

A Guide to Conversations about the College of Liberal Arts

Tech-focused

Humanities, social science, and communication curriculum relevant for our contemporary world.

Multidisciplinary: Liberal Arts+STEM

Equipping grads to think critically, adapt, and succeed in a rapidly changing tech landscape.

Career launching

Co-ops and internships that give our students a head-start and our grads an advantage in the workplace.

The Elevator Pitch

RIT delivers contemporary liberal arts studies for a complex digital age. Through a tech-integrated curriculum relevant for our contemporary world, students learn to think critically, adapt, and succeed. The multidisciplinary education of liberal arts at a STEM institution, supported by our highly ranked co-op and internship program, gives RIT liberal arts students an advantage in the workplace.

Supporting Points:

- **Complex digital age requires technology:**
Today, technology is woven into nearly every aspect of human life — from the ways we solve problems and exchange information to how we share stories and make connections to other people. It affects our legal systems, economic, political, and social structures, as well as our most fundamental, personal relationships. Here at RIT, a technical institution known for cutting-edge innovation, our students build the skills and mindset to adapt and thrive in a world and workplace that is ever evolving.
- **Tech-focused Liberal Arts curriculum:**
We teach students to openly examine problems from multiple perspectives; to analyze data and information deeply and critically; to put equity and inclusion in the forefront; and to seek inspiration in the pursuit of new possibilities. Our students become empowered to effect positive change through one of 15 majors, 40 minors, five graduate programs, or countless double major combinations.
- **Launching careers before they even graduate:**
Access to RIT's highly ranked co-op and internship program, limitless study abroad options and RIT's five international campuses, research project participation, and other hands-on learning experiences support our students in launching successful and impactful careers and lives.
- **Human-centered:**
At the RIT College of Liberal Arts, our faculty and staff care as much about bettering the world as they do helping each other. They are driven researchers, teachers, advisors, and mentors, dedicated to helping future leaders turn "What If?" into "I Will."

Contemporary Liberal Arts for a Complex Digital Age

“From our legal systems and economic, political, social structures to the ways we connect, share our stories, and form our most fundamental relationships, the **Liberal Arts are at the very heart of what it means to be human.**

At RIT, our approach to the Liberal Arts is human-centered and **tech-focused**, distinguishing our grads with the **skills for a digital age** and the mindset to thrive, think big, and transform ideas of “what if” into commitments of “I will’.”

— Dean Kelly Norris Martin, RIT College of Liberal Arts

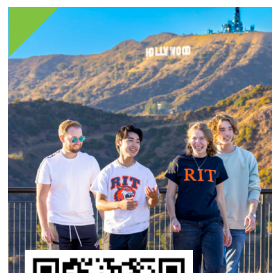
RIT College of Liberal Arts in the News



Where STEM and the Arts live in Harmony, as reported by *Inside Higher Ed* (performing arts)



“I’ve really fallen in love with neuropsychological assessment and research,” said Bo Allaby, who earned both a bachelor’s in psychology and master’s in experimental psychology from RIT. (Psychology)



As RIT solidifies its place in L.A., the College of Liberal Arts is paving the way to immersive study in transmedia storytelling, legal aspects of the entertainment industry, advertising and public relations, and more.



RIT scientist developing machine learning techniques analyzing body worn camera footage. (criminal justice)

6,104

Amazing Alumni

100%

Influential—university wide

All RIT students, in all majors, enroll in core courses; 40% of those core courses are delivered by the College of Liberal Arts.

3:1

Student-Faculty Ratio

The total number of faculty in the College of Liberal Arts is approximately 200, and its undergraduate cohort ranges between 600-660, making its student-faculty ratio for undergraduate students approximately 3:1.

2,000+

Performing Arts Students

Across all majors, who sing, act, dance, and play instruments at RIT. (Fall 2025)

Amazing People, Inspiring Work



“There is nothing more invigorating than using my research to brainstorm solutions to problems that have plagued my community.”

Libnah Rodriguez, criminal justice BS and MS '23
Research Associate

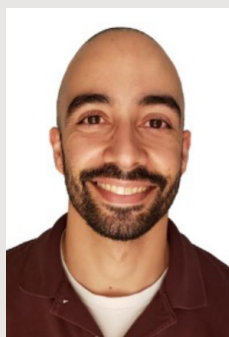
Libnah's research and criminal justice work includes Project CLEAN (open-air drug market); the Case Clearance project (non-fatal shooting investigations associated with an arrest of the suspect); expert panelist, Rochester Beacon's "Rochester's Homicide Crisis;" and more. She graduated summa cum laude from RIT and earned awards such as the Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar Award, Excellence in Research Award (2017-2022), Erving Goffman Award, Foucault Award, Hodgson Russ Discover Law Scholar Award, Richard B. Lewis Award, and Shaw & McKay Award.



I still use what I learned every day. It shows up in how I write proposals, business pitches, and how I develop marketing materials. Business is second nature to me because of my experience in the College of Liberal Arts.”

Krystle Jones-Ellis, advertising and public relations BS '09, communication MS '15
Owner of Ellis K Consulting

Krystle strategizes with organizations such as the University of Rochester Medical Center, USA Today, Rochester Police Department, Willow Domestic Violence Center, and the Women's Foundation of Genesee Valley to advance through leadership development, policy remastering, and culture change. She sits on multiple boards and committees, all advocating for women's rights, equal access to healthcare for children, and the international right to have clean water and has been featured in nationwide publications like the Chronicle of Philanthropy and USA Today.



“The professors that I worked with, one-on-one, helped solidify the career path that I chose.”

Luiz Freitas, economics BS '07
Senior Analytic Manager, Amazon Ads

Prior to this role, he held analytics and leadership positions at Google, Fidelity Investments, and Digitas.

“My greatest accomplishment is becoming a licensed attorney in New York State. I was heavily mentored by professors who truly believed in me and wanted to see me succeed beyond RIT.”

Shakira Smith, J.D., criminal justice BS '18 and MS '19, RIT;
Juris Doctorate, University at Buffalo School of Law '22
Associate (corporate and commercial real estate attorney), Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, NYC

During law school, Smith founded the First-Generation Law Students Association and was the first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Editor of the Buffalo Law Review; a faculty research scholar; a peer advocate, student ambassador, and admitted student mentor; and a member of the Black Law Students Association. She interned for the United States Attorney's Office and the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, the second highest court in the U.S., and in October of 2022, she passed the New York State bar exam—on her first try—with a score high enough to practice in any UBE jurisdiction.

Undergraduate Offerings

Advertising and Public Relations BS

rit.edu/study/advertising-and-public-relations-bs

Builds the foundational knowledge and practical experience needed to excel in the digital context of today's advertising and public relations industry.

- > **Co-op required, RIT in L.A. and other professional opportunities:** Students can tap into RIT's exemplary resources for on-the-job experiences that give them an edge in the job market.
- > **Student-run Ad/PR agency:** Through "Technically Speaking," the RIT student-managed advertising and public relations agency, students help clients meet goals for positioning and promotion while also getting valuable professional experience.
- > **Expertise for nearly any industry:** RIT's diverse range of options for double majors, minors, and immersions pair with the Ad/PR major, allowing students to develop industry-specific expertise for:
 - health care
 - entertainment and creative industry
 - business, marketing, manufacturing
 - technology
 - government
 - social advocacy/non-profit
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - Advertising and Public Relations BS + Communication MS
 - +1MBA
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Applied Modern Language and Culture BS

rit.edu/study/applied-modern-language-and-culture-bs

For success in a world that is increasingly interconnected and international, this major is an ideal complement to other technical and professional disciplines.

- > **Co-op/internship encouraged (not required).**
- > **International experience required:** Either through study abroad in 600+ diverse locations or an international co-op/internship, immersive experiences provide invaluable global perspective and strengthened language skills.
- > **Perfect complement to other majors:** Pairs seamlessly as a double major with nearly any RIT program, allowing students to combine in-depth language and cultural expertise in Chinese, French, Japanese, or Spanish with a technical or professional discipline.
- > **Minors are offered in 11 languages or areas,** including: ASL, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Language Science, Latino/Latina/Latin, American Studies, Russian, and Spanish.
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - +1MBA
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Communication BS

rit.edu/study/communication-bs

Graduates will excel in corporate communication, digital media, advocacy, non-profit organizations, and journalism.

- > **Co-op required and skill-building options:** Invaluable real-world career experience sets grads apart from the competition and provides practical application of communication skills. From RIT's student-run radio station WITR and magazine The Reporter to a host of clubs, events, and activities, many opportunities build skills and bolster careers.
- > **Customizable and interdisciplinary learning:** Curriculum builds theoretical research, and practical, on-the-job skills. Students can leverage RIT's extensive options for double majors, minors, and immersions to complementing their degree with courses in fields like design, photography, marketing, healthcare, programming, and tech.
- > **Journalism option:** This popular track connects students with world-class faculty and teaches how to collect, critically assess, and merge both verbal and visual information to effectively communicate news stories across media channels.
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - Communication BS + Communication MS
 - Communication BS + Sustainable Systems MS
 - +1MBA
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Criminal Justice BS

rit.edu/study/criminal-justice-bs

Emphasis on research, problem-solving, and critical analysis as the core of understanding crime, behavior, and justice systems.

- > **Internship required:** Criminal justice internship practicum provides on the job experience with organizations and agencies relevant to their career goals.
- > **Research that makes a positive impact:** Students actively participate in faculty-mentored crime and justice research initiatives, such as Operation IMPACT and Project Safe Neighborhoods, making a meaningful positive impact even before graduation.
- > **RIT's Center for Public Safety Initiatives (CPSI):** Bright, driven, curious, and tech-savvy, students, led by CPSI researchers and faculty, participate at all phases of research that advances safety, justice, and crime reduction in partnership with regional criminal justice agencies and the City of Rochester.
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - Criminal Justice BS + Criminal Justice MS
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Economics BS

rit.edu/study/economics-bs

A STEM program that builds in-demand analytical, quantitative, and data science skills crucial for guiding decisions across business, non-profit, and government sectors.

- > **Co-op/internship encouraged (not required).**
- > **Real-world data application:** Equips students with economic reasoning, data analytical, computational, and management skills, enabling them to apply economic analysis directly to solve real-world problems.
- > **Track options:**
 - Economic Theory and Policy
 - Environmental Economics
 - Managerial Economics
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - Economics BS + Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS
 - Economics BS + Artificial Intelligence MS
 - Economics BS + Finance MS
 - +1 MBA Early Acceptance Pathway
 - +1 MBA
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

English BS

rit.edu/study/english-bs

An English degree for the 21st-century, equipping students with essential skills in language, writing, analytical thinking, and digital tools for emerging careers.

- > **Co-op/internship encouraged (not required).**
- > **Career skill development:** Project management, team collaboration, and how to pitch creative ideas are just a few practical job skills RIT English majors develop.
- > **Tech-infused curriculum:** Introduces students to technology that allows them to produce creative work and analyze contemporary language, literature, and media in innovative ways, exploring areas from digital annotations to interactive games.
- > **Dynamic areas of study:** Learn from faculty specializing in areas ranging from fantasy worlds, Afrofuturism and graphic novels to social justice and the rhetoric of science.
- > **Track Options:**
 - Creative Writing
 - Literature and Media
 - Worldbuilding and Transmedia Storytelling
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Global Futures BS *(new for 2026 enrollment)*

rit.edu/study/global-futures-bs

Equips students for lifelong success in an ever-changing world by exploring and re-imagining the future of economies, political systems, technology, climate, and global society.

- > **International experience required. Co-op/internship encouraged:** The program leverages RIT's nationally-ranked co-op and internship program and expansive study abroad options, providing students with invaluable opportunities to gain practical experience and learn alongside innovators from across the globe.
- > **Future-oriented and multidisciplinary:** Prepares students to influence and adapt to rapid technological and societal shifts by drawing from diverse fields like public policy, science and technology, anthropology, sociology, economics, and history to understand and shape future trends.
- > **High-demand, adaptive skills:** Cultivates a robust "toolbox" of skills such as global business and economic literacy, trend analysis, strategic problem-solving, design thinking, and cross-cultural collaboration which are highly sought and remain relevant as technology and society evolve.

History BS

rit.edu/study/history-bs

Prepare grads not only to be future historians but also highly adaptable professionals across diverse fields such as law, education, journalism, and business.

- > **Co-op/internship required.**
- > **Digital age focus gives grads an advantage:** In the job market or applying to grad school, RIT history grads stand out because the program builds expertise in the study and craft of history within a digital context, using digital technologies.
- > **Diverse skills, dynamic career options:** Beyond historical research, students develop highly transferable skills in evidence collection and critical appraisal, constructing effective arguments and presentations, and managing research-based projects, preparing them for a wide array of careers in and outside of traditional history fields.
- > **Four thematic specialization options:**
 - U.S. History
 - Global History
 - Deaf and Disability Studies
 - History of the Environment, Science, and Technology
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - History BS + Sustainable Systems MS
 - +1 MBA
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Humanities, Computing, and Design BS

rit.edu/study/hcd-bs

A distinctly RIT major that blends the best of tech, design, and the digital human experience to prepare students for an ever-evolving, multidisciplinary workforce.

- > **Co-op/internship required.**
- > **Interdisciplinary focus:** Uniquely combines information science and technology with the liberal arts, building an integrative literacy essential for careers in diverse sectors like cultural institutions, government, educational institutions, and technology firms.
- > **Technological and design expertise:** Courses in new media design and research, web and mobile development, database management, and computing, alongside professional electives in areas like multi-platform journalism and digital design.
- > **Future-focused and adaptable:** Intentionally designed to prepare grads to excel in a rapidly changing economy, fostering adaptability and skills that bridges humanities, technology, and design.
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Museum Studies BS

rit.edu/study/museum-studies-bs

The only Bachelor of Science degree program in museum studies in the U.S., an interdisciplinary, tech-infused major that prepares grads to innovate in museums, archives, libraries, galleries, historical societies, and other cultural organizations.

- > **Co-op/internship required.**
- > **Internship required and other professional experiences:** Students gain invaluable practical experience through engaging projects, partnerships, and a required internship in a cultural institution, ensuring they are career-ready upon graduation.
- > **Engaging curriculum:** Classes in museum history and theory, exhibition design, education, and multi-platform storytelling and interpretation equip students for the digital demands and multifaceted interests of modern cultural institutions
- > **World-class, RIT-exclusive resources:** The curriculum offers flexibility while meeting industry-established criteria, providing students access to world-class resources on campus (e.g., Cary Collection, Dyer Art Center, University Gallery) to broaden and deepen their knowledge.
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Philosophy BS

rit.edu/study/philosophy-bs

A robust foundation for excelling in a rapidly changing world and workplace with essential skills for lifelong learning and adaptability.

- > **Co-op/internship encouraged (not required).**
- > **Foundation in critical analysis:** Students learn to evaluate complex problems, identify underlying principles, and investigate issues from diverse perspectives, which fosters analytical and problem-solving skills applicable to any career.
- > **Exceptional communication proficiency:** Develops strong written and oral communication skills, enabling graduates to clearly and persuasively articulate complex ideas, a highly sought-after competency in all professional environments.
- > **Track options:**
 - Philosophy of Mind and Cognitive Science
 - Philosophy of Science and Technology
 - Applied Ethics
 - Social and Political Philosophy
 - Philosophy of Art and Aesthetics
 - History of Philosophy
 - Philosophy and Law
 - Metaphysics and Epistemology
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - Philosophy BS + Sustainable Systems MS
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Political Science BS

rit.edu/study/political-science-bs

For future-focused leaders and principled visionaries aiming to create positive change in the global political landscape.

- > **Co-op, internship, or study abroad encouraged (not required).**
- > **Tech-infused curriculum:** From American to international and global politics, courses and tracks of study not only equip students to deal with the enduring problems of power allocation and use, but do so with a concerted focus on the promises and perils of our technology-driven world.
- > **Premier international leadership program:** The opportunity to participate in the Frederick C. Cuny Peace and Conflict Summer Program in Kosovo provides students with a premier international leadership experience, offering hands-on learning from renowned practitioners in global peace-building and conflict resolution.
- > **Four program track options:**
 - Digital Politics
 - Institutions and Political Economy
 - International and Global Security
 - Politics, Ecology, and the Life Sciences.
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - Political Science BS + Sustainable Systems MS
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Psychology BS

rit.edu/study/psychology-bs

A STEM-focused, research-intensive approach to understanding the brain and behavior.

- > **Co-op, internship, or research required:** A mandatory cooperative education, internship, or research experience provides students with invaluable real-world application of their scientific study of the brain and human behavior.
- > **Research-focused and technology-driven learning:** The curriculum emphasizes experimental methodology and statistics, utilizing new technologies to delve deeper into psychological processes, allowing students to observe, experiment, and analyze behavior from biological, social, and cultural perspectives.
- > **Track options:**
 - Biopsychology
 - Clinical Psychology
 - Cognitive Psychology
 - Developmental Psychology
 - Social Psychology
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - Psychology BS + Experimental Psychology MS
 - Psychology BS + Artificial Intelligence MS
 - Psychology BS + Sustainable Systems MS
 - +1 MBA
 - 3+3 Accelerated BS/JD Programs
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Sociology and Anthropology BS

rit.edu/study/sociology-and-anthropology-bs

A cutting-edge, human-centered, and STEM-infused investigative toolkit for navigating complex social and cultural challenges in our diverse and tech-driven world.

- > **Co-op, internship, study abroad, archaeological or ethnographic field school, or research encouraged (not required).**
- > **STEM-infused and inquiry-focused:** Combines in-depth investigation of societies, cultures, and material worlds with a strong emphasis on mastering diverse research methods, including ethnography, social statistics, data analytics, and archaeological science, providing quantitative and analytical skills highly sought after in various industries.
- > **Commitment to justice and global diversity:** Coursework cultivates a deep understanding of social and cultural complexity and diversity across the globe and through time, examining critical issues like gender, race, international migration, and health with a commitment to justice and human rights, preparing graduates to contribute meaningfully to inclusive practices in various sectors.
- > **Future-focused application for many industry sectors:** Curriculum addresses how the needs, desires, and values of diverse populations can be incorporated into areas such as healthcare, design, engineering, education, public policy, and more—equipping grads to address critical social issues and drive positive change.
- > **Four track options:**
 - Archaeology
 - Cultural Anthropology
 - Sociology
 - Sociocultural Inquiry
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - Sociology and Anthropology BS + Artificial Intelligence MS
 - Sociology and Anthropology BS+ Communication MS
 - Sociology and Anthropology BS + Hospitality Business Management MS
 - Sociology and Anthropology BS + Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS
 - Sociology and Anthropology BS + Sustainable Systems MS
 - +1 MBA
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Scholarships, Funds, and Grants for College of Liberal Arts Students

- > **Student Research Fund:** Provides up to \$500 for research by students enrolled in COLA degree programs.
- > **Student Travel Fund:** Supports student travel to present research (up to \$500) and for study or research abroad (up to \$750).
- > **Clark Internship Support Fund:** Supports internships and co-ops for full-time COLA students.
- > **Alumni and Friends Endowed Scholarship:** Rewards students who have exercised leadership in improving the life of the RIT community.
- > **Simmons Scholars Internship Fund:** Exposes high-performing RIT COLA undergrads to government and public policy careers through co-ops and internships in public policy, government affairs, and issue advocacy.
- > **Performing Arts Scholarship:** First-year and transfer applicants to RIT can apply regardless of intended major.
- > **Liberal Arts Multidisciplinary Scholars Program:** Gives financial support to students in STEM majors who are interested in adding a second major within the College of Liberal Arts.

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BS

rit.edu/study/wgss-bs

An interdisciplinary approach to understanding how gender and sexuality intersect with various aspects of life, including science, technology, humanities, and the arts with a focus on critical analysis, social justice, and customizable areas of study.

- > **Co-op, internship, study abroad, or research encouraged (not required).**
- > **Interdisciplinary and intersectional:** Explores gender and sexual norms, stereotypes, and representations across cultures and disciplines—including literature, law, public health, and STEAM—while examining their intersections with race, class, ethnicity, disabilities, and age.

Many RIT students choose to pursue this as a double major, complementing their studies in other majors such as health care, engineering, computing, business, and the creative arts.

- > **Social justice emphasis:** Cultivates an understanding of power relations, oppression, and injustice, prompting students to consider how to incorporate the needs and values of diverse and marginalized populations into critical areas like healthcare, design, education, the workplace, and public policy.
- > **Applied concentration areas:**
 - Gender, Art, and Media
 - Gender and STEM Studies
 - Gender Equity, Social Institutions, and Public Affairs
 - Gender Advocacy, Community Activism, and Inclusive Leadership
 - Queer and Transgender Studies
 - Individualized WGSS focus
- > **CABMs and accelerated pathways to advanced degrees:**
 - Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BS + Communication MS
 - Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BS + Science, Technology and Public Policy MS
 - 4+1 Teaching Partnership Programs

Liberal Arts Exploration

rit.edu/study/liberal-arts-exploration

Undeclared option that lets students complete required liberal arts, mathematics, and science courses while actively pursuing career exploration and receiving individualized academic advising.

- > **For up to two years or 60 credit hours**, students can stay in the program before they must choose a major.
- > **Guided support, flexibility, and time to explore** a variety of majors within the College of Liberal Arts without delaying their graduation.

Resources for the
RIT Campus and
Community,
Made Possible by the
College of Liberal Arts

- > **Center for Public Safety Initiatives (Criminal Justice):** RIT's Center for Public Safety Initiatives researches, analyzes, and promotes strategies that advance safety, justice, and crime reduction in partnership with regional community-based organizations and law enforcement agencies, the City of Rochester, and RIT's Department of Criminal Justice. From data collection to presentation of findings and recommendations, students participate at all phases, developing on-the-job skills and experience and expanding career networking connections.
- > **Center for Worldbuilding and Storytelling (English):** Inspiring creativity and critical analysis, worldbuilding and transmedia storytelling can be tools for exploring real-world implications of technological and societal changes. The Center offers workshops, events, and opportunities that are open to any RIT student.

School of Performing Arts

Expression for Everyone

rit.edu/performingarts

Performing arts at a university known around the world for its excellence in science and tech? Absolutely. By combining the constantly innovative nature of technology with traditional art and performance, RIT is breaking new ground in the realm of artistic experience.

Housed within the RIT College of Liberal Arts, the School of Performing Arts provides students an invaluable outlet for creative expression and continued growth as performing artists—regardless of their major or career path.

Additionally, RIT's School of Performing Arts is active and valued in Rochester's vibrant arts scene.

By presenting performances, activities, and events that are open to the public—the parents and families of RIT students as well as enthusiasts who appreciate innovative, live music, dance, and theatre—it shares an inspiring glimpse of the amazing potential that RIT makes possible.

Minors:

- > Dance
- > Music and Technology
- > Music Performance
- > Theatre Arts
- > Theatre Design and Stagecraft

Immersion:

- > Dance
- > Music
- > Theatre Arts
- > Theatre Design and Stagecraft

The RIT Performing Arts Scholarship

rit.edu/performingarts/performing-arts-scholarship

First-year and transfer applicants to RIT are eligible to apply for the Performing Arts Scholarship, regardless of intended major.

This scholarship may be received in combination with other awards and grants and is renewable each year that a student is an undergraduate and involved in performing arts at RIT.

- > **How to Apply:** The application consists of a series of questions regarding students' performing arts experiences and goals, and a place to provide performance examples via YouTube or Vimeo. Details at rit.edu/performingarts/performing-arts-scholarship
- > **How to Maintain the Annual Performing Arts Scholarship:** Students must meet three requirements:
 - Participate in any form of the performing arts—including acting, dance, music, musical theatre, or technical production course or activity—for at least one semester each academic year that they receive the scholarship.
 - Complete the end-of-semester survey emailed to them in the final weeks of each semester.
 - Connect, network, and socialize with their fellow Performing Arts Scholars, the RIT/NTID community and take advantage of the many wonderful opportunities in the Finger Lakes Region.

> **Expressive Communication Center (School of Communication):** Focused support for all RIT students who seek to strengthen their ability to deliver dynamic public presentations confidently, clearly, and eloquently—skills that give them an advantage on the job and throughout their life.

> **Genesee Country Village & Museum Partnership (Museum Studies):** Provides opportunities for students to combine historic and 21st-century techniques to innovate and enrich visitor experiences at one of the country's preeminent living history museums. Since the fall 2016, RIT faculty, students, and staff have partnered with the museum in areas such as marketing, social media strategy and analysis, driving tourism through events, engineering a historically-accurate printing press, developing interactive digital content for visitors, designing exhibitions and curating galleries, and preparing STEM-focused educational activities.

> **Interdisciplinary Institute for Innovation, a.k.a. i3 (COLA Academic Affairs):** A fresh take on the traditional RIT academic organizational unit, the i3 supports existing and developing College of Liberal Arts programs that strategically combine multiple disciplines to deliver a degree and career preparation that is adaptable and future-forward.

> **Seneca Park Zoo Partnership (Psychology):** RIT and the Seneca Park Zoo work together on mutually-beneficial projects and research in areas such as animal cognition and perception, visitor engagement and education, and marketing and social media management. The zoo's Center for Biodiversity Exploration is a direct result of the partnership with RIT—it's an interactive experience for zoo guests of all ages to learn more about biodiversity and environmental health. Research on animal perception and cognition conducted at the zoo by RIT

Pre-Professional Programs

3+3 Law and Pre-Law Advising Program

rit.edu/liberalarts/33-bs-jd-pre-law-program

Fosters essential legal competencies through mock law school classes, legal writing exercises, and networking with judges and attorneys, while also providing intensive academic advising and opportunities to tour law schools.

> **Uniquely RIT rich experiential learning:**

- Pre-Law Society
- Mock Trial Association
- RIT in L.A. Program for entertainment law interests
- Frederick C. Cuny Peace and Conflict Summer Program in Kosovo for international legal and policy careers

> **RIT's Pre-Law Advising Program:**

- For students across all RIT majors aspiring to legal careers.
- Provides a robust foundation of skill development, career path exploration, and progress guidance.

> **3+3 Law Accelerated BS/JD Program:**

- For students in select RIT majors, including:
 - Advertising and Public Relations
 - Communication
 - Criminal Justice
 - Economics
 - English
 - History
 - International and Global Studies
 - Museum Studies
 - Philosophy
 - Political Science
 - Psychology
 - Sociology and Anthropology
 - Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- Options with Syracuse University or University at Buffalo.
- Students earn both degrees in six years, which saves significant time and financial resources.

4 + 1 Education Partnership Programs, BS/MS, BS/MEd, BS/MST

rit.edu/liberalarts/33-bs-jd-pre-law-program

> **4+1 Program with the University of Rochester** Warner School of Education leading to:

- Early Childhood MS
- Elementary Education MS
- Grades 7-12 (English Language Arts, Foreign Languages, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies) MS
- All ages (Disabilities and Inclusion, Reading and Literacy, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) MS
- Higher Education (Higher Education Administration, Student Affairs Administration, Student Affairs Administration, and Academic and Career Advising) MS

> **For RIT majors in:**

- Advertising and Public Relations
- Applied Modern Languages and Culture
- Communication
- Criminal Justice
- Economics
- English
- History
- Humanities, Computing, and Design
- International and Global Studies
- Museum Studies
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology and Anthropology
- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

> **4+1 Options with Roberts Wesleyan University** leading to:

- Early Childhood and Special Education M.Ed.
- Childhood and Special Education M.Ed.
- Adolescence and Special Education M.Ed.

> **Art Education** with RIT College of Art and Design, All Grades (Visual Arts - Art Education) MST

> **Secondary Education: Deaf or Hard of Hearing** with RIT National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Secondary Education of Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing MS

Graduate Programs

Artificial Intelligence MS *(jointly offered program)*

rit.edu/study/artificial-intelligence-ms

Teaches students to harness the benefits of AI and gain transferable skills in the responsible and impactful design, development, analysis, and deployment of artificial intelligence.

- > **Co-op /internship encouraged (not required).**
- > **For students from diverse educational backgrounds** and with an interest in various AI sectors.
- > **Develops well-rounded skill-sets** in designing, developing, and deploying AI systems while also learning how to understand and analyze AI's impact on policy and society.
- > **STEM-OPT Visa Eligible**

Cognitive Science Ph.D. *(jointly offered program)*

rit.edu/study/cognitive-science-phd

The interdisciplinary study of biological and non-biological minds that combines insights from psychology, computer science, linguistics, engineering, neuroscience, augmented reality, and philosophy.

- > **Research focus:** Students conduct research in the areas of human perception, cognition, action, and language with a focus on the representation and processing of information within biological and computational frameworks. Faculty research interests are broad and encompass areas of cognition, including language; sensation and perception; attention; learning and memory; and decision making and motor control.
- > **Interdisciplinary:** Faculty advisors and researchers come from across RIT to create a thriving, interdisciplinary community. Jointly offered program leverages the expertise of faculty from six RIT colleges—College of Liberal Arts, College of Science, Golisano College of Computing and Information Systems, Kate Gleason College of Engineering, and National Technical Institute for the Deaf— and the RIT Croatia campus.
- > **STEM-OPT Visa Eligible**

Communication MS

rit.edu/study/communication-ms

Combines essential communication knowledge and research skills for careers in the communication and media industry and for study at the doctoral level.

- > **Co-op /internship encouraged (not required)**
- > **Customizable program options** include strategic communication (e.g., advertising, public relations, health communication, and civic engagement); emerging media studies (e.g., computational communication and media analytics); and communication and media studies
- > **Future-focused curriculum** develop expertise in rapidly evolving key areas of communication including the use of artificial intelligence, social media, and strategic communication.

Criminal Justice MS

rit.edu/study/criminal-justice-ms

Prepares critical thinkers and future policy makers for the fields of criminal justice, law, and safety with a foundation in theory and in-demand skills for data analysis.

- > **Research focus:** Actively builds on a foundation in policy research while fostering the creation of new knowledge.

- > **Policy analysis expertise:** The study of criminology, criminal justice theory, and social science research skills prepares grads for successful careers with criminal justice agencies, in policy analysis, or pursue a criminal justice doctoral degree or law program.
- > **RIT Center for Public Safety Initiatives:** A distinctive partnership between RIT's Criminal Justice Department, the City of Rochester, and local criminal justice agencies provides students direct experience in crime data research and analysis as well as policy development.

Engineering Psychology Adv. Cert.

rit.edu/study/engineering-psychology-adv-cert

Explores human-machine interactions and the science of human behavior to prepare grads for careers in ergonomics, tech development and research, industrial design, and more.

Experimental Psychology MS

rit.edu/study/experimental-psychology-ms

Explores and applies scientific methods to multiple fields of psychology all while gaining the research and analytical skills necessary to take the next steps in your education or career.

- > **Research that advances the field:** Machine learning, animal cognition, interpersonal relationships and well-being, predictors of substance use and potential interventions, and attention biases and modifications—these are just a few of the research topics students have pursued.
- > **Mentoring for future psychology leaders:** Dedicated faculty support each individual student in professional development through mentoring, valuable research experiences, and career coaching.

Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS

rit.edu/study/science-technology-and-public-policy-ms

Understanding how to create effective public policy takes both an awareness of the science and technology surrounding an issue and a grounding in the laws, regulatory measures, and courses of action that affect it.

- > **Co-op/internship encouraged (not required).**
- > **Ideal for** those with undergraduate degrees in either science or engineering, who seek to broaden their career opportunities in government or business settings, or liberal arts areas (e.g., economics, political science, sociology), who are interested in pursuing science, technology and policy issues.
- > **Impact on industries:** Prepares students to shape innovation in engineering, science, and technology while advancing important policy issues in the private, public, and not-for-profit sectors on topics such as:
 - Energy
 - Cybersecurity
 - Environment and sustainability
 - Health Systems
 - Transportation
 - Medical science
- > **Builds on RIT's strengths as a technological university**, connecting students with faculty and researchers who are actively driving scientific and technological innovations and public policy across the globe.

Undergraduate Programs

- > Advertising and Public Relations BS
- > Applied Modern Languages and Culture (Chinese, French, Japanese, Spanish options) BS
- > Communication BS
- > Criminal Justice BS
- > Economics BS
- > English BS
- > Global Studies BS *(new for fall 2026)*
- > History BS
- > Humanities, Computing, and Design BS
- > Journalism BS
- > Liberal Arts Exploration
- > Museum Studies BS
- > Neuroscience BS *(jointly offered program)*
- > Philosophy BS
- > Political Science BS
- > Pre-Law
- > Psychology BS
- > Sociology and Anthropology BS
- > Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BS

Double Major Pathways

The flexible nature of our undergraduate programs makes them ideal to combine with other majors, either within COLA or from the university's full portfolio. These Pathways reflect options that combine COLA majors with majors outside of COLA.

- > Computer Science + Philosophy BS
- > Computer Science + Economics BS
- > Computer Science + Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BS
- > Cybersecurity + Political Science BS
- > Game Design + Applied Modern Languages and Cultures BS
- > New Media Interactive Development + Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BS
- > Human Centered Computing + Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BS

Graduate Degrees and 3+3 Law, 4+1 Education Partnership Programs

COLA Graduate Degrees:

- > Artificial Intelligence MS *(jointly offered program)*
- > Experimental Psychology MS
- > Communication MS
- > Criminal Justice MS

- > Cognitive Science Ph.D. *(jointly offered program)*
- > Science, Technology and Public Policy MS

3+3 Law

- > 3+3 Law with Syracuse University and Buffalo University

4+1 Education Partnership Programs:

- > 4+1 MS Early Childhood, Adolescent, Special, and Higher Education with University of Rochester and M.Ed. with Roberts Wesleyan University

- > Art Education MST with RIT College of Art and Design
- > Secondary Education: Deaf or Hard of Hearing MS with RIT National Institute for the Deaf

Combined Accelerated Master's/Bachelor's Options with College of Liberal Arts Programs

- > Advertising and Public Relations BS + Communication MS
- > Biomedical Engineering BS + Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS
- > Chemical Engineering BS + Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS
- > Communication BS + Communication MS
- > Communication BS + Sustainable Systems MS
- > Computer Engineering BS + Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS
- > Criminal Justice BS + Criminal Justice MS
- > Cybersecurity BS + Science, Technology and Public Policy MS
- > Economics BS + Artificial Intelligence MS
- > Economics BS + Science, Technology and Public Policy MS
- > Economics BS + Sustainable Systems MS
- > Electrical Engineering BS + Science, Technology and Public Policy MS
- > Environmental Science BS + Science, Technology and Public Policy MS
- > History BS + Sustainable Systems MS
- > Industrial Engineering BS + Science, Technology and Public Policy MS
- > Mechanical Engineering BS + Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS
- > Mechanical Engineering Technology BS + Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS
- > Philosophy BS + Sustainable Systems MS
- > Physics BS + Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS
- > Political Science BS + Sustainable Systems MS
- > Psychology BS + Experimental Psychology MS
- > Psychology BS + Artificial Intelligence MS
- > Psychology BS + Sustainable Systems MS
- > Sociology and Anthropology BS + Communication MS
- > Sociology and Anthropology BS + Hospitality Business Management MS
- > Sociology and Anthropology BS + Science, Technology, and Public Policy MS
- > Sociology and Anthropology BS + Sustainable Systems MS
- > Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BS + Communication MS
- > Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BS + Science, Technology and Public Policy MS