



# Liberal Arts

## Enriching critical and conceptual thinking.

The success of today's most recognized artists, designers, and creative leaders hinges on more than their mastery of studio technique. Successful and influential creative works address multiple dimensions of life and experience. They push boundaries and ask the audience to respond in intellectually and emotionally sophisticated ways. They entertain, delight, and move us, leading audiences into a deeper understanding and appreciation of our complicated world.

Today's trailblazers know what questions to ask and to whom they are speaking—skills acquired in the comprehensive Liberal Arts program at Ringling College. Liberal Arts courses comprise a third of your total degree requirements, but they are taught in interactive and visually-oriented ways you won't experience at a community college or public university. Liberal Arts courses will help you find your unique voice and learn how to communicate your perspective. They'll offer you a deeper understanding of our cultural milieu—where it has come from and where it is going.

### Designed for Creatives

In your Liberal Arts classes, you will discover a curriculum built for emerging creatives by active artists, designers, writers, historians, scholars, and scientists. Classes are designed to complement and amplify your studio work and are taught in a style that works for visual learners. Through your Liberal Arts classes, you will:

- **Encounter content, ancient and contemporary, that enriches your work**
- **Connect with students from other majors**
- **Open your mind to diverse viewpoints**
- **Place your own work in historical context**
- **Explore your sense of social identity**
- **Adopt a more global and cosmic perspective**
- **Develop a deeper sense of your own artistic voice**
- **Learn strategies to overcome barriers to creativity**

### Explore New Topics

In the Liberal Arts program, we are all about exploration and discovery. As a Ringling student, you have your choice from over 80 classes in a variety of disciplines, such as:

<b>Classical Mythology</b>	<b>Writing Tabletop Games</b>
<b>Ecology of Water</b>	<b>Digital Culture, Media, &amp; Society</b>
<b>Consumer Culture &amp; Behavior</b>	<b>Western Music &amp; Painting</b>
<b>Japanese Art &amp; Culture</b>	<b>Literature of Comics &amp; the Graphic Narrative</b>
<b>Film Noir</b>	<b>Sociology of Fashion</b>
<b>LGBTQ Literature</b>	<b>Gender, Race, &amp; Culture</b>
<b>Introduction to Gender &amp; Sexuality Studies</b>	<b>Global Body Art</b>
<b>Writing Comics &amp; Graphic Narratives</b>	
<b>History of Modern Architecture</b>	

### Visiting Speakers

The Liberal Arts program hosts national and international scholars to inform and inspire your studio work. Professionals from all industries have participated, including contemporary artists, architects, environmental activists, filmmakers, literary agents, art critics, journalists, historians, entrepreneurs, religious leaders, actors, mystery writers, orchestra conductors, and poets. We even have a resident futurist.



## About Our Faculty

Our faculty is comprised of creatives who are passionate about helping you become globally aware, socially responsible successful artists, designers, and writers. They come to Ringling College to teach because they want to engage with and inspire the next generation of creative thinkers. Here, you might take Liberal Arts courses from:

- Anthropologists
- Architects
- Art historians
- Art therapists
- Children's book authors
- Cultural historians
- Design historians
- Environmental scientists
- Fiction writers
- Film critics
- Mathematicians
- Philosophers
- Sociologists
- Theatre directors
- Video game writers

## Residency and Study Abroad Programs

Living and studying overseas will change your perspective and bring a whole new dimension to your art. Ringling College students have the opportunity to participate in study abroad programs in Ireland, France, Spain, Italy, and the United Kingdom.

## Faculty

Our faculty is comprised of artists and photographers who are passionate about shaping the next generation of creative leaders through our hands-on studio model of teaching.

### Stephanie Seketa

PhD History  
University of California  
Santa Barbara

### Chelsea Bruner

PhD Art History  
City University of New York

### Nicole Caron

MA English  
Portland State University

### Doug Chismar

PhD Philosophy  
The Ohio State University

### Kevin Cooley

PhD English Literature  
University of Florida

### Rick Dakan

MFA Creative Writing  
Pacific Lutheran University

### Susan Doll

PhD Film History & Theory  
Northwestern University

### Eleanor Eichenbaum

MA Liberal Arts  
University of South Florida

### Matt Giles

PhD Communication  
University of California Santa  
Barbara

### Tyler Gillespie

ABD Writing, Rhetoric, and  
Technical Communication  
University of Memphis

### Genevieve Hill-Thomas

PhD African Art History  
Indiana University

### Chrystine Keener

PhD Art History  
Indiana University

### Catherine Mougalian

MA Teaching English to  
Speakers of Other Languages  
Middlebury Institute of  
International Studies at  
Monterey

### Iva Petkova

PhD Sociology  
Columbia University

### Anthony Rice

MFA Art Studio  
University of North Carolina

### Tim Rumage III

MA Biology  
Boston University

### Madison Schmalzer

PhD Communication, Rhetoric,  
and Digital Media  
North Carolina State University

### David Steiling

PhD Literature  
University of South Florida

### Skylar Smith

MA Design History  
Bard Graduate Center

### Ryan G. Van Cleave

PhD English  
Florida State University

### Sylvia Whitman

MFA Creative Writing  
University of Virginia

### Christopher Wilson

PhD Architecture  
Middle East Technical  
University

### Effie Yanfei Yin

PhD Art History  
The Ohio State University



### Stephanie Seketa

Liberal Arts Program Director  
sseketa@ringling.edu  
www.ringling.edu/Liberal-Arts

2700 N. Tamiami Trail  
Sarasota, FL 34234  
941.351.5100  
www.ringling.edu