The M.A. in Liberal and Interdisciplinary Studies program provides students and working professionals a unique mix of knowledge, tools, and experience that are relevant to the current world and its complexity. Program readings and assignments encourage students to think creatively, question assumptions, and imagine solutions to real-world problems thus creating a pathway to transformative thinking.

**Transformative Thinking**
Students bring their unique skills, knowledge and values to the program and work towards connecting the dots between big ideas, historic movements, and global events. The program helps students gain mastery in the following five attributes to become a transformative thinker and doer:

1. Intellectual curiosity (develop the desire to dig deep, be creative, experiment, and take risks in order to learn);
2. Integrative thinking (see the big picture, think holistically, recognize patterns, and make imaginative leaps based on those patterns);
3. Intercultural competence (understand cultural differences to help one think, act, and move beyond global, cultural, and organizational boundaries);
4. Adaptability (be flexible, agile when handling change, resilient in ambiguous situations, and able to find unexpected solutions); and
5. Empathy (demonstrate effective listening, collaboration, and communication skills and be humble enough to be inclusive and considerate of the views of others).

**Program Format**
All M.A. in Liberal and Interdisciplinary Studies courses (10) are seven weeks long, asynchronous (no set class times), and offered online. There will be set due dates for assignments and projects, but otherwise the program offers the flexibility for students to pursue their degree without synchronous class meetings. At the same time, instructors use a variety of tools to personalize the online classroom.

The Capstone course follows four core courses and five electives and provides the opportunity to students to synthesize and apply their learning to a project of their choosing, such as a current challenge in their workplace or community.

For information regarding deadlines and requirements for admission, please see https://grs.uncg.edu/programs/.

In addition to the application materials required by the Graduate School, applicants must submit a three-to four-page essay describing their academic background and interest in liberal and interdisciplinary studies and the program.