Key information

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<th>UCAS CODE</th>
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<td>BA Single Honours Liberal Arts</td>
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<td>MLibArts Single Honours Liberal Arts</td>
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For further details on our entry requirements, please see our Liberal Arts pages at www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/libarts

STREATHAM CAMPUS, EXETER
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Why study Liberal Arts at the University of Exeter?

Our Liberal Arts degree is an innovative, challenging and interdisciplinary programme designed for highly qualified, ambitious students who want something more than the traditional Single Honours degree. The programme is specifically constructed to develop a range of intellectual and critical skills through a number of bespoke core modules and a subsequent choice of discipline-based speciality – your ‘major’.

Initial modules will guide you through engagement with key issues in the humanities and social sciences, and ensure the acquisition of analytical, quantitative and language skills. These modules, innovative in their methods of teaching as well as in their content, will prepare you to study across a range of subjects in subsequent years, as you identify an area of specialisation. Your breadth of knowledge will be complemented by in-depth learning in your major.

The programme is designed not only to develop you into an intellectually-engaged global citizen, but also to equip you with a range of critical skills that will mark you out from the crowd and make you particularly attractive to employers. In addition, you’ll be able to spend either a full year or half a year studying at one of our international partner institutions. You can further develop your employability potential by undertaking a work placement or a research internship that we can help you to secure, and by taking the optional fourth year of the programme, enabling you to extend your studies to gain an integrated Masters qualification.

Majors offered will include:
- Anthropology
- Arab and Islamic Studies
- Archaeology
- Classics and Ancient History
- Drama
- English
- Film Studies
- History
- Modern Languages
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Sociology
- Theology and Religion

Innovative, flexible and interdisciplinary programme

Designed to develop you intellectually as a global citizen

Equips you with skills valued by employers

Optional integrated Masters
**Programme overview**

**How your degree is structured**
The programme is divided into core and optional modules, which gives you the flexibility to structure your degree according to your specific interests. Individual modules are worth 15 or 30 credits each and full-time undergraduates need to take 120 credits in each year. Within Liberal Arts, in addition to the core modules, you can choose from an extensive range of options, drawn from a number of different subject disciplines. Details of the core modules are shown at the back of this brochure.

For up-to-date details of our programme and modules, please check www.exeter.ac.uk/liberalarts

**BA/MLibArts Liberal Arts**
This innovative programme combines the intellectual excitement of engagement with a breadth of subjects, with the academic rigour of depth of study in the later years. Your breadth of knowledge and understanding across a diverse range of humanities and social science subjects will be firmly grounded in your specific area of specialisation and underpinned by the core modules and programme requirements. The programme gives you the opportunity to conduct some of your studies at one of our international partner institutions. We will also help you to secure a work placement or research internship during your time at Exeter. You will also be able to extend your studies by a year in order to convert your degree into a Masters qualification.

**Year 1** Your first year is designed to give you a strong foundation in the liberal arts by equipping you with a range of key intellectual tools that you can use throughout the rest of your degree and your working life after university. You’ll take three core modules, the first of which will develop your skills as a critical reader and a persuasive writer. Another will teach you how to engage and critique Western cultural preferences by exploring the shifting social values of the body. The third will examine questions of consumption and the uses and abuses of food, embracing quantitative and scientific methods as well as engaging with ancient and modern history. Alongside these modules, you will also take an ancient or modern language from those offered across the University (for example, French, Arabic, Mandarin Chinese or Latin), or a module based on a quantitative methodology.

**Year 2** In your second year you will choose either Liberal Arts Think Tank, a problem-based research module, or the Humanities in the Workplace module. You will also take either a language or quantitative methodology module, whichever you did not take in the first year. Other optional modules can be selected from a diverse range of humanities and social science subjects. At the end of the second year, with the help of your academic adviser, you will nominate your major – the area of study in which you will specialise for the rest of your degree.

**Year 3** You will pursue your major by selecting modules in your chosen discipline. If you choose to take the three-year BA route, you will also undertake a research project and write a dissertation. This would mark the completion of the BA programme. Alternatively, you may decide to work towards converting your degree into a four-year Masters. In taking this route, you will spend the third year of your degree taking modules in your nominated major, before moving on to the fourth year of the programme.

**Year 4 (MLibArts only)** You will take a range of modules in your major area of specialisation, at least half of which will be at Masters level. Under the supervision of an academic specialist in your chosen field, you will also research and write a liberal arts dissertation. Successful completion of this stage of the programme would convert your liberal arts studies into a Master of Liberal Arts degree.
Learning and teaching

You’ll be taught by internationally respected research-active academics at the cutting-edge of their respective disciplines. We use a variety of approaches to help you learn and get the most out of your degree. Our teaching methods make full use of seminars, study groups, tutorials, and web-based learning. We integrate the latest approaches along with lectures to give you a varied and challenging programme. In core modules, you will learn through analysis, discussion and debate, practical work, problem-solving, research projects and team work, all of which are designed to help you develop key skills for success for the rest of your degree – and your future career.

The contact hours you will have with staff through academic teaching and support will vary depending on your chosen major; however, you will receive at least 10 hours of contact-time a week in your first year. In addition, you will be expected to invest a lot of time in independent study and peer-group learning outside of these contact hours. This will involve individual study, working with your study-group (for example, in preparation for seminars) and time spent with your personal tutor.

Given the diverse and interdisciplinary nature of the Liberal Arts programme, and to ensure that you benefit from the exciting breadth and depth of expertise across the university, we will also use team-teaching so that you can get the most out of Exeter’s collective expertise. So whilst a module will be convened and led by a specialist academic, many lectures will be delivered by experts in other disciplines.

In addition to the teaching and learning methods described above, there are many other opportunities for you to enrich your overall experience of the Liberal Arts programme. Depending on the major you decide to pursue, you will have the chance to get involved with mini-conferences, at which students can present papers to fellow students and staff, research seminars, and societies run by departments and the Students’ Guild around your subject(s) of interest.

We’re actively engaged in introducing new methods of learning and teaching, including increasing use of interactive computer-based approaches to learning through our virtual learning environment, where the details of all modules are stored in an easily navigable website. You can access detailed information about modules and learning outcomes and interact through activities such as the discussion forums.

At a university nationally renowned for its student engagement, you can also make your mark on your programme through involvement in Change Agents projects and participation in the Staff-Student Liaison Committee.

Research-inspired teaching

The University of Exeter is a research-intensive university. This means that our academic staff do not just teach, but also conduct high quality cutting-edge research in their specialist subject areas. The results of the latest Research Assessment Exercise (2008) confirm this. For example, English was rated first in the UK for world-leading research and in History 95 per cent of research was deemed to be of international quality. By making research integral to your teaching, we ensure that your lectures are up-to-date and relevant and that you have access to cutting-edge thinking, equipment and resources.

Academic support

All students at Exeter have a personal tutor who is available for advice and support throughout their studies. For students on the Liberal Arts programme, this person also acts as an academic adviser, providing guidance and support for study. Your academic adviser is your key contact to help you devise a programme of most interest and value to you, while meeting the requirements of the degree.

There are also a number of services on campus where you can get advice and information, including the Students’ Guild Advice Unit. You can find further information about all the services in the University’s undergraduate prospectus or online at www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate

Assessment

You will be assessed in all years through a variety of methods. These could include coursework, exams, written reports or seminar presentations, amongst others. You must pass your first year assessment in order to progress to the second year, but the results do not count towards your degree classification. If you choose the BA Liberal Arts, the assessments in the second and third years contribute to your final degree classification. If you choose the integrated MA Liberal Arts, the assessments in the second, third and fourth years all contribute to your final degree classification.

For full details of the assessment criteria for each module, please see the individual module descriptions which can be found on our website www.exeter.ac.uk/liberalarts

Study abroad

As part of the Liberal Arts degree you may study for either a full year or half a year at one of our partner institutions across the world, including some prestigious North American Liberal Arts colleges. Because a liberal arts education is about developing you as a person, we see study abroad as a vital element whereby experiencing the differences and similarities of education and people in another culture will increase your confidence and broaden the ways in which you see and relate to the world.

Like Exeter, our partner universities offer an outstanding and renowned education across the arts, humanities, social sciences and beyond. Full details of these schemes and of our partner institutions can be found on the Study Abroad page at www.exeter.ac.uk/liberalarts
The skills you will develop on the Liberal Arts programme will provide an edge over many other arts, humanities or social sciences degrees due to the core modules and the requirements to take a foreign language (ancient or modern) and science/quantitative method modules. The opportunity to study abroad will give you a wider understanding of the world and intercultural awareness and diversity, while the opportunity to develop a work experience placement or research internship during your studies will show potential employers how you can apply your knowledge and skills in the workplace.

On completion you will be able to demonstrate critical thinking, communication skills, textual analysis, quantitative analysis, teamwork and research skills.

These abilities are highly valued in a number of career sectors, with potential roles and industries including:

- Consultancy
- Museums/galleries
- Arts administration
- Marketing, market research, advertising, public relations
- Civil Service
- Education
- Primary teaching
- New media industries
- Journalism and publishing
- Finance
- Logistics
- Research
- Charities
- Information science

Many of our undergraduates take part in the Exeter Award and the Exeter Leaders Award. These schemes encourage you to participate in employability related workshops, skills events, volunteering and employment which will contribute to your career decision-making skills and success in the employment market.

Exeter has an excellent reputation with graduate recruiters and our students and graduates compete very successfully in the employment market. Many employers target the University when recruiting new graduates.

Find out more at www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate/employability

Careers

Entry requirements and applying

You can find a summary of our typical entry requirements on the inside front cover of this brochure.

The full and most up-to-date information about Liberal Arts is on the undergraduate website at www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/libarts and we strongly advise that you check this before attending an Open Day or making your application. Some programmes require prior study of specific subjects and may also have minimum grade requirements at GCSE or equivalent, particularly in English Language and/or Mathematics.

We make every effort to ensure that the entry requirements are as up-to-date as possible in our printed literature. However, since this is printed well in advance of the start of the admissions cycle, in some cases our entry requirements and offers will change.

If you are an international student you should consult our general and subject-specific entry requirements information for A levels and the International Baccalaureate, but the University also recognises a wide range of international qualifications. You can find further information about academic and English language entry requirements at www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate/international

For information on the application, decision, offer and confirmation process, please visit www.exeter.ac.uk/undergraduate/applications
# Liberal Arts modules

For up-to-date details of all our programmes and all the available optional modules, please check [www.exeter.ac.uk/liberalarts](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/liberalarts)

## Year 1

### Core modules

**The Art of Reading and Writing**
This module, which supports you in your development as a reader and writer, centres attention on particular forms of writing. Looking across a period from the ancient world to the present and considering writers from St. Augustine to Barack Obama, the module examines particular forms of writing, including the speech, the essay and the autobiography. This is a writing-intensive module and forms of teaching will support you in this fundamental work. Lectures will focus on key examples of the module's principal forms of writing, while workshops are designed to support the development of your own skills. You will keep a learning log, engage in peer-review of work, and participate in our virtual learning environment. This module therefore provides a grounding in the practices of critical reading and persuasive writing that have underpinned the liberal arts tradition, and will prepare you for work in the humanities and social sciences in subsequent years.

**Body and Culture**
This module will equip you with the intellectual tools to analyse and critique contemporary Western values by focusing on cultural constructions of the body, past and present. Topics will include the religious body, focusing on gender-bias and bodily rituals; the sexed body, examining feminist, queer and aesthetic approaches to the body in advertising and pornography; the commodified body, looking at body-marking practices such as tattooing, circumcision and piercing; the commodified body, debating issues such as organ donation and slavery; and the dead body, in which attitudes to the social value of the corpse will be explored. Lectures, seminars and workshops, led by high profile academics from across the University, will employ different cultural 'lenses' with which to view and assess the body in diverse ways. You'll be introduced to dominant critical approaches and key debates in arts and humanities subjects by engaging with a range of literary, philosophical, religious, political, sociological and anthropological portrayals of the body, and by employing a range of literary, artefactual and visual materials.

**Foodways and Consumption**
This module introduces you to the intellectual interface between the sciences and humanities by focusing on food production and consumption across the ages in Western culture. Topics of study will fall into four broad areas, each led by an academic expert in the relevant field: the archaeology of pre-historic food production and processing; food cultures in antiquity; the economics of food in late medieval and early modern Europe; food security and distribution in the political contexts of the contemporary West. You'll learn how to use key scientific and economic methods, as well as some practical skills, in order to engage cultural and social theories cutting across the sciences and humanities. A range of leading academics across the University will run lectures, laboratory work and seminars, giving you the skills to engage in quantitative analysis, problem-solving, and scientific methods such as microscopy and bone analysis.

### A Modern or Ancient Language
You will take a module in an Ancient or Modern Language of your choice; this can be chosen from a range including French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Latin, Hebrew and Ancient Greek.

## Year 2

### Core modules

**Liberal Arts Think Tank**
In this module, you'll work together in small 'think-tanks' to develop your problem-solving skills by exploring a specific social, political or economic issue in the contemporary world. Research questions will be set each year, determined by the academic specialists who will be selected to lead groups, and derived from their ongoing projects. Each group will be mentored and guided in their work, through a combination of lectures, workshops and group-supervisions. Groups will learn relevant methodologies, and be supported in their application of their learning as they address the issue under scrutiny. The module will develop your research skills, your ability to work efficiently and effectively as a member of a small team, and begin to hone key communication and presentation skills. You'll learn to employ a variety of intellectual tools, as appropriate to your projects, including quantitative analysis, archival research and data collation.

**Humanities in the Workplace**
You will take part in one or two subject-related placements, totalling at least 80 hours. This will allow you to develop an understanding of how the skills and knowledge acquired as part of a Humanities degree are applicable to the workplace and to extend relevant work-based skills and knowledge in a reflective way. It provides an opportunity for you to develop an understanding of a business or work environment through practical work and to gain experience in the use of technologies and applications commonly used in organisations.

**A Modern or Ancient Language**
You will take a module in an Ancient or Modern Language of your choice; this can be chosen from a range including French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Latin, Hebrew and Ancient Greek.

### Quantitative Methodology
You will take a module based on a quantitative methodology that can be from the social sciences or, if you have the necessary qualifications at A level, life sciences or science. This will involve systematic empirical investigation of social or scientific phenomena via statistical, mathematical or computational techniques.

## Year 3 (Year 4 for MLibArts)

### Core module

**Dissertation**
The dissertation is an opportunity for you to carry out independent research in a sustained way on a liberal arts themed topic of your choice. It allows you to put to use the skills you’ve acquired in the first two years of the programme by thinking at length about a question that is of particular interest to you, whilst receiving support and guidance from an academic supervisor.

If you take the four-year MLibArts, you will spend the third year of your degree taking modules in your nominated major and you will also complete an individual research project, before moving on to the fourth year of the programme.
Academic excellence

• We are in the top one per cent of universities in the world, and a regular fixture in top 10 league tables of UK universities

• You will receive an outstanding education here; our teaching was voted fourth in the country in the latest National Student Survey

• Our teaching is inspired by our research, nearly 90 per cent of which was ranked as internationally recognised by the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise

• We attract the best qualified students in the country; we’re in the top 10 for the number of students graduating with a first or 2:1 and for entry standards (students achieving AAB at A level and above)

A vibrant community

• Our students are the most engaged in the country, smashing participation records in student elections for the last two years running

• The Students’ Guild offers an unrivalled selection of societies, from sport to culture to community volunteering groups – 8,000 students take part in 165 societies

• We are a top 10 UK university for sport and provide excellent facilities and support whether you want to compete at the highest level or just for fun

• We work with our students to continually improve the education on offer, via initiatives which put students at the heart of our decision making process

• We’re a truly international community, with students from over 130 countries and staff of 50 different nationalities

• Our students are consistently among the most satisfied in the country, ranking us in the top 10 of the National Student Survey each year since it began

Ambition for the future

• We equip you with the skills employers need via business placements, study abroad schemes, volunteering opportunities, careers advice from successful alumni and much more

• Despite tough economic times, we’ve improved our employment record year-on-year: more than 90 per cent of students get a job or further study place within six months of graduating

• We’ve invested over £350 million in our three campuses, from new accommodation and research labs to state-of-the-art lecture theatres and library spaces

Explore the possibilities

Open Days
Come and visit our beautiful campuses. We hold Open Days twice a year in June and September.

Campus Tours
We run Campus Tours at the Streatham Campus every weekday at 2pm and at the St Luke’s Campus on Tuesdays and Fridays at 12 noon during term time. You’ll be shown round by a current student, who’ll give you a firsthand account of what it’s like to live and study at Exeter.

For full details and to book your place, contact us on:
Website: www.exeter.ac.uk/opendays
Phone: +44 (0)1392 724043
Email: visitus@exeter.ac.uk

Offer-Holder Visit Days
Once you receive confirmation of an offer we’ll contact you with an invitation to visit us on an Offer-Holder Visit Day, which will give you the chance to find out more about your programme and department and decide whether to accept our offer. While this opportunity to visit includes a campus tour and formal introduction to the department, much emphasis is placed on a more informal period for questions and answers. A number of our current students also take part on these days, leading tours and giving you the opportunity to ask them what studying at Exeter is really like!
Offer-Holder Visit Days take place during the period January to April.