Undergraduate Degree Program Facts (Text-Only Version)

Average Age
32

Age Breakdown
• 40% less than 30
• 31% 31-40 years
• 29% over 41

Number of Degree Candidates
869

While Earning the Degree
• 32% Live in MA
• 58% Live Outside of MA
• 10% Live Outside of U.S.

Gender Breakdown
• Female: 46%
• Male: 54%

Percent of Students Are Employed Full Time While Earning the Degree
62%

Benefits of Being a Degree Candidates
1. Personal academic advising & predegree advising
2. Career resources and individual career counseling through Harvard's Office of Career Services
3. Paid research opportunities alongside Harvard faculty

Reasons for Pursuing the Degree
• 18% Career Change
• 21% Career Advancement
• 21% Personal Enrichment
• 40% Prep for Grad School

Years of Students’ Full-Time Work Experience
• 4 years & under: 36%
• 5-10 years: 24%
• 11-20 years: 20%
• Over 20 years: 20%

Average Transfer Credit
(of those who have transfer credit):
43

Top Fields of Study

Social Sciences
• Business administration
• Economics
• International relations
• Government
• Psychology

Science
• Computer
• Math
• Biology
• Environment

Humanities
• Literature
• English
• Journalism

Average # of Courses Taken Per Semester
• 1 course: 31%
• 2 courses: 30%
• 3 courses: 21%
• 4 courses: 13%
• 5 courses: 5%
Graduation Rate
83%

Average Time to Graduation
6 years

Percent of Recent Grads Who Would Recommend the Program 99%

Graduates Have Gone on to Work in The

Fields of:
- Banking
- Real Estate
- Government Administration
- Health Care
- International Affairs
- Nonprofit Management
- Environmental Services
- Biotechnology
- Higher Education
- Marketing/Advertising
- Financial Services
- Software Engineering

Graduates Have Gone on to Continue their Studies at:
- Brown University
- University of Oxford
- Princeton University
- Tufts University
- Harvard Kennedy School
- Georgetown University
- MIT
- Columbia University
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of Pennsylvania
- UCLA
- University of Chicago
- Yale University

Alumni Spotlights
Meet ALB Graduate Sakiko Isomichi

Job title prior to HES:
Self-employed piano technician, farm help, and parent of a young child.

Current job title:
Second-year graduate candidate in Master of Divinity at Harvard Divinity School with a focus on waste, anthropology, and Lebanon.

How has earning a degree from HES helped you professionally?
Earning my ALB from HES helped me realize that I love studying people. I took one course a semester over the seven years I was working towards earning the degree. This pace allowed me to focus on one class at a time and really identify what it was I was passionate about. In looking into programs at other universities, I felt like I would be pressured into declaring a major early on. At HES I had the luxury of not having to rush, which was helpful in deciding to go to grad school because I knew what I really wanted to learn. Even now I'm already thinking about my next step of applying for a PhD.

Most helpful resource at HES:
The Writing Center and the academic advisors! Meeting with an academic advisor was actually how I learned I could take a class at the Divinity School, which inspired me to pursue a degree in theological studies.

Advice for prospective or current degree candidates:
Don't rush! Take the time and sit down to read, learn, and discuss what you've been curious about for a long time. Take courses in many subject areas. Be open minded to classes you thought you would never take.

Meet ALB Graduate Quinn Pendleton

Job title prior to HES:
Professional ballet dancer

Current job title:
Co-founder of Equilibre Monaco Creative Advertising Agency and Master of Liberal Arts, Management candidate at Harvard Extension School.

How has earning a degree from HES helped you professionally?
When I started the degree I had no idea what I wanted to study, which meant that I was signing up for a wide spectrum of classes. The variety of my courses actually ended up being helpful in declaring my majors of English and marketing. I live and work in Monaco, and English is the unofficial second language after French so the English part of my degree has been incredibly
helpful for my business. And the marketing portion of my degree has been incredibly useful for the digital marketing and social media aspects of the business.

**Most helpful resource at HES:**

Professors and networking. I've kept in good contact with many of my professors, who are all extremely helpful and great connections to have professionally. Networking with other students in my classes has been helpful both professionally and socially.

**Advice for prospective or current degree candidates:**

Don't give up! At the onset of the degree it can sound overwhelming but even if you're working full-time you'll be able to make it to the end. In fact, it took me eight years to earn my degree. If you don't know what you want to study right away, that's okay. I think it's beneficial to take as many classes as you can that interest you.

For more information on career highlights, visit our Career and Academic Resource Center (CARC) at [carc.extension.harvard.edu](http://carc.extension.harvard.edu).