General Information
The Master of Liberal Studies (M.L.S.) program in the School of Arts and Sciences provides opportunities to engage your curiosity in an intellectual exploration of the world of ideas. But the rewards of the pursuit of knowledge go beyond intellectual satisfaction. You will gain a refreshed approach to an enriched personal and professional life through a program that reinvigorates curiosity and creativity. You’ll gain fresh perspectives and the critical thinking, analytical, and communication skills so valued in today’s workplace.

Students begin with an introduction to graduate liberal studies and interdisciplinary methodology, and then enroll in at least three core seminars in the humanities, the sciences, and the social sciences. Seminars combine detailed study of a particular topic with a broad interdisciplinary examination of ways of understanding. The M.L.S. program draws on faculty with diverse expertise to explore topics through a multidisciplinary approach.

Admission Requirements
Students are admitted to the Master of Liberal Studies program by the Graduate Studies Committee of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. To be considered for admission, students must hold a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution and must have obtained an undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.0.

Completed applications include the following:

Application form
Personal essay
Three letters of reference
Transcripts of all previous undergraduate study
Application fee

Beginning Fall 2010, a writing sample and GRE, or equivalent graduate exam scores, will be required.

A student whose native language is not English must have a minimum TOEFL score of 560 (standard grading) or 220 (computer graded). The recommended TOEFL score is 600 (standard grading) or 250 (computer graded).
Exceptions to these requirements may be made at the discretion of the graduate liberal studies committee.

All students wishing to enter the program should contact the MLS office (alkiser@iuk.edu) before submitting an application.

Application Deadlines
Students may be admitted to the M.L.S. Program to begin in either the fall or spring semester. All admission decisions are made by the faculty members of the Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduate Liberal Studies Committee. The committee meets to review applications three times each year. The deadlines for submitting completed applications for review by the committee are as follows:

- April 15    Early admission, fall semester
- August 1    Final admission, fall semester
- October 31  Admission, spring semester

Students wishing to enter in the fall are strongly encouraged to submit their materials by the March 31 early admission deadline to assure there will be an opening in the program. Students are also advised to give reference letter writers at least two to four weeks’ notice so that their letters will arrive prior to the deadline. Applications that are not completed by a given deadline will not be considered until the next deadline and may cause a delay in admission by one semester.

Master of Liberal Studies Degree

The Master of Liberal Studies (M.L.S.) offers three different tracks: Interdisciplinary, Academic Teaching, and Global Studies.

Interdisciplinary Track

Requirements
1. Completion of 33 hours of graduate coursework;
2. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for graduation. If a student drops below a 3.0 GPA in any given semester, they could be dismissed from the program;
3. Only courses with a minimum grade of “B-” will count towards the degree.

Coursework
1. Twelve hours (six hours each) in two of the three departments (NIMS, SBSC, HUM);
2. Nine hours in three required seminars (D501, D502, D503);
3. Three hours for Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies;
4. Three hours of electives;
5. Six hours of thesis work or a capstone project or 12 graduate hours in lieu of the thesis work or capstone project, 6 hours replacing the thesis/capstone, plus an additional 6 hours of coursework. The work will be assessed by a portfolio.

Requirements for this track also include a thesis or project (supervised by a thesis committee), an oral examination and a travel portfolio.

Academic Teaching Track

Requirements
1. Completion of 34 hours of graduate coursework;
2. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for graduation. If a student drops below a 3.0 GPA in any given semester, they could be dismissed from the program;
3. Only courses with a minimum grade of “B-” will count towards the degree.

Coursework
1. Six hours in two of the three departments (NIMS, SBSC, HUM);
2. Six hours in graduate seminars (D501, D502, D503);
3. Three hours for Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies (first semester);
4. Six hours (3 hours each) in teaching assistantships (after course work);
5. One hour teaching practicum (summer before first teaching assistantship);
6. Six hours of electives;
7. Six hours of thesis work or a capstone project or 12 graduate hours in lieu of the thesis work or capstone project, 6 hours replacing the thesis/capstone, plus an additional 6 hours of coursework. The work will be assessed by a portfolio.

Requirements for this track also include a thesis or project (supervised by a thesis committee), an oral examination and a teaching portfolio.

Global Studies Track

Requirements
1. Completion of 33 hours of graduate coursework;
2. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for graduation. If a student drops below a 3.0 GPA in any given semester, they could be dismissed from the program;
3. Only courses with a minimum grade of “B-” will count towards the degree.

Coursework
1. Six hours in two of the three departments (NIMS, SBSC, HUM);
2. Six hours in graduate seminars (D501, D502, D503);
3. Three hours for Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies (first semester);
4. Six hours (3 hours each) in experience abroad programs;
5. Six hours of electives;
6. Six hours of thesis work or a capstone project or 12 graduate hours in lieu of the thesis work or capstone project, 6 hours replacing the thesis/capstone, plus an additional 6 hours of coursework. The work will be assessed by a portfolio.

Requirements for this track also include a thesis or project (supervised by a thesis committee), an oral examination and a travel portfolio.
Academic Curriculum (33 cr.)
(All courses are 3 credit hours unless otherwise designated.)
After successfully passing the introductory course and the core seminar requirements for the program, students may select from one of two options to complete their M.L.S. degree, thesis or non-thesis option.

THESIS OPTION:
D510 Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies

Core Seminars
D501 Humanities Seminar
D502 Social Sciences Seminar
D503 Science Seminar

Each of the core courses is a graduate seminar combining detailed study of particular topics with broad interdisciplinary perspectives. These courses give students the opportunity to explore the connections that exist among the diverse discipline and perspectives that define contemporary knowledge.

Electives- 9 credit hours
D511 M.L.S. Humanities Elective
D512 M.L.S. Social Science Elective
D513 M.L.S. Science Elective
D514 Graduate Liberal Studies Overseas Study

Six hours must be in two of the three departments.

Electives offer students a wide variety of choices with which to create programs of study suited to their individual interests. These elective courses may be selected to build support and background for the graduate project, or to enable students to more ably participate in the public intellectual, artistic, and cultural life of their communities. Students may repeat the elective courses under a different topic.

THESIS - 6 hours of thesis work or a capstone project/ Thesis/ Creative Activity
The Thesis/Creative Activity Option offers students the opportunity to work closely with a faculty committee and to complete a thesis designed around their unique interests.

Non-Thesis Option:
Students may select the option of taking twelve graduate hours in lieu of the thesis work or capstone project: six hours replacing the thesis/capstone project plus an additional six hours of coursework. Their work will be assessed by a portfolio.

Academic Regulations
Students must have their programs of study approved by the M.L.S. program director.

An average grade of B (3.0) is required for graduation, and no course with a grade lower than B– (2.7) will be counted toward the degree. Students are required to retain good academic standing, i.e., to maintain a GPA of at least 2.7. Failure to maintain good standing may result in dismissal from the program.

Other academic regulations and policies are established by the Graduate Liberal Studies Committee of the School of Arts and Sciences. Students are to consult the M.L.S. program director for further information.

Courses

D501 Humanities Seminar (3 cr.) An interdisciplinary graduate seminar in the humanities. Topics vary from semester to semester. May be repeated twice for credit.

D502 Social Science Seminar (3 cr.) An interdisciplinary graduate seminar in the social sciences. Topics vary from semester to semester. May be repeated twice for credit.

D503 Science Seminar (3 cr.) An interdisciplinary graduate seminar in the sciences. Topics vary from semester to semester. May be repeated twice for credit.

D510 Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies (3 cr.) A comprehensive introduction to graduate liberal studies. Explores the cultures of the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Investigates interdisciplinary methodologies. Offers strategies for graduate-level reading, research, and writing for other publics.

D511 M.L.S. Humanities Elective (3 cr.) P: D510. An M.L.S. graduate elective course in the humanities. Topics vary. May be repeated for credit.

D512 M.L.S. Social Science Elective (3 cr.) P: D510. An M.L.S. graduate elective course in the social sciences. Topics vary. May be repeated for credit.

D513 M.L.S. Science Elective (3 cr.) P: D510. An M.L.S. graduate elective course in the sciences. Topics vary. May be repeated for credit.

D514 Graduate Liberal Studies Overseas Study (3-6 cr.) P: D510. This course will enable M.L.S. students to participate in overseas studies. In some cases there may be a language prerequisite.

D594 Liberal Studies Directed Readings (1-3 cr.) P: D501, D502, D503 and prior consent of instructor. Independent study involving systematic schedule of readings sponsored and supervised by a faculty member. May be repeated up to a maximum of 6 credit hours.

D596 Liberal Studies Independent Research (1-3 cr.) P: D501, D502, D503 and prior consent of instructor. An independent research project formulated and conducted in consultation with a faculty member and culminating in a final analytical paper. May be repeated up to a maximum of 6 credit hours.

D600 Public Intellectual Practicum (3 cr.) P: Completion of all M.L.S. course work. A capstone seminar for the M.L.S. public intellectual option. Students will study the history of public in-
intellectuals, explore the variety of ways in which public intellectuals carry out their work, and create a portfolio of their own public intellectual work.

**D601 M.L.S. Project Proposal Seminar (3 cr.)** P: Approval of director. A capstone seminar for the independent research/creative activity option in which students choose a topic or creative activity for their project, complete the initial research to determine its feasibility, write a formal proposal with an extensive bibliography identifying sources and/or resources necessary to complete the project, and defend it before a faculty committee.

**D602 Graduate Project (3-6 cr.)** P: D601. Independent project work conducted in consultation with a faculty director.