



## BACHELOR DEGREE IN **LIBERAL AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

### **Program Overview**

Why do adult learners pursue their Bachelor in Liberal and Professional Studies (BLPS) from Fairfield University? Because they always meant to finish their college degree, and then life happened. Because they took courses at other schools, but understand the value of graduating with a degree from Fairfield. Because they have to juggle a job, family, and coursework, and Fairfield offers the flexibility they need.

Featuring a convenient mix of in-person, online, and hybrid courses, the Bachelor in Liberal and Professional Studies is a flexible program designed for adult learners interested in earning or completing their bachelor's degree. Students have the option of pursuing a bachelor of arts by selecting courses in the humanities and/or social and behavioral sciences, or a bachelor of science by selecting courses in our mathematics, sciences, and/or professional programs. Whichever path they choose, students work closely with an academic advisor to customize a curriculum that best serves their academic and career interests.

Different from the pre-determined course of study required for most undergraduate majors, the BLPS is

a multidisciplinary degree enabling a major course of study that makes sense for the individual. Students may enroll on a part-time or full-time basis, and may stop or re-enter as needed. Up to 75 previously earned college credits may be transferred toward a BLPS degree from a combination of accredited college coursework as well as CLEP exams and/or portfolio credits for life/work experience.

### **Coursework**

BLPS students are required to complete a minimum total of 120 credits with a GPA of 2.0 or better. At least 30 of the 45 final credits must be taken at Fairfield University and consist of the following coursework:

- All requirements of the BLPS Core Curriculum
- Nine upper-level major courses from at least two concentrated areas of study. No more than four courses can be taken in any one of the following subject areas:
  - **The Humanities:** Applied Ethics, Classics, English, History, Modern Languages, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Visual and Performing Arts

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- **Social and Behavioral Sciences:** Anthropology, Communication, Economics, International Studies, Politics, Psychology, Sociology
- **Mathematics and Science:** Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology
- **Professional Programs:** Accounting, Economics, Information Systems, Engineering, Finance, Management, Marketing, Nursing
- LBPS 4999 Senior Project – A senior research project conducted on a topic of the student's choosing relevant to their interdisciplinary coursework

For detailed course descriptions and requirements, please visit [www.fairfield.edu/catalogs](http://www.fairfield.edu/catalogs).

## Transfer Credits

Students begin the BLPS program with a minimum of 18 previously earned college credits, but can transfer up to 75 credits of completed coursework from an accredited college or university. Upon admission into the program, the Dean's Office will review each student's submitted transcripts and schedule an advising meeting to notify them about the number of credits that will successfully transfer toward the BLPS degree.

All credits within a student's major must be less than 10 years old and have been taken at Fairfield University. Major courses should be upper level (2000–4000 level), but a limited number of 1000 level courses may be counted if they are not introductory courses. Transfer credits outside of a student's major (electives or core courses) can be over 10 years old.

## CLEP and Credit for Life Experience

A maximum of 15 credits toward the BLPS degree may also be earned through CLEP, DACE, DANTEs, and ACE exams, as well as a portfolio assessment of the student's work experience. Exam credits and portfolios must be submitted and reviewed before the student takes their final 30 credits.

## Program Director

Margaret Wills, PhD  
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## Admission/Eligibility

An informational conversation with a part-time enrollment counselor is highly recommended before applying online. To schedule an appointment, call 203-255-5532 or email [ptadmiss@fairfield.edu](mailto:ptadmiss@fairfield.edu).

In order to apply for admission into the BLPS program, candidates must submit the following at [www.pt.fairfield.edu/apply](http://www.pt.fairfield.edu/apply):

- Completed online application
- Official high school transcript, if no associates degree has been earned
- Official transcripts from all universities and colleges attended
- Personal statement

**Application Deadline:** Rolling for the spring, fall, and summer semesters

## Tuition/Financial Aid

Financial aid is available to part-time students who are matriculated in a degree program and taking a minimum of two courses (6 credits) per semester. All part-time matriculated students are welcome to utilize the services and expertise offered by the Office of Financial Aid. To learn more, visit [www.fairfield.edu/ptaид](http://www.fairfield.edu/ptaид) or contact the Office of Financial Aid at 203-254-4125 or [finaid@fairfield.edu](mailto:finaid@fairfield.edu).

Tuition costs are available online at [www.fairfield.edu/tuition](http://www.fairfield.edu/tuition).

Veterans may apply educational benefits to degree studies pursued at Fairfield University. Learn more at [www.fairfield.edu/veterans](http://www.fairfield.edu/veterans).

## Contact Part-Time & Continuing Studies Admission

Catherine O'Donnell  
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Email: [ptadmiss@fairfield.edu](mailto:ptadmiss@fairfield.edu)

Bachelor in Liberal and Professional Studies website: [www.fairfield.edu/blps](http://www.fairfield.edu/blps)



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