

# College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

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**Michael Lemke, Interim Dean**

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers seven graduate degrees, plus several graduate certificates in a variety of disciplines that stress the ability to think critically and systematically about significant questions, to communicate effectively, and to reach well-researched and sustainable conclusions. The liberal arts and sciences adhere to a central academic value of education as freeing the human mind from prejudice and parochialism through reasoned discourse.

The College offers the graduate student opportunities for personal and professional enrichment in courses taught by faculty who are dedicated teacher-scholars. Many faculty members have achieved notoriety for excellence in the classroom and produced research in the form of books, articles, exhibits and performances. They are deeply involved in mentoring graduate research projects in the classroom, studio, laboratory, and the field. College disciplines are taught using state-of-the-art classrooms, computer labs, and dedicated spaces for clinical observation, performance practice, and media production. Students have ample opportunities to learn in field — at the **campus observatory**, the **UIS Greenhouse**, or the Therkildsen Field Station at Emiquon Preserve, for example. Co-curricular activities are plentiful with the **Visual Arts Gallery**, **Music** and **Theatre** performances, and a variety of student clubs and academic honor societies.

In addition to a university-wide emphasis on student-centered educational experiences, the **College of Liberal Arts & Sciences** has a mission to provide a broad education for success by encouraging student participation in an interdependent, diverse, and rapidly changing world where learners become leaders and citizens of transformation in their local and global communities.