The Graduate Program in Liberal Studies, established in 1994, is a cross-disciplinary, 30-credit program leading to a master of arts degree and offering a broad range of courses in literature, history, philosophy, religion, social sciences, and the arts. It is intended to provide students with the kind of intellectual stimulation that comes from working with a highly qualified faculty of expert scholars in a variety of disciplines, and with fellow students from diverse backgrounds.

The program is designed for mature students with varied work and life experiences. Small classes encourage the in-depth exploration of ideas. Classes meet at convenient times, either in the late afternoon or early evening, in order to accommodate returning students who work. Online classes are also available. It is now possible to complete the degree exclusively online.

Graduate Liberal Studies may be just right for you if:
- you like to read and then discuss the ideas your reading has generated
- you have intellectual interests that you wish to explore and cross-fertilize
- you wish to acquire knowledge beyond the professional specialty in which you are already an expert

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS
- Online application (gradstudy.rutgers.edu/apply/overview)
- A transcript showing the completion of an undergraduate degree (3.0 GPA preferred)
- Two letters of recommendation. These should be from former professors or other people who can comment on your intellectual abilities and academic skills.
- A writing sample. An undergraduate research paper is ideal, or something that shows your ability to do academic writing.
- A personal statement. Please explain why you are applying to the program, what your intellectual interests are, and what you hope to gain from participating.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
The Graduate School offers competitive funding opportunities in the form of fellowships. These awards are determined by the graduate department’s admissions committee and do not require an additional application.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
30 total credits
This includes nine classes (27 credits) and a capstone research project (three credits).

The subject matter of the courses selected for the program should include the following areas:
- Courses in at least three different academic disciplines
- At least two courses (six credits) in humanities (art, history, literature, philosophy, religion, etc.)
- At least two courses (six credits) in social sciences (anthropology, psychology, political science, sociology, criminal justice, etc.)
- One course on either non-western cultures or issues pertaining to gender and/or minorities
CAPSTONE STUDY: For the final class in the program, students will enroll in a special independent research course and complete a research paper (25-35 pages) under faculty supervision on a topic of particular interest to the individual student.

FACULTY AND RESEARCH AREA

- Stuart Z. Charmé (Ph.D., University of Chicago) professor | psychology of religion, women and religion, religion and culture, modern Jewish thought

The faculty associated with the liberal studies program is comprised of an extensive, interdisciplinary group of scholars from the fields of anthropology, childhood studies, English, fine arts, foreign languages, history, philosophy, political science, psychology, religion, and sociology. Please refer to the program’s website for a complete listing.

Website: mals.camden.rutgers.edu

Graduate Director Contact Info
Dr. Stuart Charmé
856-225-6237
scharme@rutgers.edu