UTRGV™

College of Liberal Arts

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EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE IN LIBERAL ARTS

Build More Than a Degree with UTRGV Liberal Arts

Build Human-Centered Skills for Changing Careers:
Learn to ask strong questions, analyze evidence, communicate clearly, understand people and cultures, solve complex problems, and adapt as the world changes. These human-centered skills are increasingly valuable in the age of AI and transferable across careers, helping graduates contribute effectively as industries, technologies, and job responsibilities evolve.

Apply What You Learn:
Connect classroom learning with internships, research, community engagement, service-learning, study abroad, and other hands-on experiences.

Build Intercultural and Language Skills:
Develop the ability to communicate and work across languages and cultures. Students may also explore opportunities to earn the B3 Scholar Seal, which recognizes bilingual, bicultural, and biliterate achievement.

B3 SCHOLAR SEAL: We tie into the B^3 mission — bilingual, bicultural, biliterate — which prepares students to work and lead in our diverse communities.

Where Can a CLA Degree Take You?

These selected examples show how recent CLA graduates combined academic fields and moved into employment or advanced study. They represent only some of the many pathways available to CLA students.

- **Criminal Justice + Psychology minor** = Federal Bureau of Investigation
- **Political Science + Women & Gender Studies minor** = U.S. Department of State
- **Communication Studies** = National Marrow Donor Program
- **Mass Communication + Master of Public Affairs**= Mission CISD
- **Spanish Translation and Interpreting + Criminal Justice minor** = Professional Interpreter
- **English Rhetoric Composition & Literacy Studies + Legal Studies minor** = School Teacher
- **Political Science + Legal Studies minor + Spanish minor** = IRS Chief Counsel
- **Philosophy with Pre-Law Concentration + Chemistry minor** = Law School

Counseling
$47K–$75K

Law Enforcement
$48K–$104K

Public Policy
$40K–$91K

Education/Academia
$55K–$100K

UTRGV

College of Liberal Arts



EXPLORE OUR *PROGRAMS*

12	50+	300+	7000+
Departments	Programs	Faculty	Students

Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Programs

Study people, communities, institutions, government, behavior, cultures, and the forces that shape society.

- Anthropology
- Criminal Justice
- Interdisciplinary Programs and Community Engagement
- Political Science, Public Affairs, & Legal and Security Studies
- Psychological Science
- Sociology

Humanities, Languages & Communication

Explore language, history, philosophy, literature, culture, media, writing, and the ways people create and communicate meaning.

- Communication
- History
- Literature and Cultural Studies
- Philosophy
- Spanish
- Writing and Language Studies

Learn Beyond the Classroom

Experiential Learning Across CLA

Internships

Gain career-connected experience in government, law, education, media, community organizations, public service, research, business-related fields, and other professional settings.

Research

Explore questions that matter through undergraduate research, directed research, independent study, community-based projects, and other faculty-guided work across CLA disciplines.

Study Abroad and Global Learning

Connect your studies with new languages, cultures, histories, and communities through global learning experiences.

DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

See our extended list of Majors, Minors, Career Pathways, & Opportunities

CLICK HERE!
UTRGV CLA

College of Liberal Arts at UTRGV

Academic Year 2026–2027

Why Students Choose Liberal Arts

CLA allows students to build an education around their interests and goals while developing skills that remain useful as technologies and careers change. Students can combine fields, apply classroom learning through experience, and prepare for several professional or graduate-study directions.

- Flexible academic pathways. Students may combine a major with a complementary minor or concentration, explore more than one field, and build a distinctive academic and professional portfolio.
- Interdisciplinary learning. Programs connect the humanities, social sciences, languages, communication, and emerging fields such as Medical and Health Humanities, Environmental Studies, Film Studies, Food Studies, Forensic Anthropology, Global Security and Intelligence Studies, and Spanish for Healthcare.
- Skills for the age of AI. Students practice asking strong questions, evaluating evidence, recognizing context and bias, communicating clearly, exercising ethical judgment, understanding human behavior, and working across cultures and perspectives.

What Students Can Expect

- Learning through experience. Opportunities include internships, undergraduate and directed research, community engagement, study abroad, and service-learning.
- Career-connected preparation. Students can pair liberal arts abilities with workplace experience, technical competencies, campus involvement, and purposeful career planning.
- More than one career direction. CLA pathways can support careers in government, law, education, communication and media, nonprofit and community organizations, public service, research, business-related fields, and graduate or professional education.

Questions Students May Have

Student question	Our response
What job does this degree lead to?	A CLA degree develops skills that apply across careers. The strongest pathway combines academic choices with experience, technical tools, and career planning.
Is liberal arts practical?	Yes. Students practice research, writing, analysis, problem-solving, teamwork, and communication, then apply them through internships and other experiential learning.
Why study liberal arts in the AI era?	Using AI well still requires human judgment: defining problems, checking accuracy, interpreting context, communicating responsibly, and understanding people and society.

Majors and Minors in the College of Liberal Arts at UTRGV

33 majors and 35 minors. Students can use the list below to identify a primary field and possible complementary areas of study.

Majors 33	Minors 35
Anthropology	Anthropology
Anthropology (Archaeology)	Archaeology
Anthropology (Global Health and Migration)	Asian Studies
Communication Studies	Communication
Criminal Justice (Minor Required)	Communication Studies
English (4-8, Teacher Certification)	Criminal Justice
English (7-12, Teacher Certification)	English
English (Creative Writing)	English as a Second Language Instruction (7-12)
English (English Language Arts)	Environmental Studies
English (Linguistics)	Film Studies
English (Literature)	Food Studies
English (Rhetoric, Composition and Literacy Studies)	Forensic Anthropology
History (Minor Required)	French Language, Literature, and Culture French
History (Teacher Certification)	Teaching, Translation, and Culture Gender and
Human Dimensions of Organizations	Women's Studies
Mass Communication (Advertising and Public Relations)	Global Health and Migration
Mass Communication (Journalism)	Global Security and Intelligence Studies
Mass Communication (Media Production)	Global Studies
Medical and Health Humanities	History
Mexican American Studies	Legal Studies
Multidisciplinary Studies	Mass Communication
Philosophy	Medical Humanities
Philosophy (Pre-law)	Mexican American Studies
Political Science (Minor Required)	Military Science
Psychology	Philosophy
Public Heritage and Community Engagement (Bilingual, Bicultural, Border Heritage)	Political Science
Public Heritage and Community Engagement (Cultural and Natural Landscapes)	Professional Writing
Social Studies	Psychology
Social Studies (Teacher Certification)	Public Administration
Sociology	Religious Studies Social
Spanish	Justice Sociology
Spanish (Teacher Certification)	Spanish
Spanish Translation and Interpreting	Spanish for Healthcare
	Spanish Translation

Examples of Graduate Pathways

These selected examples highlight how recent CLA graduates combined academic fields and moved into employment or advanced study. They represent only a portion of the many successful pathways pursued by our CLA graduates.

Academic pathway	Next step or current work
Political Science major + Women and Gender Studies minor	U.S. Department of State
Political Science major + English minor	Law school, followed byacareer in commercial litigation
Political Science major + Legal Studies minor + Spanish minor	Law study and service with IRS Chief Counsel
Political Science major + Psychology minor + Business minor	Law school, followed by work as a county prosecutor
Political Science major + Business Management minor	Law school, followed by legal counsel work with the Texas Workforce Commission
Criminal Justice major + Psychology minor	Federal Bureau of Investigation
Criminal Justice major + Psychology minor	Texas Department of Public Safety as a state trooper
Communication Studies major	Member Recruitment Coordinator with the National Marrow Donor Program
Mass Communication major + Master of Public Administration	Director of Public Relations and Marketing at Mission CISD
Spanish major with Teacher Certification	School teacher
Spanish Translation and Interpreting major + Criminal Justice minor	Professional interpreter
English Rhetoric Composition and Literacy Studies major + Legal Studies minor	School teacher
English Rhetoric Composition and Literacy Studies major + Criminal Justice minor	Position with a law firm
Philosophy major with Pre-Law concentration + Chemistry minor	Law school

Student takeaway: A student's major is one part of the pathway. A complementary minor or second field, experiential learning, career planning, and further education can create different routes from a CLA degree to professional life.

Rio Grande Valley Legal Education Hub

UTRGV and St. Mary's University School of Law

Overview: A March 2026 memorandum of understanding establishes a legal education hub at UTRGV's Edinburg campus. The Hub will support eligible Rio Grande Valley residents enrolled in St. Mary's online legal education programs and is expected to begin operating in Fall 2026.

Reserved seats	Up to five seats annually in St. Mary's Online J.D. Program, subject to program capacity.
Admission	Applicants must meet St. Mary's Law admission standards. Reserved seats do not guarantee admission.
Location	UTRGV Edinburg campus
Anticipated start	Fall 2026

Eligibility Requirements

- Be accepted and enrolled in St. Mary's Online J.D. or M.L.S. program.
- Provide proof of residence in Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy, or Starr County.
- Complete UTRGV's Hub Student registration process.
- Agree to follow both institutions' policies and codes of conduct.

Alumni priority: If qualified applicants exceed available seats, priority will be given to graduates of UTRGV, UT Pan American, and UT Brownsville.

Hub Resources

- Dedicated classroom, study, and administrative space
- UTRGV library, technology, network, parking, recreation, and selected student services
- St. Mary's legal research resources and academic oversight
- Potential on-site support such as advising, bar preparation, and legal-writing assistance

Online JD Program Details

- ABA-approved,limited-enrollment, part-time program; the online cohort is capped at 25 students.
- Coursework includes synchronous and asynchronous instruction. Live classes are generally scheduled three evenings per week.
- The degree requires at least 90 credit hours. Graduates are eligible to sit for the Texas Bar Examination.

Referral Contact - UTRGV Office for Pre-Professional Development| OPPD@utrgv.edu | 956-665-3515