IIT BOMBAY

Centre for Liberal Education

Freedom to Learn
Percentage of first-time bachelor’s degree recipients who reported that their jobs were not related at all to their undergraduate major, by major field of study: 1997 and 2012

Major field of study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major field of study</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEM</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer and Information sciences</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering and engineering technology</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other STEM fields¹</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 4. Per cent core and non-core jobs in select departments aggregated over all years.

https://www.currentscience.ac.in/Volumes/124/02/0155.pdf
What is liberal education?

An education founded on student freedom

Liberal education is typically a curriculum mode where students get to choose their branch AFTER entering the university.

Eg: Students are not admitted to MIT Computer Science, they are admitted to MIT as a whole.

Students have complete freedom to choose any course in the Institute and build their own pathway.

All students take a common set of core courses as a foundation.

Save the core, no two students need to have the same pathway.

Students select their own courses with their faculty guide.
Better fit
Students find their true talent and interest through experimenting with different courses before choosing their branch.

Breadth
Students develop multiple skills from different disciplines and learn how to think rigorously, view a problem from multiple perspectives, think critically, develop strong communication skills.

What are the advantages of liberal education?

Commitment
Students are highly motivated because they gravitate to their interests and talents.

Innovation
Holistic view of the discipline breeds innovation
Specialisation more effective when built on broad foundation.
Liberal Education @IIT Bombay

Branch change to freedom
Liberal Education @IIT Bombay
Branch change to freedom

Step 1: Entrance process (30 seats)
Exam/interview, end of the first year

Step 2: Explore
Take core courses in any semester + courses from any department

Step 3: Concentration
Students will be given a BS degree in Natural Sciences or Engineering Sciences based on their chosen courses

Final Year Project
Core courses (5x8 credits)
Semesters 3-4

- Modern South Asian History
- History of Science
- Inequality & Society
- Digital Lives
## Course Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Sem 3</th>
<th>Sem 4</th>
<th>Sem 5</th>
<th>Sem 6</th>
<th>Sem 7</th>
<th>Sem 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Core 1 8</td>
<td>Core 2 8</td>
<td>Core 3 8</td>
<td>Core 4 8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NS: Natural Sciences; ES: Engineering Sciences; SS: Social Sciences; AD: Art & Design
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natural Sciences</th>
<th>Engineering Sciences</th>
<th>Social Sciences</th>
<th>Art &amp; Design</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Any science-focused courses as identified by the IDPC</td>
<td>• Any engineering-focused courses as identified by the IDPC</td>
<td>• Any social science-focused courses as identified by the IDPC</td>
<td>• Any social art/design-focused courses as identified by the IDPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Typically courses from Physics, Chemistry, Math, BSBE, and select courses from engineering departments/centres/IDPs</td>
<td>• Typically courses from engineering departments, and select courses from science departments/centres/IDPs</td>
<td>• Typically courses from HSS, SOM, CPS, CTARA, CUSE, and select courses from other departments/centres/IDPs</td>
<td>• Typically courses from IDC, and select courses from engineering departments/centres/IDPs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subject to availability, prerequisites and Department approval

After 4 years, students granted degree based on majority of courses taken

If the student has taken 40% NS courses, 30% ES, 20% SS and 10% AD, they are awarded a B.S. in Natural Sciences
Students will graduate with a Bachelor of Science (BS) as per the courses they have taken after 4 years:

- BS in Natural Sciences
- BS in Engineering Sciences
- BS in Social Sciences
- BS in Art & Design
- BS in <Custom Concentration>
Design Your Degree

Choose your own path to sciences, engineering, or design

At IIT's Centre for Liberal Education (CLE), you get to design your own degree. You get the Freedom to Learn.

You will have the freedom to choose after admission to IIT Bombay. Students can explore their interests before selecting their specialisation from either Natural Sciences, Engineering Sciences, Social Sciences, or Art & Design. You can also design a fully customised concentration with your guide.

Open to already-admitted undergraduates at IIT Bombay, the CLE's UG program, the LASE program, allows students to access any branch of knowledge at IIT Bombay after their first year.

At the end of the first year, undergraduates can attempt a branch change. Now they have one more option: switch to CLE's LASE program and have the freedom to choose their program with the help of their faculty guide. There is also the ability to have a Custom Concentration which is approved by the IDPC.