Humanities

College of Arts & Humanities
Humanities Program
230 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-5508 or 389-2117

Director: Gwen Westerman

The Humanities Program offers an interdisciplinary approach to examine the common issues, ideas, and themes that run throughout different cultures and throughout human history. The program uncovers the creative side of the human spirit and crosses the boundaries of the shared human experience—the places where dreams meet reality, art meets life and technology meets nature.

By studying literature, arts, and philosophical and religious traditions from ancient to contemporary times, students are able to understand their connections to each other and to the world.

The major and minor offered by the Humanities Programs help students to become deep thinkers, connection makers, and problem solvers. Students will improve their writing skills and expand their critical thinking skills, as well as sharpen their understanding of different human perspectives.

Admission to Major is granted by the department. Minimum university admission requirements are:
- a minimum of 32 earned semester credit hours.
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 (“C”).

Contact the program for application procedures.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

GPA Policy. Candidates for a major in Humanities must maintain a 2.5 grade-point average in the major.

P/N Grading Policy. Humanities core courses taken for a major or minor in Humanities may not be taken on a P/N basis.

HUMANITIES BA

Degree completion = 120 credits

Major Common Core (20 credits)

HUM 282W Global Perspectives and Humanities Traditions (4)
HUM 350 Reading in Humanities (1-4)
HUM 380 Topics in Humanities (4)
HUM 450W Humanities Seminar (4)
HUM 490 Senior Capstone Project (4)

Major Restrictive Electives (choose 15 credits)

ART 260 Art History Survey I (3)
ART 261 Art History Survey II (3)
ART 265W Art As Politics (3)
ART 416 Art of Africa, the Americas, and the South Pacific (3)
ART 417 Medieval Art and Architecture (3)
ART 434 Arts Administration (3)
ART 460 Ancient Art (3)
ART 462 Renaissance Art (3)
ART 467 Art of the Islamic World (3)
ART 469 Asian Art (3)
ENG 318 Multicultural Literature (2-4)
ENG 433 Selected Studies in World Literature (4)
ENG 435 The World Novel (2-4)
ENG 436 Native American Literature (2-4)
ENG 438 African American Literature (2-4)
ENG 481 History of the English Language (4)
HUM 101W Introduction to Humanities (4)
HUM 150 Western Humanities I: Beginnings through the Renaissance (4)
HUM 151 Western Humanities II: Renaissance through the Present (4)
HUM 155 Global Humanities I (4)
HUM 156 Global Humanities II (4)
HUM 250W Perspectives in Humanities (4)
HUM 280W Humanities Traditions (4)
HUM 281W Human Diversity and Humanities Traditions (4)
HUM 498 Internship (1-4)
HUM 499 Individual Study (1-4)
MUS 321W Music Literature and History I (3)
MUS 322W Music Literature and History II (3)
PHIL 334W History of Philosophy: Classical Philosophy (3)
PHIL 336W History of Philosophy: Renaissance and Modern Philosophy (3)
PHIL 337 19th Century Philosophy (3)
PHIL 338 American Philosophy (3)
PHIL 358W Eastern Philosophy (3)
PHIL 361 Philosophy of Religion (3)
PHIL 460 Philosophy of the Arts (3)

Other Graduation Requirements: Language (8 credits)

Required Minor. Any.

HUMANITIES MINOR

Required for Minor (20 credits)

(choose 1 course in each of the following categories for a total of 4 credits)

Western

HUM 150 Western Humanities I: Beginning through the Renaissance (4)
HUM 151 Western Humanities II: Renaissance through the Present (4)

Global

HUM 155 Global Humanities I (4)
HUM 156 Global Humanities II (4)

Perspectives and Traditions

HUM 250W Perspectives in Humanities (4)
HUM 280W Humanities Traditions (4)
HUM 281W Human Diversity and Humanities Traditions (4)
HUM 282W Global Perspectives and Humanities Traditions (4)

Comparative Studies

HUM 350 Reading in Humanities (1-4)
HUM 380 Topics in Humanities (4)

Capstone

HUM 450 Humanities Seminar (4)
HUM 490 Senior Capstone Project (4)
HUM 498 Humanities Internship (1-4)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HUM 101W (4) Introduction to Humanities and the Search for Meaning
An introduction to Humanities and its themes of study, including an exploration of the diversity of world cultures and multiple forms of creativity and expression, aspects of interactions among peoples across the world. Students will think critically about and increase their understanding of diverse human perspectives and global relationships.

Variable

W1, GE-6, GE-8

HUM 150 (4) Western Humanities I: Beginnings through the Renaissance
An introduction to the interdisciplinary study of the Western Humanities, from ancient times through the Renaissance. Artistic, philosophical and religious forms of cultural expression are considered within their social and historical contexts.

ALT-Fall

GE-6

HUM 151 (4) Western Humanities II: Renaissance through the Present
An introduction to the interdisciplinary study of the Western Humanities, from the Renaissance to the present. Artistic, philosophical and religious forms of cultural expression are considered within their social and historical contexts.

ALT-Spring

GE-6
HUM 155 (4) Global Humanities I
An introduction to the interdisciplinary study of the humanities, as expressed through the cultures and traditions of the Middle East, North Africa, South Asia, and East Asia. Artistic, philosophical and religious forms of cultural expression are considered within their social and historical contexts.
ALT-Fall
GE-6, GE-8

HUM 156 (4) Global Humanities II
An introduction to the interdisciplinary study of the humanities, as expressed through the cultures and traditions of sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and the Pacific region. Artistic, philosophical and religious forms of cultural expression are considered within their social and historical contexts.
ALT-Spring
GE-6, GE-8

HUM 250 (2-4) Perspectives in Humanities
Explores the critical analysis of written, visual and/or musical texts; considers these texts from a variety of cultural and historical contexts; and analyzes issues that engage basic questions of human existence, for individuals and societies. May be repeated when topic changes.
Variable
GE-6

HUM 250W (4) Perspectives in Humanities
Explores the critical analysis of written, visual and/or musical texts; considers these texts from a variety of cultural and historical contexts; and analyzes issues that engage basic questions of human existence, for individuals and societies. May be repeated when topic changes.
Variable
WI, GE-6

HUM 280 (2-4) Humanities Traditions
Historical or cultural periods, beliefs, or movements within the larger Western traditions of Europe and America and the expressions of these traditions through the visual, literary and performing arts and other forms. May be repeated when topic changes.
Variable
GE-6

HUM 280W (4) Humanities Traditions
Historical or cultural periods, beliefs, or movements within the larger Western traditions of Europe and America and the expressions of these traditions through the visual, literary and performing arts and other forms. May be repeated when topic changes.
Variable
WI, GE-6

HUM 281W (4) Human Diversity and Humanities Traditions
Cultural and artistic traditions of groups that have experienced discrimination or exclusion in U.S. society and how these groups express themselves through the visual, literary and performing arts and other forms. May be repeated when topic changes.
Variable
WI, GE-6, GE-7
Diverse Cultures - Purple

HUM 282W (4) Global Perspectives and Humanities Traditions
Historical or cultural periods, beliefs, or movements of one or more groups outside Europe and America and the expressions of these traditions through the visual, literary and performing arts and other forms. May be repeated when topic changes.
Variable
WI, GE-6, GE-8
Diverse Cultures - Purple

HUM 350 (1-4) Reading for Humanities
Independent reading in the Humanities. Three options: 1) selected readings in Classical Humanities; 2) selected readings in Environmental Humanities; and 3) student-selected readings in Humanities. Requires permission of Humanities Program Director.

HUM 380 (4) Topics in Humanities
Students will pursue interdisciplinary study of a topic rich in cultural significance. Topics include “The Arthurian Tradition,” “The Harlem Renaissance,” “The Oral Tradition,” “The Pastoral Tradition,” “The Quattrocento,” “Expressions of Quijote in History and the Arts.” Topics will change annually.

HUM 450 (4) Humanities Seminar
Intensive study of a topic related to the Humanities. Topics have included the Baroque Era, Modernism and the Arts, and Culture and Critical Theory.
Fall

HUM 450W (4) Humanities Seminar
Intensive study of a topic related to the Humanities. Topics have included the Baroque Era, Modernism and the Arts, and Culture and Critical Theory.
Pre: HUM 282W
Fall
WI

HUM 490 (4) Senior Capstone Project
An individual project by Humanities Majors that will demonstrate an ability to use interdisciplinary methods to draw together different areas of study in focusing on a specific topic, problem or concern. Requires approval of the Humanities Director or designated advisor.
Pre: Admission to college as Humanities Major

HUM 498 (1-4) Humanities Internship
An applied work and learning experience in the field of interdisciplinary Humanities.
Pre: HUM 282W, advanced standing in Humanities and consent of instructor.
On-Demand

HUM 499 (1-4) Individual Study
Interdisciplinary study in an area for which the student has basic preparation.
Pre: Approval of faculty.