The Liberal Arts at Notre Dame
an investment for life
Why choose a major in the liberal arts?

You will get an education built on the Catholic intellectual tradition—one that will prepare you to:

- become a thinking person who can write effectively and speak persuasively
- pursue your goals with passion and purpose
- find professional, personal, and spiritual fulfillment
- give back to your family, Church, community, and world
- create an examined life, well lived

How can you use your liberal arts degree?

You can employ the personal, analytic, and leadership skills you develop to success in:

- banking and finance
- information, software, and technology
- manufacturing and distribution
- retailing and service businesses
- real estate
- law
- higher education
- medicine
- science
- government
- the nonprofit world
- arts and entertainment
- any other career you can imagine...

What do Arts and Letters alumni do?

One year after graduation, alumni in the Class of 2010 are:

- employed full time – 36%
- in graduate or professional school – 35%
- working in a service program – 21%
- in the military or pursuing other plans – 5%
- still seeking employment – 3%

Invest in yourself: Invest in an Arts and Letters education at the University of Notre Dame.
Nicole Hurd ’92  
**History**  
Founder and executive director of the National College Advising Corps, which works to increase the number and graduation rate of low-income and first-generation college students, and recently a featured guest on NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams in the broadcast’s “Making a Difference” segment.

“My College of Arts and Letters education taught me communication skills that have been invaluable to my career—whether it is fundraising, developing new programs, training advisers, or working with our team, communication is critical. As a history major, I had to write, ask questions, make convincing arguments, do research, engage in scholarly debate, and appreciate others’ narratives and stories.

“I fell in love with history as an undergraduate in the College. And whether it was earning my Ph.D. in American religious history and teaching or working in the education/nonprofit sector, the constant curiosity and love of learning has stayed with me.”

Brian W. Casey ’85  
**Philosophy and Economics**  
President of DePauw University, winner of the ND Alumni Association’s 2010 Harvey G. Foster Award for alumni involvement in civic and university initiatives, and formerly assistant provost at Brown University and an associate dean for academic affairs at Harvard University.

“Notre Dame was the place that introduced me to great ideas, great thoughts, great writers. I used to study in a very quiet corner of the 6th floor of what is now Hesburgh Library. I’d walk over every night from Alumni Hall, find my regular place, and I would read and read.

“Those habits—and the love they inspired—carried me from law school to graduate school to my current position as president of DePauw University.

“My foundation was built at Notre Dame, and for that I will be forever grateful.”

Peter Quaranto ’06  
**Political Science and Peace Studies**  
Currently with the Office of the U.S. Special Envoy to Sudan, a former Marshall Scholar who went on to earn advanced degrees from University of Bradford and University of Oxford.

“Through the experiences I had at Notre Dame, I was forced to confront realities that are very different from my own. That raised a lot of different questions about what it meant to be a citizen, to be a part of a local community, and to be part of a global community.

“The people I’ve worked with who are employers in international diplomacy are not just looking for people who are smart but also for people who make things happen, who look at a situation and connect dots, build coalitions, and try to transform dynamics.

“In addition to all the skills—writing, communication, and technical—there’s also this ability to be proactive and be an agent of change that can’t be overstated.”

Dan Hesse ’75  
**Government and International Studies**  
Chief Executive Officer of Sprint Nextel Corporation.

“The Bell System conducted a multi-decade longitudinal research study years ago that correlated management career success with undergraduate major. The study found that liberal arts undergraduates were the most successful, followed by majors in the ‘hard’ sciences.

“My personal experiences are consistent with this study’s conclusions. The ability to communicate effectively (orally and in writing) is critical to business success. What got me recognized at my company when I began my business career in the ’70s was my ability to write. I began writing my boss’s letters, and before long, I was asked to write letters for my boss’s boss and later even for his boss.

“Liberal arts majors tend to be good critical thinkers who can deal with ambiguity—the absence of ‘right’ and ‘wrong’ answers—which is more akin to how the real world works.”

Arts and Letters alumni can be found everywhere in the world, engaged in all kinds of work, leadership, and service.
One Year Later—Where Is the Arts and Letters Class of 2010?

Working full time as ...

account executive at TD Bank (business and Spanish) • actuarial analyst at Mercer (mathematics and Spanish) • actuarial analyst at Geico Insurance (classics and mathematics) • analyst at JP Morgan Chase (political science) • assistant at NBC News (English and Romance languages/literatures) • assistant to vice president for marketing at Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (anthropology) • audit associate at Ernst & Young (English and preprofessional) • budget analyst at U.S. Department of Justice (American studies and political science) • business analyst at Capital One (economics and Russian) • business analyst at McKinsey & Company (Program of Liberal Studies) • corporate communications at Burson-Marsteller (English and Spanish) • consulting analyst at Accenture (economics and political science) • events coordinator at Chicago History Museum (French and history) • financial representative at Northwestern Mutual (Financial Network (political science and studio art)) • fixed income sales assistant at Credit Suisse (political science) • fitness income analyst at Federated Investors (philosophy and political science) • human resources at Intel (philosophy) • human resources at Intel (sociology) • implementation services at Epic Systems (Program of Liberal Studies) • information management leadership program at General Electric (political science) • intelligence analyst at U.S. Department of Defense (history and political science) • investment banker at PNC Capital Markets (political science) • investment banking analyst at Bank of America/Merrill Lynch (history and political science) • leadership analyst at Central Intelligence Agency (English and sociology) • litigation legal assistant at Davis Polk & Wardwell (classics) • marketing associate at General Mills (history and theology) • market planner at Groupon (psychology) • media relations coordinator at Detroit Tigers (film/television/theatre and sociology) • operations management leadership program at General Electric (Spanish) • paralegal at U.S. Department of Justice (peace studies and political science) • publicity assistant at Penguin Books (English) • paralegal specialist at U.S. Department of Justice Anti-Trust Division (philosophy) • program analyst at U.S. Department of Homeland Security (American studies and French) • quality assurance analyst at Epic Systems (Chinese and pre-professional) • research analyst at Federal Reserve Board (economics) • research assistant at American Enterprise Institute (economics and English) • risk management consultant at Bank of America (economics and Italian) • sales leadership development program at Johnson & Johnson (computer applications and German, computer applications and Spanish) • sales specialist at IBM (peace studies and political science) • sales representative at E&J Gallo (music) • sports sales assistant at Turner Broadcasting (sociology) • staff member at Facebook (anthropology and Japanese) • system integration analyst at Accenture (computer applications and economics) • tax consultant at Deloitte (art history) • technical services engineer at Epic Systems (computer applications and theology) (Arts and Letters major is listed in parentheses.)

Pursuing advanced degrees at ...

Harvard University in evolutionary biology (anthropology), in medicine (pre-professional and psychology) • Princeton University in political science (Arabic and political science) • Yale University in theological ethics (philosophy/theology program) • Columbia University in law (economics and history), in physical therapy (German and preprofessional) • Stanford University in international education (history and peace studies), in economics (economics and math), in law (political science) • University of Pennsylvania in elementary education (economics), in law (English) • Duke University in public administration (American Studies and pre-professional), in nursing (psychology), in law (economics and political science), in economics (economics), in divinity (English) • University of Chicago in Middle Eastern studies (Arabic and philosophy), in law (psychology and sociology), in English (English and philosophy) • Northwestern University in medicine (anthropology and preprofessional), in sports administration (design), in law (economics and political science) • Johns Hopkins University in international relations (Japanese and political science) • Brown University in economics (economics), in mathematics (mathematics) • Vanderbilt University in education policy (political science), in special education (American studies), in psychology (psychology and sociology), in law (English and film/television/theatre) • University of Notre Dame in various programs ... • Emory University in bioethics and theology (philosophy and theology), in physical therapy (anthropology and pre-professional), in law (political science and Spanish) • Georgetown University in biophysics (political science and pre-professional), in security studies (Arabic and political science), in law (political science) • University of California, Berkeley, in psychiatry (psychology) • University of Southern California in film (film/television/theatre), in primary care physician assistant program (preprofessional and Spanish), in law (economics) • University of California, Los Angeles, in law (American studies) • University of Cambridge in medieval studies (anthropology) • School of the Art Institute of Chicago in photography (art studio) • Sotheby’s Institute of Art in arts administration (Program of Liberal Studies)

Serving domestically and abroad with ...

AmeriCorps Program/American Red Cross • Alliance for Catholic Education • Catholic Charities • Catholic Worker • City Year • Holy Cross Lay Mission Program • Jesuit Service Corps • Peace Corps • PLACE Corps • Teach for America • U.S. Department of State