

■ Humanities

Program Advisors: Dr. Rick Bordner, Dr. Lilia Castle, Dr. Chitha Unni

Program Description:

The Bachelor of Arts degree program with a major in Humanities is an interdisciplinary program which may include studies in history, literature, philosophy, religion, foreign languages, and cultural anthropology. Humanities-related courses in other disciplines such as studio and performing arts, art history and criticism, geography, sociology, political theory, science, and economics may be elected after consultation with the program advisor.

Program Mission:

The mission of the Humanities Major is to allow students maximum flexibility in developing a depth of interdisciplinary understanding in an issue area of academic interest that brings together disciplinary perspectives from the humanities, the arts, social and natural sciences.

Graduate Education Paths and Career Options for Humanities Graduates:

Students completing an innovative and non-traditional program of study for their undergraduate degree must be able to demonstrate the results of that program to future graduate schools and employers. To that end, the major requires the completion of an extended research project culminating in completion of a Senior Thesis. Students completing such a degree generally will continue their studies at the graduate level. Their studies prepare them for a reflective life of service and professional careers that benefit from the ability to apply integrated perspectives to problems and social situations, using a variety of analytical tools and developed writing skills.

Program Requirements:

Together, the student and advisor outline a program of studies according to the student's individual interests and objectives. Through this degree program, a student may pursue, for example, a concentration in American Studies, Asian Studies, European Studies, Hawaiian Studies, Pacific Island Studies. They may develop a thematic course of study dealing with issues and ideas such as justice, development or human rights, or look at the contribution of the arts to society and notions of culture.

Students, with the consultation of their advisor, must submit a degree plan consistent with the program learning outcomes for approval to the Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts. Faculty who agree to direct the student's program of study are required to submit an assessment plan for the program of study and provide data to the program advisors so that program assessment can be completed.

Pre-Major Requirements (30 credits):

All majors must complete the following pre-major requirements:

- English Literature (3 credits): EN 200-level (3 credits)
- History (6 credits): HI 151 and HI 152
- Fine and Performing Arts (6 credits): AR 201 or 202; and PAR 100
- Philosophy (3 credits): PH 100, 103, or 105
- Religion (3 credits): RE 103, 205, or 211
- Social Sciences (6 credits): choose two courses from SO 200, AN 200, and PSY 101
- Environmental Studies (3 credits): ENV 100
- Political Science (3 credits): POL 111

(Students will concurrently complete 21 credits of General Education.)

Major Requirements (36 credits):

The student is required to complete a minimum of 36 credits of upper division courses in disciplines related to the area of concentration, to include three semester hours of directed research in a topic chosen in consultation with the program advisor.

The program shall include:

- A minimum of 12 credit hours of study in a single discipline organized around a specific theme or concentration articulated in the student's degree plan.

- A minimum of 18 credit hours of study in other disciplines that support development of research and knowledge of the specific theme or concentration.
- A minimum of six credit hours of senior research and completion of a senior thesis on a related topic in consultation with the student's research advisor. The senior thesis will be read by the research advisor and one other faculty member.

A program in Asian Studies, for example, might include language studies, anthropology courses examining Asian cultures and behavior (12 credits), courses in Asian history, philosophy and religions, sociology courses examining race and ethnic relations and Asian cultures in the United States (totaling 18 credits), directed research (3 credits), and senior thesis writing (3 credits).

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

Students successfully completing the Humanities major program will demonstrate:

1. an understanding of the importance of humanities and the arts in society.
2. an understanding of change, continuity and causality.
3. an understanding of the Marianist educational tradition of education for service, justice and peace.
4. outcomes appropriate to a minor in the selected area of concentration (see the specific minor programs in humanities, fine arts, and social sciences)

Acquisition of Skills and Competencies for Program Learning Outcomes

Successful completion of major requirements guarantees that, at minimum, students will have mastered the skills and competencies listed in the previous section. Program Learning Outcomes are linked to the courses in the specific program of study developed by the faculty advisor and student. At the time of the development of a course of study, the faculty advisor will submit an assessment plan which integrates the shared program outcomes with the outcomes found in the area concentration within the degree. Students will be responsible for maintenance of a portfolio of individual work examples that are linked to the program outcomes as presented in the course of study that are consistent with their approved assessment plan. The Senior Thesis will be the primary assessment tool and intellectual product of the program.

Course Descriptions

Humanities Courses:

HU 494 Senior Thesis Research (3)

This course is required for completion of the Humanities major. It is offered annually and is set up in consultation with the instructor to meet the requirements of the individual student degree plan.

HU 498 Senior Thesis Writing (3)

This course is required for completion of the Humanities major. It is offered annually and is set up in consultation with the instructor to meet the requirements of the individual student degree plan. Prerequisite: HU 494.