INITIATE. INFLUENCE. INSPIRE.

WOMEN IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
TEACHERS, ROLE MODELS, MENTORS, AND MORE

The College of Liberal Arts is home to a distinguished faculty, many of whom are known nationally and internationally for their research. More than 160 faculty members teach courses in our 14 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 its cultural implications. Mandell has also published feature stories and op-eds for Slate.com and Politico.

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.

Ann Howard, a 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 working toward revitalization of their neighborhoods.

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 dean and professor of criminal justice. 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.
The College of Liberal Arts

Why study the liberal arts at Rochester Institute of Technology? 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 three years, more than 92 percent of our graduates have been employed or are 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
- Applied Modern Language and Culture
- Communication
- Criminal Justice
- Digital Humanities and Social Sciences
- 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 Exploration, allows you to spend up to a year exploring your academic and career interests.

Taryn Brennan

Hometown: Portland, Maine
Major: International and Global Studies
Minor: Geographic Information Systems
Immersion: Women’s and Gender Studies
Honors: Recipient, Stanley McKenzie Endowed Writing Prize for “Remnant Racism: The Role of Containment Practices in Institutions of Learning”
Activities: Model UN
Study Abroad: St. Petersburg, Russia

At the top of Taryn Brennan’s list of requirements for a college: a Russian language program and a Model UN club. Her interest came from her experience representing Russia in a high school debate on green jobs and international labor relations. The experience led her to choosing international and global studies for her major. “The major is really interdisciplinary. I’m taking courses in political science, sociology and anthropology, international studies, and philosophy,” she said. “I’m interested in international affairs and I’d love to work with the United Nations one day.”
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 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, Morocco, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Vietnam, among others. You may choose 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.

Shakierah Smith

Shakierah Smith saw members of her community interact, both positively and negatively, with the criminal justice system. “Last semester I took Law Enforcement in Society, and we talked about the current state of affairs with the public and the police,” she said. “In this class, I learned how officers often meet people at their worst. Officers are under a lot of pressure and their jobs are dangerous.” Smith wants to become a prosecutor. “I want to get involved from a legal standpoint and try to make a difference for victims.”
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.

It is 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 Association). 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-based 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 $320 million in financial aid this year. Merit-based scholarships include Presidential Scholarships ranging from $10,000 to $16,000 and Founders Scholarships up to $10,000.

Lauren Peace

Hometown: Morgantown, West Virginia
Major: Journalism
Minor: Sociology
Honors: Recipient, Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar Award
Activities: Women's Soccer Team
Study Abroad: Documentary Projects in Kosovo (projects explore the dynamic political and social realities of a newborn country through the stories of the people who live there)
Internship Placements: Democrat & Chronicle; RIT's University Communications

During her second semester at RIT, Lauren Peace realized that photojournalism was not her passion. At the eleventh hour, she dropped all of her photojournalism classes and registered for a wide range of liberal arts classes, including sociology, journalism, and others. She found journalism to be a perfect fit. “For me journalism is the privilege to tap into people’s lives in a way that you really wouldn’t be able to otherwise,” she said. “I like to write and it ended up being a really exciting environment for me to be in.”
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:
rit.edu/financialaid

NTID Admissions:
rit.edu/ntid/students

Online Application:
rit.edu/admissions