

INTRODUCTION: LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION

All students working toward an associate or bachelor's degree need to successfully complete liberal arts courses. These courses will help you learn about the world and the many ways you can live in the world. A college education does not mean learning only technical skills. If you want to earn a living, have an opportunity for promotion, and enjoy life, you need to participate in liberal arts experiences. Liberal arts courses will help you: 1) learn how to study; 2) make good decisions about your life and personal goals; 3) live in a community of people from many different cultural backgrounds; 4) understand your own values and beliefs and how your values affect your behavior; 5) understand the variety of cultures within the United States and throughout the world; and 6) develop an appreciation of the creative arts. Liberal arts experiences are acquired not only in liberal arts courses, but also through the performing arts, special events, and community work. The purpose of liberal arts courses is to help a student become an independent, effective person with an understanding of the world as it is, and has been, and to help gain a mastery of skills necessary for adapting to new situations and demands.

The NTID Department of Liberal Studies offers a program of coursework designed to enable students to develop English literacy skills and to prepare for further studies in the liberal arts. The program provides access to the RIT College of Liberal Arts curriculum required for 2+2 transfer associate degrees and baccalaureate degrees and also provides the English literacy skills required for career-focused associate programs in the College of NTID.