MALS Application Writing Sample

To help MALS faculty assess your current analytical and writing skills, please read “Liberal Arts and Liberal Education” (https://ashbrook.org/viewpoint/onprin-v6n3-flannery/) by Christopher Flannery. Then respond to the prompt below in an essay of 3-5 pages (900-1500 words).

In his essay Flannery notes that “[e]very art, or craft, or technical skill . . . may be used in the service of justice or injustice, good or evil.” In a cultural moment many perceive as one of crisis, Flannery asserts that it is the liberal arts that might provide scholars, educators, and students, with direction in more than technological or quantitative terms: “We need not feel an undue sense of crisis if we find ourselves . . . compelled again to ask basic if not simple questions . . . that we have learned to ignore.”

Please engage Flannery’s perspective as a means of developing your own statement about why you desire to pursue a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree. Briefly summarize Flannery’s argument, then analyze specifically how his contentions about the value and potential of the liberal arts resonate with your own background, mindset, and aspirations. What are the ramifications of his position in regard to your intended pursuit of graduate liberal studies?