

Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS)**Program Path:****IDS Type:** Unrestricted IDS**Program Type:** Foundational IDS Program

Description: This program uses the interdisciplinary, multicultural and international perspectives that Ramapo first developed in its undergraduate programs to explore issues that shaped and continue to influence the modern world. Ramapo's program is unique in focusing upon the contact between western and non-western peoples in the past and the present. It explores how society at different times has been viewed by groups who are outside the mainstream, and investigates the perceptions of peoples from different cultures. The breadth and nature of the program have particular relevance to mature students who want to be able to make better sense of the times in which they live and who function in increasingly multicultural settings. Teachers will find it valuable, as will others whose work places them in contact with co-workers or clients from diverse ethnic backgrounds.

The MALS program provides an opportunity to receive a certificate of concentration in a focused area of study. If students take at least two elective courses in a field of preference and complete a capstone graduation project in the same field, they earn a certificate in addition to their degree. This option may prove especially useful for professionals or educators who want to demonstrate that they have both a Master's degree in Liberal Studies and advanced learning in a concentration or specialty. Ramapo's graduate program in Liberal Studies is the only one in the nation to offer this opportunity. (From website.)

Program Structure:

Admission Requirements: Application, Official Undergraduate Transcripts, Statement of Purpose (2 pages), (2) Letters of Recommendation, Interview

Credit Hours: 10 units (1 unit = 1 semester long course)

Required Coursework: 3 units, Three Core courses (The Search for Meaning, The Conquest of Caliban: Exploration and Domination, The United States in a Changing World: Issues in Globalization)

Individually Selected Coursework: 5 units, Five Electives

Exit Courses & Work: 2 units, Capstone Project

Established Department(s) of Focus: Open

Program Statistics:

Faculty: 25 department faculty, no information on associated faculty members

Students: Resident students only.

Program History: The Ramapo MALS program began in January 1995 with the admission of 26 students. Seldom had a program been prepared more judiciously. Dr. Sydney Weinberg led faculty and administration through a six-year timetable of planning, beginning in 1989. This included an assembly of some two dozen founding faculty and outside experts, meeting in bi-weekly seminars for two years. (From website.)

Contact Information:

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