

ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF LAS, FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE COUNSELORS, AT “TASTE OF DEPAUL”

DePaul University’s College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (LAS) is a wide-ranging collection of distinctive academic programs. We offer majors from the semi-professional, like Art, Media & Design, Public Policy Studies, and Writing, Rhetoric & Discourse; to the bedrock humanities like English, Philosophy, and History; to the innovative and interdisciplinary like International Studies, Geography, and Peace, Justice & Conflict Studies. All of our majors focus on depth of learning in their fields plus breadth of knowledge about the larger world. And they share the following qualities that make them especially attractive academic options for transfer students:

- There are a good number of open electives, from 8 to 15, offering applicability of credit that may not count toward the major or general education requirements. This also makes LAS an ideal starting point for students who are still exploring major options.
- The emphasis is on the development of the skills of written and oral communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving. All students are required to apply their learning in an experiential project in the community, by doing an internship, or by studying abroad – and if possible more than one of these.
- Whatever a student studies leads to a job. Last year 93% of recent graduates reported being in satisfying employment or in further programs of study. And recent surveys have shown that when long-term earnings are calculated, LAS majors go on to be more successful financially – and we like to think happier with their work lives – than graduates of more “practical” majors. Another way to think of this is that LAS educates students to be engaged citizens and to be prepared for jobs that do not even exist yet!

A recent strategy in LAS has been to develop more combination bachelors – master’s degree programs. These allow students to begin graduate study in the senior year, counting three courses toward both degrees. In addition, scholarships are offered for the master’s program, effectively reducing the cost of a graduate degree by 50%.

What courses should a prospective transfer student to LAS take while at a two-year college? Here are some recommendations:

- College composition.
- Math and/or quantitative reasoning.
- Foreign language.
- Introductory courses in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences (including a lab).