

SOCIAL SCIENCES (AA)

Department Website (<https://www.sps.nyu.edu/homepage/academics/associate-degrees/aa-in-liberal-arts.html#:~:text=The%20Associate%20of%20Arts%20in,site%2C%20or%20hybrid%20degree%20program>)

NYSED: 08437 HEGIS: 5622.00 CIP: 45.0101

Notice: The curriculum on this page is effective Spring 2027. Students in the Liberal Arts (AA) (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/archive/2024-2025/undergraduate/professional-studies/programs/liberal-arts-aa/>) program starting in Fall 2026 should consult the 2024-2025 edition of the bulletin for program requirements.

Program Description

The Associate of Arts in Social Sciences prepares you to write effectively and to think analytically, while allowing you to explore the various fields of study in social sciences. You become familiar with common bodies of knowledge—both classical and contemporary; enrich your existing understanding of the world; and develop a broader framework for anticipating and addressing social change in a global context. Acquiring a common core of knowledge, and subsequently exploring specific subjects within that core, helps to provide the strong liberal arts foundation for which the NYU School of Professional Studies Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies (DAUS) is known.

The Associate in Arts degree is offered as an option if you have previously earned fewer than 30 college credits. It is a valuable academic credential that can enhance your current work experience and can serve as the foundation for earning a bachelor's degree. If you continue your studies at DAUS by earning either the Bachelor of Arts or the Bachelor of Science, the Associate of Arts satisfies all of the courses required to complete the DAUS core curriculum.

Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies (DAUS) Admissions

Admission to undergraduate programs in the NYU School of Professional Studies Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies (DAUS) requires completion of a high school diploma or GED. Admissions decisions are made through a holistic review process. Visit the SPS Admissions website (<https://www.sps.nyu.edu/homepage/admissions/admissions-criteria-and-deadlines/undergraduate-programs.html>) for detailed application requirements and deadlines.

Program Requirements

The program requires the completion of 60 credits, comprised of the following:

Course	Title	Credits
Writing as Inquiry		
Students are required to take the following two courses.		8
EXWR1-UC 7502	Writing for Exploration	
EXWR1-UC 7503	Mastering Creative & Professional Writing Skills	
Critical Thinking & Communications		
Students are required to take one of the following courses.		4
HUMN1-UC 6401	Critical Thinking: Big Questions, Many Answers	

HUMN1-UC 6405	Effective Communication: Strategies for Professional Success	
Data & Discovery		
Students, in close consultation with their advisor, select one mathematics course based on a math placement assessment.		4
MATH1-UC 1105	Mathematical Reasoning	
MATH1-UC 1171	Precalculus	
MATH1-UC 1174	Calculus W/Applications to Business & Economics	
MATH1-UC 1180	Linear Algebra	
Scientific Inquiry		
Students select one of the following courses in consultation with their advisor.		4
SCNC1-UC 2001	Human Biology	
SCNC1-UC 3203	Environmental Sustainability	
SCNC1-UC 3207	Space and Society: Navigating Satellites	
SCNC1-UC 1000	Where the City Meets the Sea	
PSYC1-UC 6894	Science of Learning: Brain Science to Educational Alchemy	
Ideas in the World		
Students select one of the courses listed below.		4
HIST1-UC 5804	Renaissance to Revolutn	
HIST1-UC 5820	The American Experience	
HIST1-UC 5821	The Making of Europe	
HIST1-UC 5822	Contemporary World	
ANTH1-UC 5011	World Cultures: Africa	
ANTH1-UC 5012	World Cultures: Middle East	
ANTH1-UC 5013	World Cultures: Asia	
ANTH1-UC 5014	World Cultures: Latin America & The Caribbean	
SOCY1-UC 7264	Global Minds: Cultivating Intercultural Competence and Inclusive Citizenship	
Critical Arts		
Students select two of the following courses in consultation with their advisor.		8
ARTS1-UC 5438	History of Music	
ARTH1-UC 5443	Visual Expressions in Society	
LITR1-UC 6201	Exploring Cultural Storytelling through Global Literature	

ARTS1-UC 5447	Vital Expression: The Intersection of Art, Life, & Innovation	
CWRG1-UC 5240	Foundations of The Creative Process	
ARTH1-UC 5430	History of Art I: Earliest to Middle Ages	
LITR1-UC 6241	Introduction to Literature	
Required Program Core (major courses)		
Students are required to take four of the following eight courses		16
ECON1-UC 301	Intro to Macroeconomics	
ECON1-UC 302	Intro to Microeconomics	
ECON1-UC 6608	A History of Economic Ideas	
POLS1-UC 6604	The Dynamics of American Democracy	
PSYC1-UC 6801	Intro to Psychology	
SOCY1-UC 7200	Intro to Sociology	
MEST1-UC 6028	Media, Culture, and Society	
HIST1-UC 5824	The Historical Imagination	
General Electives		
Students may select any combination of SPS undergraduate courses in consultation with their advisor. The below list is given as a sample of elective courses that may be of interest to students in this program.		12
ANTH1-UC 5003	Cultural Anthropology	
ARTH1-UC 5431	History of Art II: Renaissance to Modern	
ECON1-UC 6607	The Global Economy	
HUMN1-UC 6403	Foundations of Philosophical Thought	
MEST1-UC 6033	Engaged media: Exploring Visual Storytelling	
ORBC1-UC 1301	Principles of Organizational Behavior	
POLS1-UC 6602	Political Thought	
POLS1-UC 6605	International Relations	
PSYC1-UC 6846	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYC1-UC 6848	Developmental Psychology	
Total Credits		60

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
EXWR1-UC 7502	Writing for Exploration	4
HUMN1-UC 6401	Critical Thinking: Big Questions, Many Answers (Critical Thinking & Communications)	4

SCNC1-UC 2001	Human Biology (Scientific Inquiry)	4
PSYC1-UC 6801	Intro to Psychology (Required Program Core)	4
Credits		16
2nd Semester/Term		
EXWR1-UC 7503	Mastering Creative & Professional Writing Skills	4
MATH1-UC 1105	Mathematical Reasoning (Data & Discovery)	4
HIST1-UC 5822	Contemporary World (Ideas in the World)	4
SOCY1-UC 7200	Intro to Sociology (Required Program Core)	4
Credits		16
3rd Semester/Term		
CWRG1-UC 5240	Foundations of The Creative Process (Critical Arts)	4
ECON1-UC 301	Intro to Macroeconomics (Required Program Core)	4
MEST1-UC 6028	Media, Culture, and Society (Required Program Core)	4
ANTH1-UC 5003	Cultural Anthropology (General Electives)	4
Credits		16
4th Semester/Term		
ARTS1-UC 5447	Vital Expression: The Intersection of Art, Life, & Innovation (Critical Arts)	4
HUMN1-UC 6403	Foundations of Philosophical Thought (General Electives)	4
PSYC1-UC 6848	Developmental Psychology (General Electives)	4
Credits		12
Total Credits		60

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will:

1. Students articulate and apply an understanding of global social environments, embrace diversity, inclusivity, and the ability to navigate complex international landscapes.
2. Students integrate objective analysis with subjective judgment.
3. Students are able to plan, develop, and deliver communication and collaboration across cultural boundaries.
4. Students gain proficiency in utilizing cutting-edge technologies and digital tools to drive innovation, optimize processes, and make data-driven decisions in a rapidly evolving global business environment.
5. Students will be able to apply key theories, perspectives, and approaches to continuing and current issues in the Social Sciences.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

School of Professional Studies Policies

Additional academic policies can be found on the School of Professional Studies academic policy page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/professional-studies/academic-policies/>).