INITIATE. INFLUENCE. INSPIRE.

WOMEN IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
The College of Liberal Arts

Why study the liberal arts at RIT? Because you will receive all the advantages of a liberal arts education plus the added benefit of being taught on a campus that is world-renowned for technological innovation and creativity. You will be exposed to diverse perspectives and cutting-edge technology, preparing you for the challenges of today’s highly technical world. RIT has a well-deserved reputation for preparing its students for today’s dynamic job market, and the degree programs in the College of Liberal Arts are no exception. Over the past two years, 86 percent of our graduates have been employed or attending graduate school full time within six months of graduation.

The College of Liberal Arts offers a unique, technology-infused approach to the traditional liberal arts education. We emphasize global education, student-centered research, and social justice. The college offers small class sizes, personal attention from a diverse and committed faculty and staff, and a tight-knit “family” atmosphere. Our established experiential learning programs, which include co-ops, internships, research, and study abroad, give you relevant experience before you graduate.

Liberal Arts Majors

Advertising and Public Relations
Communication
Criminal Justice
Economics
International and Global Studies
Journalism
Museum Studies
Philosophy
Political Science
Psychology
Public Policy
Sociology and Anthropology

Need Time to Explore?

If you are unsure about a career path, but know that you are interested in liberal arts, you may want to consider our Liberal Arts Exploration program. You’ll sample different courses and receive the guidance you need from advisers as you decide which major best meets your career aspirations. You may find that your interests span one or more of RIT’s colleges. Our broadest and most flexible option, University Studies, allows you to spend up to a year exploring your academic and career interests.

Megan Bernella

Hometown: Austin, Texas
Major: International and Global Studies
Immersion: Religious Studies
Study Abroad: Chile
Activities: senior assistant, NTID Learning Center; secretary, Deaf International Student Association at NTID; community student advocate, NTID Student Life Team

Megan Bernella’s study abroad experience in Chile was so remarkable she went there twice, teaching English to middle school students while completing college-level courses toward her major. She chose to major in international and global studies to see the world. “I have a love for geography so I think international studies is perfect for me,” she says. As an NTID-supported student, Bernella has a deep respect for diversity and inclusion. “My goals in life are teaching deaf children in other countries and encouraging the growth of sustainability.”
Experiential Learning

All of the programs in the College of Liberal Arts offer opportunities to apply your knowledge in a professional work setting and gain career-oriented experience and personal insight through cooperative education or internships. These experiences give you a broad view of the opportunities available to you and deepen your understanding of your academic studies. They are valuable tools that can set you apart from other graduates in the job market and help you develop a focus for graduate study—at RIT or elsewhere.

Study Abroad

RIT’s Study Abroad program enhances the understanding of other cultures. You may choose to study for a summer, a semester, or a year in RIT-affiliated programs in exciting locations such as Australia, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Morocco, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Vietnam, among others. You can select to study courses in your major or take courses that fulfill RIT’s liberal arts requirements. You’ll gain the experience of living and learning in a culture different from your own.

Undergraduate Research

RIT recognizes that today’s innovative careers require strong research skills, and many of our undergraduate students find opportunities to apply their knowledge in all kinds of fields. They work with faculty on research that runs the gamut from public policy and energy use to concept mapping and land use; from the economics of pest management to criminal justice. The annual College of Liberal Arts Forum on Faculty-Student Research is held each spring to highlight the college’s research activities.

Minors

With more than 90 minors to choose from, you can develop a second area of expertise beyond your major, or you may decide to enhance a personal interest or hobby. Minors complement your academic program while broadening your knowledge and intellect.

Honors Program

The Honors Program is for students who have demonstrated outstanding academic performance. Members of the Honors Program have access to special courses, seminars, projects, and advising. There is also the opportunity to work directly with faculty on applied and interdisciplinary research projects, participate in leadership endeavors, and contribute to the community through volunteer and service projects.

Nicole Howley

Nicole Howley came to RIT for industrial design. By chance she took an Intro to Sociology class and from there, found her way to public policy. “And I’ve been in love with it ever since,” she says. “Public policy was the perfect fit for my interests. It’s political but also logical, thought provoking, and even philosophical at times; it is almost everything I care about combined into one.” Howley wants to work in politics. “As long as I get to help address some of the issues I really care about, I’ll be happy.”

Hometown: Phoenix, Arizona
Major: Public Policy
Minor: Philosophy
Activities: Student Government Women’s Senator; peer mentor, Public Policy and Liberal Arts Exploration; member, Student Advisory Board for both College of Liberal Arts and Center for Women and Gender
Energetic, Connected, Caring Community

RIT is alive with energy and excitement. The diverse backgrounds of our students contribute to the quality of our campus life. RIT attracts students from around the world, creating a living-learning environment that is diverse, dynamic, energetic, and connected. With more than 300 student and 30 Greek organizations and clubs, there is plenty for you to do as you explore RIT’s student life.

But it’s also a caring campus, as community service plays an integral role in student life. Students and faculty contribute to community service at a number of local agencies, such as Habitat for Humanity, AIDS Rochester, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and CURE (Childhood Cancer Assoc.). RIT students provide more than 5,000 hours of community service annually.

A Wise Investment, An Outstanding Value

Current students tell us that RIT’s comprehensive financial aid program of merit scholarships, need-based grants, loans, and campus employment opportunities makes an investment in RIT an outstanding value. More than 77 percent of full-time undergraduate students received more than $285 million in financial aid this year. Merit scholarships include Presidential Scholarships ranging from $10,000 to $16,000 and Achievement Scholarships up to $10,000.

Tianna Mañón

Hometown: Rochester, New York
Major: Journalism and Political Science double major
Internship Placements: The Hill (through the Institute on Political Journalism), Washington, D.C.; Rochester Democrat & Chronicle; office of Kirsten Gillibrand, N.Y. state senator

Tianna Mañón’s interests in writing and analyzing current events led her to her double major at RIT. Her internship at The Hill was intense, requiring assertiveness and initiative in a very competitive environment. At the Democrat & Chronicle she was given weekend events to cover that would be on Monday’s front page. “RIT is a very professional school because of the co-op base, and the faculty are always friendly. They’re often there after class to help you and discuss job prospects or recommend new things to try.”
The College of Liberal Arts is home to a distinguished faculty, many of whom are known nationally and internationally for their research. More than 140 faculty members teach courses in our 12 academic majors, as well as in the fine arts, English, foreign languages, women’s and gender studies, sociology and anthropology, and history. Here are just a few.

**Hinda Mandell**, assistant professor of communication, focuses her research on how news outlets cover scandals. She is a correspondent for the *Boston Globe*, where she was one of the reporters who covered Bernie Madoff’s $65 billion Ponzi scheme. Mandell is a former editor in chief of Boston’s *Jewish Advocate*, where she directed news coverage of religious affairs and their cultural implications. Mandell has also published feature stories and op-eds for Slate.com and Politico.

**Ann Howard**, a senior associate dean and professor of science, technology, and society and of public policy, has academic interests ranging from sustainable community development to citizen governance. No wonder that she, partnering with Rochester’s northeast neighborhood leaders, oversees a program to pair students’ talents with the needs of city residents toward revitalization of their neighborhoods.

**Kijana Crawford** is an associate professor of sociology and anthropology and teaches courses in mentoring, women, work and culture, minority relations, and African-American culture. Crawford has presented extensively on the value of mentoring and its impact on career choice and development.

**Tina Lent**, professor of fine arts, is chair of the museum studies program and director of the women’s studies program. “What we’re trying to do in women’s studies is extend our activities beyond curricular concerns into areas that allow faculty and students to interact outside the classroom,” she says. Those experiences lead to mentoring relationships between faculty and students, which help female students succeed.

**LaVerne McQuiller Williams** is an associate professor and chair of the criminal justice department. She joined RIT after working as an Assistant District Attorney in Rensselaer County (Albany), N.Y. McQuiller Williams teaches courses in evidence, women in crime, minorities in criminal justice, criminal law, and honors research. She also serves as the pre-law adviser and is an expert on domestic and intimate partner violence and therapeutic justice.

**Kristen Cummings**

- **Hometown:** Palmyra, New York
- **Major:** Psychology
- **Minors:** Communication, Management
- **Activities:** Peer Mentor; Resident Adviser, Global Village; Vice President of Programming, Alpha Xi Delta sorority; researcher on Rumor Psychology project
- **Internship:** Summer Research Scholar, RIT’s Center for Student Innovation

Being involved in campus activities has broadened Kristen Cummings’ college experience. “You learn as much outside the classroom as you do inside,” she says. “There is such a diversity of clubs on campus that there is really something for everyone to become involved in.” And a college campus with a wide variety of activities is the perfect environment for trying something new. “Getting involved is such an opportunity to learn about things you didn’t know you didn’t know.”
Visit Us

The best way to learn about RIT is to schedule a campus visit. You’ll have the opportunity to speak to students, meet faculty members, and sit in on a class. Visits may be arranged by calling 585-475-6631. Deaf and hard-of-hearing students may arrange campus visits by calling 585-475-6700, toll free in the U.S. and Canada at 866-644-6843, or by videophone at 585-743-1366.

Helpful Web Addresses

RIT Admissions:
admissions.rit.edu

Financial Aid and Scholarships:
www.rit.edu/financialaid

NTID Admissions:
www.rit.edu/ntid/students

Online Application:
www.rit.edu/admissions