

## RICHMOND

THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL

## UNIVERSITY

IN LONDON

# Liberal Arts Core Programme 

## Programme Specification

2018-2019

## Introduction

This document describes the Liberal Arts Core Programme awarded by Richmond the American International University in London using the protocols required by The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland (QAA, 2008). Also key to the background for this description are the following documents:

QAA (2013). UK Quality Code for Higher Education. Part A: Setting and maintaining academic standards and B1: Programme Design and Approval. (www.qaa.ac.uk)

QAA (2008). Higher Education Credit Framework for England: guidance on academic credit arrangements in Higher Education in England.

SEEC (2010). Credit Level Descriptors for Higher Education. Southern England Consortium for Credit Accumulation and Transfer (www.seec.org.uk).

Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation. 2014: Thirteenth Edition; Rev. Ed. 2015. (http://www.msche.org/publications/RevisedStandardsFINAL.pdf)
The Liberal Arts Core Programme is delivered within the framework of a US Liberal Arts undergraduate degree programme. Typically, undergraduate students complete 40 separate courses over the course of their degree, which takes 3.5 to 4 years (approximately 10 courses per year, with summer courses allowing for accelerated progress in some cases). Normally, each course carries 3 US academic credits (equivalent, approximately, to 3 classroom contact hours per 15 week semester). On this basis, students are required to earn a total of 120 US academic credit hours in order to complete their degrees. Of these 40 courses, roughly half are at the "lowerdivision" taken in the first two years of study and coded 3000-4999, and half are at the "upper-division", taken in years three and four, and coded 5000-6999.

Richmond degrees are also articulated in terms of UK Frameworks, chiefly the FHEQ and the Higher Education Credit Framework for England. Each course has been assigned to an appropriate level on the FHEQ, based on the course's learning outcomes and assessment strategies (note that the courses comprising the first year of the 4 -year US undergraduate degree are normally at RQF Level 3). US undergraduate credit can generally be translated to ECTS and UK credits in the following manner: 1 US credit $=2$ ECTS credits $=4$ UK credits. So a US degree of 120 credits would translate as 240 ECTS credits and 480 UK credits (with a minimum of 360 UK credits at Levels $4-6$ on the FHEQ). Students are required to complete 120 UK credits at each of Levels 4,5 and 6 . All Level 6 credits are completed at Richmond in the student's major area of study, and so there are no Level 6 courses contained within the Liberal Arts Core Programme.

The Liberal Arts Core Programme is accounted for within the title of a UK BA honours degree in the clause "...with combined studies". In the US degree title, it is subsumed within the general $B A / B S C$ nomenclature, as is typical in the US system.

## Contents

> This is an interactive Table of Contents. To go directly to the Chapter, place the mouse over the chapter title, and press Ctrl and click to follow the link.

1. Overview/Factual Information .....  4
2. Programme aims and objectives .....  6
2.1. Educational aims and objectives of the programme ..... 6
2.2. Subject benchmarks ..... 6
2.3. Internal contexts ..... 7
2.4. External contexts .....  8
3. Programme outcomes ..... 8
3.1. Knowledge and Understanding (A) .....  8
3.2. Application, Development, Transfer (B) ..... 9
4. Teaching, learning and assessment strategies ..... 9
4.1. Teaching and learning strategy ..... 9
4.2. Assessment strategy ..... 10
5. Programme Structure ..... 13
5.1. B.A. (Hons) with Combined Studies ..... 14
6. Distinctive Features and Regulatory framework ..... 15
6.1. Admissions ..... 16
6.2. Assessment ..... 17
6.3. Progression ..... 17
6.4. Placement ..... 17
6.5. Study abroad ..... 18
6.6. Student support and guidance. ..... 18
Appendix I-Curriculum map ..... 20
Appendix II - Programme Structure. ..... 22
Example 1: BA (Hons) Business Management: Finance with Combined Studies ..... 23
Example 2: BA (Hons) American Studies with Combined Studies ..... 24

## 1. Overview/Factual Information

| Programme/award title(s) | Liberal Arts Core Programme |
| :--- | :--- |
| Teaching Institution | Richmond, the American International University in London |
| Awarding Institution | Richmond, the American International University in London |
| Date of latest OU validation | NA |
| Next Review | $2020-21$ |
| Credit points for the award | 30 30 US Credits / 120 UK credits (at RQF Level 3 and FHEQ <br> Levels 4 and 5) |
| UCAS Code | N/A |
| Programme start date | FA 2015 |
| Underpinning QAA subject <br> benchmark(s) | N/A Did refer to benchmarks relative to specific disciplines <br> eg Science <br> See section 2.2 below |
| Other external and internal <br> reference points used to <br> inform programme outcomes | Standard 12 MSCHE Characteristics of Excellence in Higher <br> Education |
| See sections 2.3 and 2.4 below. <br> Professional/statutory <br> recognition | N/A |
| Language of Study | English |
| Duration of the programme <br> for each mode of study (P/T, <br> FT,DL) | 30 US credits/ 120 UK credits |
| Dual accreditation (if |  |
| applicable) | Middle States Commission on Higher Education (First <br> accredited 1981; renewed 1996 and 2006. Institutional <br> Review scheduled for 2016.) <br> QAA - Higher Education Review (AP) December 2017 |
| Date of production/revision <br> of this specification | Jan 2015 (see chart below for list of revisions) |

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if $s / h e$ takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in course specification documents, syllabi, and the student handbooks.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by MSCHE and/or the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

## Programme Specification Publication Dates

| First Edition | Jan 2015 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Revision 1 | June 2015 (minor revisions to Appendix II) |
| Revision 2 | June 2018 |
| Revision 3 |  |

## 2. Programme aims and objectives

### 2.1. Educational aims and objectives of the programme

## MISSION

The Liberal Arts Core Programme has its basis in the Liberal Arts. It promotes intellectual curiosity and critical questioning, an understanding of the interconnectedness of knowledge from a broad range of disciplines, clear communication both written and oral, flexibility, and active, interculturally aware citizenship.

## GOALS

- To broaden students' knowledge and understanding of the world by making connections across different disciplines and employing creative and critical thinking
- To enable students to communicate effectively through developing their presentation, writing and research skills
- To raise awareness of the importance of ethical judgement through the promotion of intercultural understanding and global consciousness
- To provide students with opportunities for service learning which will instil an understanding of the value of civic engagement
- To equip students with a series of attributes that are applicable to the demands of modern life and the workplace of today and tomorrow


### 2.2. Subject benchmarks

The Liberal Arts Core programme is a hallmark of a liberal arts education. The courses taught within this programme are taught by faculty drawn from across the University. The Programme Outcomes, encompassing Knowledge and Understanding, Application, Development and Transfer, provide the basis for the learning outcomes of the individual courses in the programme. (See pgs. 8, 20, 21) Additionally, where relevant, subject specific QAA benchmarks enhance these learning outcomes.

## Research and Writing I and II enhanced by

English 2007 benchmarks
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statementEnglish.pdf

## Quantitative Reasoning enhanced by

Mathematics, statistics and operational research 2007 benchmarks http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-Mathematics-statistics-and-operational-research.pdf

## Creative Expression enhanced by two sets of benchmarks

History of art, architecture and design 2008 benchmarks
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-History-of-art-architecture-and-design.pdf

Art and design 2008 benchmarks
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement---Art-and-design-.pdf

## Scientific Reasoning enhanced by

Earth sciences, environmental sciences and environmental studies 2014 benchmarks http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-earth-sciences.pdf

### 2.3. Internal contexts

The Liberal Arts Core Programme is an element common to and forms the basis of all the University's BA and BSc degrees, comprising 30 US/60 ECTS/120 UK credits of the degree's 120 US/240 ECTS/480 UK credits. The programme exemplifies the university's commitment to education in the liberal arts tradition, emphasizing the value of breadth of study. The courses within the Liberal Arts Core Programme lay the groundwork for the university's commitment to providing an interdisciplinary curriculum that enhances the student's academic skills, powers of critical insight, ability to operate in international contexts, and their employability.

Detailed published educational objectives that are consistent with the mission of the institution:
All course outlines/syllabi contain course specific objectives that are regularly monitored by the individual instructors and by the School of Liberal Arts Core or other relevant School faculty as a group.

Processes based on the needs of the programme's various constituencies in which the objectives are determined and periodically evaluated:
The Liberal Arts Core Programme's and each degree's Annual Programme Evaluation (APE) form a central element of Richmond's internal quality assurance and enhancement processes. APEs measure the academic quality and standards of the programme, identify good practice, record any issues to be addressed, and, from year to year, track the ways in which those issues have been addressed. During the APE process, the academic schools:

- consider student input via course evaluations;
- consider any formalized faculty course evaluations conducted;
- consider all External Examiner reports;
- examine the Programme Specification, and note any changes required;
- any major changes ("those which change the basic nature of the programme or student experience") to existing programmes are first approved by Academic Board.

A curriculum development process that assures the achievement of the programme's objectives, and a system of ongoing evaluation that demonstrates achievement of these objectives and uses the results to improve the effectiveness of the programme:

Ongoing evaluation is carried out independently by School and department members when updating courses. The Academic Board closely analyses the APEs of all degree programmes, and The University's response to the AMR is considered at the Schools and at Academic Board. A comprehensive additional formal and substantive review takes place every five years as part of its revalidation process of Richmond's degree programmes.

### 2.4. External contexts

The Liberal Arts Core Programme is provided through a system of ongoing evaluations that demonstrate achievement of the programme's objectives, and uses the results to improve the effectiveness of the programme. Ongoing evaluation is carried out for both US (the Middle States Commission on Higher Education) and UK (QAA) reviews. Richmond is a voluntary subscriber member of the QAA, and underwent its first full Institutional Review in May 2013 and a Higher Education Review (AP) in 2017 (http://www.richmond.ac.uk/about-richmond/american-british-accreditation/).
Students are encouraged to attend meetings, lectures at other London universities, institutions, think-tanks, agencies and organisations as is appropriate.

## 3. Programme outcomes

Programme-level learning outcomes are identified below. They are based on MSCHE's Standard 12 (USA), and SEEC categories associated with specific levels of the FHEQ. (UK)

The programme outcomes are applied in each course on the programme through assessed, course-specific learning outcomes.

The two broad categories of Programme Outcomes are:
A) Knowledge and Understanding
B) Application, Development, Transfer

On successful completion of the 30 US/120 UK credits, a student is expected to be able to demonstrate all of the Programme Outcomes.
Refer to Apprendix I - Curriculum Map for details of how outcomes are deployed across the study programme. The programme is designed such that every learning outcome, at all levels of the programme, are assessed for every student.

### 3.1. Key Programme Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the 30 US/120 UK credits, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of historical and contemporary contexts and their cultural perspectives, as well as links between disciplines.
- Demonstrate the use of self reflection and self management skills to further development.
- Demonstrate the ability to use appropriate methods to gather and organise ideas and information, and use critical thinking to ask, explore, and answer questions.
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively by using a range of technologies and by developing writing and presentation skills.
- Demonstrate the ability to utilise appropriate research skills and methodologies.
- Demonstrate the ability to connect the knowledge from one's own academic study to civic engagement and also to work in a team.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the importance of ethical judgment and use ethical judgment to inform decisions.


### 3.2. Knowledge and Understanding (A)

A1 Reflects on the process and development of one's own learning
A2 Demonstrates an awareness of cultural perspectives in a range of contexts
A3 Demonstrates an understanding of key terminology in the area
A4 Demonstrates an understanding of the historical context of the subject matter
A5 Demonstrates an understanding of the contemporary context of the subject matter
A6 Recognises a range of discipline specific approaches and methodologies
A7 Recognises links between and amongst disciplines
A8 Recognises the appropriateness of the research source to the task
A9 Connects knowledge from one's own academic study to civic engagement

### 3.3. Application, Development, Transfer (B)

B1 Uses self-reflection to make decisions about future courses of action
B2 Demonstrates self-management skills that aid academic and personal development
B3 Demonstrates the ability to work collaboratively in a team
B4 Demonstrates the ability to work independently within a given framework
B5 Demonstrates an understanding of how to apply defined areas of the knowledge base in practical settings
B6 Demonstrates the application of a range of research methodologies
B7 Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy ideas and information in order to evaluate their strengths and weaknesses
B8 Applies critical analyses to further develop ideas and suggest solutions
B9 Communicates effectively through a range of written outputs
B10 Communicates effectively by oral means to a range of audiences
B11 Exercises ethical judgement in relation to decision making
B12 Demonstrates the ability to effectively utilise a range of technologies

## 4. Teaching, learning and assessment strategies

### 4.1. Teaching and learning strategy

The teaching and learning strategy adopted within the School of Liberal Arts is as follows:

- Teaching through formal lectures, seminars, tutorials and workshops
- Regular use of individual and/or team-based projects
- Regular use of self-directed and directed reading in some courses
- Occasional use of individual and/or group presentations
- Occasional use of guest lectures
- Frequent feedback on coursework
- Regular use of e-learning platforms such as Blackboard

The combination of teaching and learning approaches mentioned above develops our students' knowledge, thinking skills and practical skills.

Their knowledge is acquired through

- Structured lectures and supporting materials

Their thinking skills are developed through

- Conducting research
- Helping others to learn
- Problem solving in class

Their practical skills are gained through

- Application of theory into practical problems
- Use of information technology to retrieve and manipulate information
- Negotiating by means of team-based projects


### 4.2. Assessment strategy

Courses in the Liberal Arts Core Programme meet differing assessment norms according to the course content. Full assessment details are found in the syllabus for each course. In the University-established charts below, levels 3-5 are highlighted as they are the levels relevant to the Liberal Arts Core Programme.

## The following courses meet the University Standard Assessment Norms:

- Creative Expression
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Scientific Reasoning

| Standard Assessment Norms |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| FHEQ level | Richmond/UK <br> Level | Normal number of <br> items (including final <br> exam)* | Total assessment |
| Level 3 | R3000/UK A- <br> Level | $3-4$ | 1 two-hour final exam <br> plus <br> $2000-2500$ words |


| Level 4 | R4000/UK <br> Year 1 | 3-4 | 1 two-hour final exam plus 2000-3000 words |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Level 5 | R5000/UK <br> Year 2 | 2-3 | 1 two-hour final exam plus 3000-4000 words |
| Level 6 | R6000/UK <br> Year 3 | 2-3 | 1 two-hour final exam plus 3000-4000 words |
| Level 7 | R7000/UK MA | 2-3 | 5000-7000 words |

* Reasonable adjustments should be made for assessment activities such as midterm tests, in- class presentations, group assignments, tests etc. Any summative assessment activities must be reflected in the final overall assessment count.


## The following courses meet the University Writing Intensive Assessment Norms:

- GEP 3180 Research and Writing I
- GEP 4180 Research and Writing II

| Writing Intensive Assessment Norms |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| FHEQ level | Richmond/UK <br> Level | Normal number <br> of items | Total assessment |
| Level 3 | R3000/UK A-Level | $3-4$ | $3000-3250$ words |
| Level 4 | R4000/UK Year 1 | $3-4$ | $3000-4500$ words |
| Level 5 | R5000/UK Year 2 | $2-3$ | $4500-6000$ words |
| Level 6 | R6000/UK Year 3 | $2-3$ | $4500-6000$ words |

Courses designated as Writing Intensive differ from the Standard Assessment Norms by:

- No final exam
- The total amount of written words will normally increase by 50\%

The following courses meet the University Service Learning/Internship Assessment Norms:

- GEP 3100 Transitions: London Calling I
- GEP 3101 Transitions: London Calling II

| Service Learning and Internship Assessment Norms |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| FHEQ <br> level | Richmond/UK <br> Level | Normal <br> number of <br> items | Assessment type | Total word <br> count or <br> equivalent |
| LEVEL 3 | R3000/UK A <br> Level | $3-4$ | Oral presentation; <br> report; <br> journal; personal <br> development <br> portfolio; portfolio <br> of digital literacy <br> output | 2000-2500 <br> words |
| LEVEL 6 | R6000/UK Year 4 | $2-3$ | Journal; professional <br> development tasks <br> and/or self- <br> reflection tasks <br> and/or portfolio | N/A |
| LEVEL 7 | R7000/UK MA | $2-3$ | Journal; professional <br> development tasks <br> and/or self- <br> reflection tasks <br> and/or portfolio | N/A |

The following should apply to all service learning and internship courses:

- No exams
- Learning Journals are required
- At Level 6 , a number of formative assessments will be used and do not count towards the number of assessment items
- MA level assessment points will be driven by a greater presence of self-directed learning


## Optional courses meet the agreed assessment norms for that course.

## Grade Assessment Criteria/Marking Scheme

Assessment in the Liberal Arts Core Programme is done through a range of coursework, including practical tasks, individual and group project work, written assignments and oral presentations, and final exams.

There are three 'pass' grades (and 7 sub-categories of 'pass' grade) in the Liberal Arts Core Programme. The following general criteria are used to distinguish between these grades:

Marking scheme

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline Descriptor \& Grade \& GPA \& Detailed Descriptor <br>
\hline Excellent \& A
A- \& 4.0

3.7 \& | Grade A applies only to work which: |
| :--- |
| - is of excellent to exceptional standard |
| - demonstrates in-depth knowledge and understanding |
| - demonstrates substantial work and original thought has been involved |
| - makes use of very high quality analysis, synthesis, evaluation and critical appraisal |
| - is organised and structured to a high standard | <br>

\hline Good \& B+
B
B- \& 3.3
3.0

2.7 \& | Grade B applies to work which: |
| :--- |
| - is of good to very good standard |
| - demonstrates sound and good quality of knowledge and understanding |
| - demonstrates good quality analysis, synthesis, evaluation and critical appraisal |
| - indicates an increasing ability to incorporate meaning into the work and understand key theories, debates and criticisms |
| - is well organised and structured | <br>

\hline Satisfactory \& \& 2.3

2.0 \& | Grade C applies to work which: |
| :--- |
| - is adequate although undeveloped |
| - fulfils the requirements of the project at a foundation level in terms of its quality, analysis and expression |
| - limited level of research and understanding of key theories and debates |
| - is organised and presented in a satisfactory form | <br>

\hline Below Average \& C- \& 1.7 \& | - falls below the threshold criteria |
| :--- |
| - demonstrates limited knowledge and understanding |
| - demonstrates minimal attention to quality, range, and appropriateness of research |
| - normally passing grade at course level | <br>


\hline | Minimal |
| :--- |
| Achievement | \& D+

D
D- \& 1.3
1.0

0.7 \& | Grade D applies to work which: |
| :--- |
| - is of a poor standard |
| - has been produced without a proper understanding of the brief demonstrating confusion |
| - is weak in content and shows little evidence of thought or application |
| - relies on weak or superficial technique |
| - incorporates insufficient research and/or inappropriate sources |
| - is organised and presented poorly |
| - normally passing grade at course level | <br>

\hline Fail \& F \& 0 \& | Grade F applies to work which: |
| :--- |
| - is of very poor standard |
| - has not been submitted or has been submitted beyond the project deadline |
| - shows a complete lack of content, thought or application |
| - makes no or insufficient use of analysis and relevant skills |
| - is the product of academic misconduct |
| - does not fulfil the brief |
| - failing grade at all levels | <br>

\hline
\end{tabular}

## 5. Programme Structure

### 5.1. B.A. (Hons) with Combined Studies

Richmond's Liberal Arts Core Programme is founded upon a small number (seven) of core curriculum courses, a breadth of optional courses students may choose from in the humanities and social sciences, and a wider breadth of optional courses from all discipline areas of the univeristy including Business and Languages. Courses in Research in Writing provide students with key academic skills such as the interpretation and construction of arguments, research methods, and referencing. Transitions courses help students in preparing to become active participants in their academic career and engaged citizens in their communities. Courses in quantitative reasoning, scientific reasoning, creative expression, and a range of optional courses in the humanities and social sciences, provide students with a range of learning opportunities across the disciplines. The program therefore familiarizes students with and provides them with an appropriate level of knowledge across the academic disciplines while also preparing students for life during and after university.

| Level | Courses |
| :---: | :---: |
| RQF Level 3 | GEP 3180 Research and Writing I <br> GEP 3100 Transitions I <br> GEP 3101 Transitions II <br> GEP 3140 Scientific Reasoning <br> GEP 3160 Creative Expression <br> GEP 3120 Quantitative Reasoning (for students without a MTH requirement in their major -- - students WITH an MTH requirement in their major substitute that requirement for GEP 3120) |
| FHEQ Level 4 | GEP 4180 Research and Writing II |
| RQF Level 3 and/or FHEQ Levels 4 and 5 (depending on personal choice and credit level requirements (see below) | Humanities \& Social Sciences Option (see list) * <br> Option I ** <br> Option II ** <br> * Cannot be double-dipped with major requirements. <br> **Any 3000, 4000, 5000 course not used to fulfil a major requirement |


|  |  | US Credits | UK Credits |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| LIBERAL ARTS CORE REQUIREMENTS (Total) |  | 27*/30 | 108*/120 |
| Level 3 |  |  |  |
| GEP 3180 | Research and Writing 1 | 3 | 12 |
| GEP 3100 | Transitions I | 3 | 12 |
| GEP 3101 | Transitions II | 3 | 12 |
| GEP 3140 | Scientific Reasoning | 3 | 12 |
| GEP 3160 | Creative Expression | 3 | 12 |
| GEP 3120 | Quantitative Reasoning (for students without a MTH requirement in their major - *students WITH a MTH requirement in their major substitute that requirement for GEP 3120) | 3 | 12 |
| FHEQ Level 4 |  |  |  |
| GEP 4180 | Research and Writing II | 3 | 12 |
| Any level 3 or 4 Humanities \& Social Sciences courses not used to fulfil a major requirement. The following course' codes qualify: AMS, COM, CRW, DEV, ECN, ENV, HST, INR, ITL, LIT, MCL, PHL, PLT, PSY, SCL, L3 GEP HMS ELEC |  | 3 | 12 |
| plus two options outside of student's major at 3000, 4000, or 5000 when choosing these courses, students and advisors must take into account the overall University degree requirement that $\mathbf{1 2 0}$ UK credits must be completed at each of the FHEQ levels 4,5 and 6 . Courses taken at a higher level will not be permitted to "dip down" to satisfy credit requirements at a lower level. |  | 6 | 24 |

NB. Students with a MTH requirement in their major will be exempt from GEP 3120 Quantitative Reasoning and therefore will be required to complete 27 US /108 UK credits in the Liberal Arts Core Programme. Students without a MTH requirement in their major will be required to complete GEP 3120 Quantitative Reasoning and therefore will be required to complete 30 US /120 UK credits in the Liberal Arts Core Programme.

## 6. Distinctive Features and Regulatory framework

The Liberal Arts Core Programme forms the 'Combined Studies' component of Richmond undergraduate degrees. The Liberal Arts Core Programme is distinctive in that it broadens the academic experience of the students as a consequence of Richmond's US Liberal Arts framework and Liberal Arts Core requirements, and deepens it through the sequence of course requirements within the programme. This balance between a core of requirements and a range of choices is a key characteristic of the US system of Liberal Arts undergraduate education. Developing this distinctive approach, the Richmond programme aspires to the best theory and practice from both sides of the Atlantic.

The Liberal Arts Core Programme is operated under the policy and regulatory frameworks of Richmond the American International University in London, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, the Framework of Higher Education Qualifications and the UK Quality Code for Higher Education.

The following sub-sections include the relevant University or institutional policy documents, where applicable.

### 6.1. Admissions

To be considered for admission, prospective students should:

- normally be at least 17 years old, have completed a minimum of 12 years of schooling, and hold the required grade(s) in a complete US high School Diploma, UK GCE A levels, or other UK or international qualifications deemed equivalent by the University, by the start of the programme;
- have completed an application via UCAS, the Common Application or direct to the University, including a personal statement and academic reference and supplying verification of existing academic and English language attainments as required by the University.

Further details of qualifications accepted and grades required may be found on the University website, noting that these are common to all BA programmes at the University and there is no requirement as to the subject of entry qualifications. Prospective students from the United States should note that SATs are optional but not required. Whilst not routinely required, prospective students may be invited to interview where this is considered necessary in order to fully consider their application.

Prospective students with specific levels of subject achievement in Advanced Placement Tests, GCE A Levels and some other UK and international qualifications may enter with Advanced Credit and be given exemption from certain courses of the programme. Normally, Advanced Credit may be given for a maximum of 30 out of the total 120 (US) credits necessary to complete the programme. The University also welcomes applications from prospective students with previous Higher Education study who, depending on subjects taken and grades achieved, may be given up to 75 Transfer Credits against the total 122 (US) credits necessary to complete the programme.

Students who are not nationals of a majority English-speaking country should normally have achieved CEFR level B2 in a secure English Language test acceptable to the University prior to entry to the programme. At the University's discretion, students in this category who are EEA nationals may be excused this requirement where they have recently undertaken a full time programme of study of at least 2 years duration with English as the medium of instruction.

Prospective students who do not meet the above academic and/or English language requirements may be permitted to enter this programme at the appropriate point after having first satisfactorily completed a Foundation Year and /or Academic English language programme at the University.

Further details of all of the above may be found at the appropriate page of the University website, where a comprehensive Admissions Policy and Summary of Practice document is also published (http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admissions/).

### 6.2. Assessment

A proper assessment of student learning and progression of skills gained is fundamental to the work of the University. Much of what shapes the University's perspective on this has already been mentioned within section 4.2, above, under Assessment Strategy, which has been shaped in accordance with the expectations outlined in Section B6 of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education.

For Assessment, the University also follows the MSCHE Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation, in particular, Standard V: Educational Effectiveness Assessment.

### 6.3. Progression

Within the Liberal Arts Core Programme, Research and Writing I progresses into Research and Writing II and Transitions I progresses into Transitions II. Learning outcomes in each of these courses are level-specific, ensuring an appropriate structure of progression.

The Liberal Arts Core programme is also a part of the general progression of a degree student since the courses are designed to provide some of the skills needed to progress within their degree. Students are encouraged to consider a wide range of issues and are required to develop their understanding of essensial building blocks for more complex courses in later semesters/years.

### 6.4. Placement

The Internship Office the University offers a formal mechanism through which students may receive work-placement opportunities. These placements are supervised, career-related work experiences combined with reflective, academic study that help students apply theoretical knowledge in the workplace. Participation in the internship programme is optional, but students who choose to take up a placement receive academic credit for their placement and associated academic work. For full details of the internship programme, please see: http://www.richmond.ac.uk/internships/

Expectations with regard to careers education, information, advice and guidance (as outlined in Section B4 of The UK Quality Cole for Higher Education) are handled by the university's Student Affairs department. This department conducts a variety of career services for students, ranging from resource provision to a CV service, and in particular through the LEAD (Leadership, Education and Development) seminar series. For full details of career services offered to students at Richmond, please see: http://www.richmond.ac.uk/career-services/.

In addition to these services, the alumni office offers networking opportunties where students may contact alumni working in a variety of fields. The alumni office also offers these services via social media such as Linkedln and Facebook. Please see: http://alumni.richmond.ac.uk/

### 6.5. Study abroad and Visiting Students

Richmond students have the option to take a leave of absence and travel away from the university as a 'study abroad'. With 20 partnerships spread over five continents, student are able to select from a wide range of partner. See https://www.richmond.ac.uk/overseas-study-partners/ for further information and requirements. All courses taken elsewhere must be pre-approved by Registry Services. All such courses are rigorously scrutinized, and only credit from appropriately accredited programmes, earned with a grade of C or above, are accepted for transfer. There are strict requirements regarding the number of courses and at what level may be taken outside of Richmond. Please see under "Graduation Requirements" at: http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-affairs/graduation/graduationrequirements.aspx

Richmond students also have the opportunity to complement their studies in London with a semester, year or summer at one of Richmond's two international Study Centres. The Centres are in Florence and Rome, Italy. Although each centre has a specific academic focus, they both offer intensive study of Italian language and culture. Please see https://www.richmond.ac.uk/richmond-rome-campus/ and https://www.richmond.ac.uk/richmond-florence-campus/ for more information.

Richmond classes benefit every semester through the arrival of study abroad students from colleges and universities within the United States. These students, who mostly enrol in classes at levels 5 and 6 , very often bring with them a distinct set of values and approaches to learning that can be both enriching and challenging. Richmond faculty have the breadth of experience necessary with which to capitalise on the positive aspects of this class room dynamic. Please note that Study Abroad students register for classes after Richmond degree-course students have completed their registration process.

### 6.6. Student support and guidance

There is a range of student support and guidance, for both academic and general wellbeing, available to students at Richmond. This is accomplished through a range of programmes and services which positively impact learning as well as the total student life experience.

All students have an allocated full-time faculty member who acts as their academic adviser. Academic Advisers have on-going responsibility for students' academic progress, meeting with each advisee at least once per semester. Advisers assist students with registration, enabling smooth progression through the degree. They also advise on postgraduate and career opportunities, and also provide pastoral support in many cases.

A range of Maths, English, Technology and Writing workshops have been established to support students with particular needs in these areas. Librarians are on hand to assist with library use, which includes instruction in web-based resources.

Richmond endeavours to make all practical and reasonable adjustments to ensure students are able to fully participate in the University community. Students who declare a physical disability or a special educational need are supported to ensure the quality of their educational experience meets their individual requirements. SEN students, for instance, receive extra time in examinations, and have the option of writing exams on university-provided computers, and/or of taking exams in a separate room. Please see: https://www.richmond.ac.uk/study-abroad-at-richmond/students-with-additional-needs/

The university operates a well-staffed Student Affairs department that provides services intended to support and encourage student welfare, safety and development. This department oversees medical registration of students and provides counseling services. It also organizes a range of extracurricular activities and travel designed to further enhance students' educational experiences. Disciplinary and social grievance procedures are also overseen by this department. For a full description of Student Affairs' activities, please see: https://www.richmond.ac.uk/student-life/

## Appendix I-Curriculum map

## KNOWLEDGE and UNDERSTANDING

A1 Reflects on the process and development of one's own learning
A2 Demonstrates an awareness of cultural perspectives in a range of contexts
A3 Demonstrates an understanding of key terminology in the area
A4 Demonstrates an understanding of the historical context of the subject matter
A5 Demonstrates an understanding of the contemporary context of the subject matter
A6 Recognises a range of discipline specific approaches and methodologies
A7 Recognises links between and amongst disciplines
A8 Recognises the appropriateness of the research source to the task
A9 Connects knowledge from one's own academic study to civic engagement

## APPLICATION, DEVELOPMENT, TRANSFER

B1 Uses self-reflection to make decisions about future courses of action
B2 Demonstrates self-management skills that aid academic and personal development
B3 Demonstrates the ability to work collaboratively in a team
B4 Demonstrates the ability to work independently within a given framework
B5 Demonstrates an understanding of how to apply defined areas of the knowledge base in practical settings
B6 Demonstrates the application of a range of research methodologies
B7 Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy ideas and information in order to evaluate their strengths and weaknesses
B8 Applies critical analyses to further develop ideas and suggest solutions
B9 Communicates effectively through a range of written outputs
B10 Communicates effectively by oral means to a range of audiences
B11 Exercises ethical judgement in relation to decision making
B12 Demonstrates the ability to effectively utilise a range of technologies

## Liberal Arts Core Programme from FA 2015



* Cannot be double-dipped with major requirements.
** Any 3000, 4000, 5000 course not used to fulfil a major requirement


## Appendix II - Programme Structure

Possible Degree Schema: Liberal Arts Core Programme. (Note: Based on a
Freshman entering Richmond with no Transfer Credit)

## YEAR ONE:




## Example 1: BA (Hons) Economics with Combined Studies

(Note: Based on a Freshman entering Richmond with no Transfer Credit)

## YEAR ONE:

| Fall | Freshman |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1. | ECN 3200 Foundations of Economic Ideas |
| 2. | MTH 3000 (if the student needs to complete it) |
|  | or Option: GEP (if done at level 3) or |
|  | elective/minor |
| 3. | GEP 3100 Transitions I |
| 4. | GEP 3180 Research \& Writing |
| 5. | GEP 3140 Scientific Reasoning |

## Spring Freshman

1. MTH 3111 Functions and Applications
2. GEP 3101 Transitions II
3. GEP 3160 Creative Expression
4. Option: GEP or GEP Humanities Social Sciences (if done at level 3) or elective/minor
5. Option: GEP (if done at level 3 ) or elective/minor

MIN 30 US/120 UK CREDITS AT LEVEL 3 REQUIRED
YEAR TWO:


## Spring Sophomore

1. ECN 4110 Intro to Macroeconomics
2. MTH 4120 Probability \& Statistics I
3. GEP 4180 Research and Writing II
4. Option: GEP or GEP Humanities Social Sciences (if done at level 4) or elective/minor
5. Option: GEP (if done at level 4) or elective/minor

MIN 30 US/120 UK CREDITS AT LEVEL 4 REQUIRED

## YEAR THREE:

| Fall | Junior |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1. | ECN 5100 Economics of Transition |
| 2. | ECN 5105 Econ Problems of Developing |
| Countries |  |
| 3. | ECN 5205 Intermediate Microeconomics |
| 4. | MGT 5210 Research Methods |
| 5. | MTH 5120 Probability \& Statistics II |
|  |  |

## Spring Junior

1. ECN 5200 Public Economics
2. ECN 5210 Intermediate Macroeconomics
3. ECN 5215 Econometrics I-Principles
4. Option: GEP (if done at level 5) or elective/minor
5. Major option from Level 5 list

MIN 30 US/120 UK CREDITS AT LEVEL 5 REQUIRED
YEAR FOUR:

| Fall | Senior |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1. | ECN 6215 Econometrics II - Applied |
|  | Econometrics |
| 2. | ECN 6205 Behavioural Econ |
| 3. | Major option from Level 6 list |
| 4. | FNN 6200 Money and Banking |
| 5. | Major option from Level 6 list |$\quad \longrightarrow$

## Spring Senior

1. ECN 6297 Senior Project ( $6 \mathrm{US} / 12$ UK credits)
2. ECN 6210 International Economics
3. Major option from Level 6 list
4. Major option from Level 6 list

MIN 30 US/120 UK CREDITS AT LEVEL 6 REQUIRED

Example 2: BA (Hons) American Studies with Combined Studies.
(Note: Based on a Freshman entering Richmond with no Transfer Credit)

## YEAR ONE:





