses include any course offered through the Liberal Arts Division (courses designated as THAD, LAS, HPSS, SCI, or LAEL).

- Liberal Arts Elective (3 credits)
- Liberal Arts Elective (3 credits)
- Liberal Arts Elective (3 credits)

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
	3 courses	AIM FOR: 2-4 courses	AIM FOR: 2-4 courses	AIM FOR: 2-4 courses
FALL	E101* H101*		EITHER S301*	
WINTER	STUDIO	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL
SPRING	H102*		OR S301*	

13
courses

Keep track of your liberal arts courses!

Total Liberal Arts credits granted upon completion of requirements: 39 credits
120 credits total for graduation

*These four courses are required for graduation for all undergraduates, including transfer students.

*You will take S301 either fall or spring semester your third year.

*You can take HPSS courses before the mandatory S301 course.