Your L&S degree

At SOAR you will choose a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS) degree, just to get started with course enrollment. These have just a few differences, shown below.

Most L&S majors can be earned within either degree. The major’s requirements are the same for both BA and BS degrees.

**BA: Bachelor of Arts**

- **At least 120 credits**
  - *credit amounts listed below are minimums needed, and are included in the degree’s 120 credits*
  - 60 credits in Intermediate- or Advanced-level courses

**UW General Education**

A part of every UW–Madison undergraduate degree.

- a Communications Part A course (“Comm A”)
  - college-level literary and writing proficiency
- a Communications Part B course (“Comm B”)
  - in-depth research and writing skills
- a Quantitative Reasoning Part A course (“QR A”)
  - college-level foundation in mathematics or formal logic
- a Quantitative Reasoning Part B course (“QR B”)
  - high-level quantitative reasoning within a subject

- an Ethnic Studies course
  - increase understanding of the culture and contributions of persistently marginalized racial or ethnic groups in the United States

**L&S Breadth**

A part of every L&S undergraduate degree. Most L&S courses are assigned Breadth categories. These credits are the minimums needed for your degree: you can do more!

- **Humanities** 12 credits, including 6 credits in Literature courses
- **Social Sciences** 12 credits

**Natural Sciences**

- a 3+ credit Biological Science course *and* a 3+ credit Physical Science course
  - *plus 6 credits in either Natural, Biological, or Physical Science courses*

**Mathematics**

- none

**Language**

level = 1 semester of college language or 1 year of high-school language

- fourth-level course in one language; *or*
- third-level course in one language and second-level course in another language

**Your choice of additional classes to reach at least 120 credits needed for your degree**

**BS: Bachelor of Science**

- **At least 120 credits**
  - *credit amounts listed below are minimums needed, and are included in the degree’s 120 credits*

**UW General Education**

A part of every UW–Madison undergraduate degree. Some courses may count toward more than one requirement, such as both a UW General Education and an L&S Breadth category.

- a Communications Part A course (“Comm A”)
  - college-level literary and writing proficiency
- a Communications Part B course (“Comm B”)
  - in-depth research and writing skills
- a Quantitative Reasoning Part A course (“QR A”)
  - college-level foundation in mathematics or formal logic
- a Quantitative Reasoning Part B course (“QR B”)
  - high-level quantitative reasoning within a subject

- an Ethnic Studies course
  - increase understanding of the culture and contributions of persistently marginalized racial or ethnic groups in the United States

**L&S Breadth**

A part of every L&S undergraduate degree. Most L&S courses are assigned Breadth categories. These credits are the minimums needed for your degree: you can do more!

- **Humanities** 12 credits, including 6 credits in Literature courses
- **Social Sciences** 12 credits

**Natural Sciences**

- 6 credits in Biological Science courses *and* 6 credits in Physical Science courses

**Mathematics**

- two Intermediate- or Advanced-level courses in Mathematics, Computer Sciences (limit 1), or Statistics (limit 1)

**Language**

level = 1 semester of college language or 1 year of high-school language

- fourth-level course in one language; *or*
- third-level course in one language and second-level course in another language

**Your choice of additional classes to reach at least 120 credits needed for your degree**

**The Guide**

All academic requirements are listed in the Guide—the catalog of degrees, majors, certificates, and courses: [guide.wisc.edu](http://guide.wisc.edu)