Academic Unit Highlight

March 2013

COAS Majors Offer Breadth of Knowledge, Communication Skills, Problem Solving, and Passion

You are seeking a candidate with strong skills in writing and speaking? One who can solve problems independently, work well with others, adapt to new environments, and possesses a passion for new endeavors and experiences? Have you considered hiring a College of Arts and Sciences major?

At IPFW, the College of Arts and Sciences (COAS) offers programs and courses in the traditional liberal arts disciplines. In addition to providing students with opportunities to develop skills required for the workplace or for advanced study, it seeks to foster well-rounded development of the individual.

Graduates of the school's baccalaureate programs should have learned how to be effective citizens, lifelong learners, and great employees. They are expected to have a working understanding of the knowledge and methodology appropriate for their discipline. They should be aware of the major issues in their field and able to communicate content effectively.

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Carl Drummond states that “The College of Arts and Sciences is committed to offering its students a rich and diverse liberal education.” It is the largest academic unit of the university, with an enrollment of nearly 2,600 students in Fall 2012. The college provides students with a breadth of knowledge about the global environment and fosters an appreciation and respect for diversity. Dean Drummond also states that, “The College of Arts and Sciences equips students to think critically, communicate effectively, and develop creative solutions to future challenges.” Graduates of the 15 academic departments span the fields of the humanities, social sciences, physical and natural sciences, and mathematics. They possess both the foundation of knowledge as well as the capacity to continue learning that employers recognize as essential components of the 21st Century workforce.

“Employers are looking for a wider range of skills and knowledge as they seek to assign greater responsibility to new employees. It’s easier to teach well-educated employees job-specific tasks than it is to teach specifically trained employees how to learn…which calls for a ‘contemporary blend of liberal and applied learning’ to prepare students for the challenges of the 21st Century.”

A Call for Quality; Education Insider News Blog, January 21, 2010 in their response to “Raising the Bar,” 2009 study of more than 300 American employers on behalf of the Association of American Colleges and Universities’ Liberal Education and America’s Promise (LEAP) initiative

Want to learn more about how IPFW COAS majors can add value to your organization?

Visit their website at ipfw.edu/coas/.