**PURDUE UNIVERSITY CLA  
Celebrating our Traditions, Imagining our Futures**

OUR MISSION

The College of Liberal Arts is Purdue’s center for excellence in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. Our mission is first and foremost one of discovery, as we expand knowledge about the global human condition, promote aesthetic awareness and expression, and deepen understanding of the world’s most compelling ideas. We advance these goals through interdisciplinary discovery bridging disciplines both within CLA and across campus, building on Purdue’s breadth and land-grant tradition. Through our teaching, we nurture in students the broad range of intellectual virtues that are the hallmark of a liberal arts education. Our students are informed by historical and cultural contexts, shaped by ethical standards, and able to communicate effectively. In this way, we prepare tomorrow’s leaders to meet local and global challenges.

OUR VISION

The College of Liberal Arts will marshal its rich human, intellectual, and cultural resources to address the grand challenges of our times. Faculty and students in our programs will work within and across disciplinary boundaries in the land-grant tradition to advance Purdue University’s role in contributing to fundamental discoveries in the arts, humanities, and social sciences and to contribute to the quality of life worldwide.

We will lead as artists, educators, and researchers in the performing and creative arts, the humanities, and the social sciences.

OUR IDENTITY

College of Liberal Arts faculty and students advance discovery, learning, and engagement in the local community and across the world.

* We advance discovery within our own disciplines, enhancing the understanding of aesthetic, theoretical, and practical problems.
* We conduct research that integrates discovery in the arts, humanities, and social sciences with the University’s rich resources in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines, leading to innovations within and across our disciplines and throughout the University.
* We prepare Liberal Arts students for leadership in an increasingly interconnected world. Our majors complete a broad, challenging core curriculum that enhances their knowledge of world cultures and perspectives, racial and ethnic diversity, and gender issues, and heighten their aesthetic awareness. They become skilled oral, written, and visual communicators. We help students understand the past so they can imagine a better future, and we teach them to think critically and constructively about the world’s most pressing ethical problems.
* We provide a liberal arts education for all Purdue undergraduates regardless of major, enabling them to become aesthetically, culturally, and ethically informed global citizens.
* We serve local, national, and international communities through engagement programs. Our faculty, staff, and students recognize that the value of discovery and learning is realized in the actions of engaged citizens.

Our Mission, Vision, and Identity form the foundation of the College of Liberal Arts and enable us to support the goals of Purdue’s strategic plan, building on our existing strengths in Launching Tomorrow’s Leaders, Discovery with Impact, and Addressing Global Challenges. Those strengths and our plans for building on them follow.

Launching Tomorrow’s Leaders

**The College of Liberal Arts offers rigorous programs of learning to prepare students for ethical leadership in an ever-changing world.**

**launching Tomorrow’s Leaders: Our Strengths**

The College of Liberal Arts develops tomorrow’s leaders through deepening their understanding of the human condition. We foster appreciation of the arts, identify problems, integrate knowledge, and address complex social practices shaping our world. In our endeavors we explore connections between how things work and their broader meaning for universal human concerns. Our programs thereby set a stage enabling our future leaders to help others live productive, happy lives. As a College, we:

* Reach every student enrolled at Purdue, providing a broad exposure to the liberal arts curriculum, the traditional heart of a university education, and cultivating the value of learning as a lifelong endeavor.
* Introduce students to the intersections among the arts, humanities, and social sciences as well as disciplines across the University and ensure that these synergies are developed, fostered, and sustained both in and outside the classroom.
* Capitalize on the rich diversity of Purdue’s students to help them imagine, design, and implement ethical, sustainable, and transformative policies.
* Enable students to be competitive for the best occupations, professions, and graduate schools in a changing, global society.

**launching Tomorrow’s Leaders: Our Plans**

The College of Liberal Arts will provide students with the vision, knowledge, and critical skills necessary for future leadership through transformational educational experiences.

We will:

* Redesign student learning opportunities to emphasize synergies across the arts, humanities, and the social sciences.
* Increase undergraduate research opportunities.
* Create globally-oriented courses to increase students’ understanding of the wider world.
* Extend hands-on community engagement opportunities so that students can apply their knowledge to real-world challenges.
* Increase scholarships to encourage, reward, and celebrate students’ accomplishments in discovery learning and engagement.
* Secure fellowship funding support and enhance mentoring programs that strengthen graduate education and position the College as a national leader in Ph.D. completion rates and lower time to degree averages.

DISCOVERY WITH IMPACT

**The College of Liberal Arts promotes programs of research and creative to improve the quality of life in Indiana, the United States and throughout the world.**

**Discovery with Impact:  Our Strengths**

The College of Liberal Arts cultivates excellence through scholarly research communities in networks of academic departments and interdisciplinary programs and centers.

* Our faculty and students pursue distinction in discovery and in the broad dissemination of research findings.
* Interdisciplinary teams of scholars, researchers, and students investigate social inequalities that affect local, national, and global communities.
* Our partnerships with other universities and with profit and nonprofit organizations in Indiana, the nation, and the wider world create a successful model for discovery with impact.

**Discovery with Impact: Our Plans**

The College of Liberal Arts will pursue programs of research and creative inquiry. We will:

* Continue to recruit a diverse faculty of outstanding researchers and teachers and the best graduate students with approaches that include competitive salaries and start-up packages for faculty and competitive stipends for graduate students.
* Retain the best faculty by increasing the number of named and distinguished professorships and by enhancing formal and informal mentoring systems for untenured faculty.
* Facilitate disciplined-based and interdisciplinary research with existing intramural grants that provide support for pursuing extramural funds from foundations, companies, and government agencies.
* Expand interdisciplinary scholarship through participation in interdisciplinary programs and centers.
* Maintain our international visibility through increased publication in prestigious journals and presses.

Addressing Global Challenges

**The College of Liberal Arts addresses the ongoing challenges of our times.**

**Addressing Global Challenges: Our Strengths**

The College of Liberal Arts is in a unique position to address global challenges, not only because we are part of a culturally rich and diverse university environment, but because our faculty are engaged in teaching, research, and engagement that fosters global connections and problem solving.

* Liberal Arts faculty address social inequalities, speak to problems in the production and dissemination of knowledge, and broaden insights into cultural differences.
* We provide our students with knowledge of global issues through our curricula, study abroad programs, and the Global Studies minor.
* The College of Liberal Arts offers cultural and intellectual events that disseminate knowledge about global issues and help create tolerant communities.

**Addressing Global Challenges: Our Plans**

The College of Liberal Arts will engage our diverse constituencies to make a global impact. We will:

* Develop research agendas and curricula that answer questions of global significance.
* Expand our leadership role in the Global Policy Research Institute.
* Establish a Center for Research on Diversity and Inclusion.
* Strengthen existing and develop new global partnerships.
* Support a university core competency that helps students understand global complexities.