



## MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES

### (MALS)

#### WHY OUR PROGRAM?

Our Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) program provides a unique opportunity to study the liberal arts with an applied perspective. The core curriculum is drawn from a variety of disciplines that challenge you to examine your professional values and ways of approaching problems. Interdisciplinary in nature, liberal studies draws from a number of disciplines and is rich in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and the arts.

[WWW.TESU.EDU/MALS](http://WWW.TESU.EDU/MALS)

#### APPLY LIBERAL ARTS TO YOUR PROFESSION

In a constantly evolving global economy, employers seek individuals with the skills to think critically and contextually, and to identify creative workplace solutions. The Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) degree program is designed for working professionals interested in applying the rigorous study of the liberal arts to their chosen professions.

The MALS degree emphasizes the importance of critical thinking and intellectual curiosity and provides highly applicable and marketable skills for the workforce.

#### PROGRAM ADVANTAGES

- ▶ You may tailor your master's program to your profession or your interests
- ▶ Offers both breadth across the liberal arts and depth in a specified area of study
- ▶ Provides foundational preparation for those who wish to pursue a PhD

#### AREAS OF STUDY

Once you complete your core MALS courses (18 credits), you can choose one of these areas of study:

- ▶ Digital Humanities
- ▶ Geropsychology
- ▶ Industrial-Organizational Psychology
- ▶ Professional Communications
- ▶ Online Learning and Teaching
- ▶ Learner-Designed Area of Study



"I had a degree in business education, and I wanted to broaden my horizons and the liberal arts was the perfect fit for me. I learned about different areas from business, English, history and research.

Robertha Walters, MALS '14

## CAREER INSIGHTS

Individuals with graduate degrees earn an average of \$1 million more in lifetime income compared to high school graduates.\*



Within a 100 mile radius of TESU:\*\* Top Occupations:

- ▶ **5.9% job growth (2020-2025) (Nation: +7.5%)**
- ▶ **90,481 known positions**
- ▶ **9,486 annual openings**
- ▶ **Median earnings ≈ \$73.7K/yr**
- ▶ Postsecondary Teachers
- ▶ Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors
- ▶ Social and Human Service Assistants
- ▶ Marketing Managers
- ▶ Education Administrators, Postsecondary

\*<https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/research-summaries/education-earnings.html>

\*\*Emsi Q2 2020 Data Set

## WHY CHOOSE TESU?

As one of the first schools in the country designed specifically for busy, motivated adults, Thomas Edison State University is dedicated to providing you with a high-quality education — anytime, anywhere.

- ▶ **Exceptional Value:** Competitive tuition and fees. Plus, financial aid and scholarships are available.
- ▶ **Barrier Free:** Students who receive an undergraduate degree with a GPA of 3.0 or higher will be automatically admitted to a graduate program.\* No GRE/GMAT or recommendation letter required.
- ▶ **Degree Flexibility:** Engage in your courses whatever time of day works for you. Courses are available 24/7.

\*Several programs have additional requirements beyond GPA for admission.

## ONLINE. ACCREDITED. RESPECTED.

Three words that characterize Thomas Edison State University's (TESU) unique approach to providing quality higher education in today's technology-fueled times.

Dedicated to educating adult learners for five decades, TESU has set the standard in online learning. As the leader in online education and a national leader in the assessment of adult learning, TESU is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and has been called "the college that paved the way for flexibility" by *The New York Times*.

Our innovative online and independent study courses and credit-by-exam programs give you the flexibility to pursue your degree when and where it is convenient for you. With more than 100 areas of study, TESU offers associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees and undergraduate and graduate certificates. One of New Jersey's senior public institutions, TESU's liberal credit transfer policies and tuition models remove barriers for adults pursuing higher education. Our resume-relevant programs provide career-building skills to help you meet your educational and professional goals.

**YOU'RE READY TO STUDY WITH THE LEADER IN ONLINE EDUCATION. EARN YOUR DEGREE ON YOUR SCHEDULE. VISIT TESU.EDU AND APPLY TODAY.**

THOMAS EDISON  
STATE UNIVERSITY

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## Courses and Credit Allocation MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES

Credits

### MALS CORE COURSES 18

LAP-500	The Liberal Arts and Professional Life	3
SAM-501	Sense of Community I: Art and Morality	3
SAM-502	Sense of Community II: Faith and Reason	3
CCR-610	Change, Conflict, and Resolution	3
SIC-520	The Species, the Individual, and Community	3
THC-625	Technology and the Human Community	3

### AREAS OF STUDY 12

Students may also specialize in one of the following areas:

#### DIGITAL HUMANITIES 12

DMH-510	Digital Communication	3
DMH-610	Introduction to Digital Humanities	3
DMH-630	Social Media and Social Change	3
DMH-710	Mapping Time, Space, and Identity	3

#### GEROPSYCHOLOGY 12

GER-510	Adult Development and Aging	3
GER-610	Geropsychological Assessment	3
GER-620	Geropsychological Interventions	3
GER-710	Geropsychological Consultation	3

#### INDUSTRIAL-ORGANIZATION

#### PSYCHOLOGY 12

IOP-510	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	3
IOP-610	Psychological Factors in Selecting and Growing Organizational Talent	3
IOP-620	Unearthing and Enhancing Organizational Talent through Psychology	3
IOP-710	The Psychology of Leadership, Motivation, and Teamwork	3

#### PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATIONS 12

COM-610	Professional Communications Theory	3
COM-620	Advanced Professional and Business Writing	3
DHM-620	Social Media and Social Change	3
MSP-662	Practical Grant Writing	3

#### ONLINE LEARNING AND TEACHING 12

OLT-510	Theory and Culture of Online Learning	3
OLT-520	Learning Technology as an Issue in Online Learning	3
OLT-630	Issues in Instructional Design in Online Learning	3
OLT-640	Communication and Interactivity in Online Learning	3

#### LEARNER-DESIGNED AREA OF STUDY 12

The learner-designed area of study (LDAS) gives students the opportunity to choose areas of interest to them and to plan and implement their own academically robust learning activities. Students develop a coherent plan of study in the liberal arts that can link directly to their final Capstone project. Students may propose to complete their learner-designed area of study in several ways:

- ▶ Take additional online graduate courses from Thomas Edison State University
- ▶ Apply up to 12 credits of American Council on Education courses that have been evaluated at the graduate level
- ▶ Develop a graduate-level prior learning assessment (PLA) portfolio
- ▶ Transfer up to 12 credits of graduate-level credit earned at other regionally accredited institutions

#### MALS CAPSTONE 6

MLS-700	Capstone Project I*	3
MLS-710	Capstone Project II*	3

#### TOTAL 36

\*MLS-700 and MLS-710 cannot be taken concurrently. Students must complete MLS-700 before enrolling in MLS-710