

Humanities

IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

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Faculty

Emeritus: Eisner, Genovese, Skwara

Chair: Levitt

Associate Professors: Dumas, Smith

Lecturers: Caldwell, Kuhlken

Offered by the Department of Classics and Humanities

Major in humanities with the B.A. degree
in liberal arts and sciences.

Emphasis in European humanities.

Minor in humanities.

The Major

Humanities takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of culture with attention to history, language, literature, media, philosophy, visual arts, and economic, political, social, and spiritual institutions. Humanities does not seek to establish objective truths but rather to think about the diversity of aesthetic trends, historical narratives, ideological systems, and lived experiences that comprise societies past and present, local and global. It does so through engagement not only with dominant cultural narratives, expressions, and institutions, but also with the perspectives of non-dominant individuals, communities, and cultures.

Through humanistic inquiry, we gain insights into other cultural heritages and develop skills that are vital in the global society we inhabit: the abilities to engage critically and effectively with perspectives other than our own, communicate and collaborate across cultural boundaries, and address complex problems with attention to how they affect diverse populations.

Humanities graduates are prepared to enter into a broad range of professions or may go on to pursue a graduate degree in a specific humanities discipline or in business, law, or medicine.

Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

Impacted Program

The humanities major and emphasis are impacted programs. To be admitted to the humanities major or emphasis, students must meet the following criteria:

- a. Complete preparation for the major;
- b. Complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units;
- c. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs website was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

Humanities Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences

(Major Code: 15991)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

During their last semester, all seniors majoring in humanities shall submit to the department a portfolio of their scholarly work that includes a 300-word summary of their study of the humanities, the paper submitted for Humanities 490, and seminar presentation.

A minor is not required with this major.

Global Humanities Program

(SIMS Code: 113501)

Preparation for the Major. Humanities 101 or 102; nine units from Humanities 130 [or Jewish Studies 130], 140, 201, Classics 140, Comparative Literature 270A, 270B, History 100, 101, 105, 106, Religious Studies 101, Women's Studies 101, 102. (12 units)

Language Requirement. Majors in global humanities program require completion of additional courses beyond the third college semester or fifth quarter taught in a language other than English. Refer to selections below. (16-25 units)

Arabic 101, 102, 201, 202; and one four-unit upper division course taught in the language. (20 units)

Chinese 101, 102, 201, 202; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (23 units)

French 100A, 100B, 201, 210, 221; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (23 units)

German 100A, 100B, 202, 205A, 205B; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (24 units)

Greek Classics 101G, 202G, 303G, 304G. (16 units)

Italian 100A, 100B, 201, 211, 212; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (24 units)

Japanese 111, 112, 211, 212; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (23 units)

Korean 101, 102, 201, 202; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (23 units)

Latin Classics 101L-202L and Classics 303L-304L. (16 units)

Persian 101, 102, 201, 202; and one four-unit upper division course taught in the language. (20 units)

Portuguese 101, 102, 203, 204, and 311 or 312. (19 units)

Russian 100A, 100B, 200A, 200B; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (23 units)

Spanish 101, 102, 201, 202, 211, 212; and Spanish 301 or 302. (25 units)

See foreign language departments for equivalents. This fulfills language degree requirement for the B.A. degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Students must have fulfilled the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 8 or above before taking Humanities 390W and earn a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

International Experience. The department encourages international experience for students in the global humanities program. It will facilitate the transfer of humanities credits for appropriate study abroad, student exchange, or other overseas programs. International internships may also receive humanities credit if approved in advance by a department adviser.

Major. A minimum of 30 upper division units to include Humanities 390W, 490; nine units selected from the following courses in American/European humanities: Humanities 322 [or Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies 322], 370, 405 [or Religious Studies 405], 406, 407, 408, 580, Classics 350; nine units selected from the following courses in global humanities: Humanities 380 [or Japanese 380], 409, 410, 411 [or Religious Studies 411], 412, 580. Six additional upper-division units in global content from

any program/department. These courses may focus on a single geographical region beyond North America and Europe (e.g., Asia, Africa, Latin America) or cover a topic in a “global” or “international” context (in consultation with the humanities undergraduate adviser).

Elective Approval. Elective courses taken to fulfill the major must be approved by the humanities undergraduate adviser.

Emphasis in European Humanities

(SIMS Code: 113505)

Preparation for the Major. Humanities 101 or 102; History 105-106; and three units from Comparative Literature 270A, 270B, Humanities 140, Religious Studies 101, or Women’s Studies 102. (12 units)

Language Requirement. Majors in emphasis in European humanities require completion of additional courses beyond the third college semester or fifth quarter taught in a language other than English. Refer to selections below. (16-25 units)

French 100A, 100B, 201, 210, 221; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (23 units)

German 100A, 100B, 202, 205A, 205B; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (24 units)

Greek Classics 101G, 202G, 303G, 304G. (16 units)

Italian 100A, 100B, 201, 211, 212; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (24 units)

Latin Classics 101L-202L and Classics 303L-304L. (16 units)

Portuguese 101, 102, 203, 204, and 311 or 312. (19 units)

Russian 100A, 100B, 200A, 200B; and one three-unit upper division course taught in the language. (23 units)

Spanish 101, 102, 201, 202, 211, 212; and Spanish 301 or 302. (25 units)

See foreign language departments for equivalents. This fulfills language degree requirement for the B.A. degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Students must have fulfilled the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 8 or above before taking Humanities 390W and earn a grade of C (2.0) or better. See “Graduation Requirements” section for a complete listing of requirements.

International Experience. The department encourages international experience for students in the emphasis in European humanities. It will facilitate the transfer of humanities credits for appropriate study abroad, student exchange, or other overseas programs. International internships may also receive humanities credit if approved in advance by a department adviser.

Major. A minimum of 36 upper division units to include Classics 340, Humanities 390W, 405 [or Religious Studies 405], 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 490; three units from Geography 336, Political Science 301A, 301B, 302; six units from Art (art history), Comparative Literature, English, History, Humanities, Music, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Theatre, or Women’s Studies.

Elective Approval. Elective courses taken to fulfill the major must be approved by the humanities undergraduate adviser.

Humanities Minor

(SIMS Code: 113501)

The minor in humanities consists of a minimum of 18 units, of which at least 12 units must be upper division and at least 12 units must be in Humanities; three units must be selected from Asian Studies 458 [or Religious Studies 458]; three units may be selected from Classics 140 or Comparative Literature 270A.

International Experience. The department encourages international experience for students in the humanities minor. It will facilitate the transfer of humanities credits for appropriate study abroad, student exchange, or other overseas programs. International internships may also receive humanities credit if approved in advance by a department adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Courses (HUM)

Refer to *Courses and Curricula and University Policies* sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

HUM 101. Introduction to Humanities (3) [GE]

Preliminary investigation: how values and ideals are expressed in literary, artistic, and intellectual achievements of individuals and civilizations throughout the world.

HUM 102. Global Humanities (3) [GE]

Themes from standpoint of global interconnections. Interdisciplinary examinations through historical, linguistic, literary, and philosophical lenses. Current issues of global importance.

HUM 130. The Jewish Heritage (3) [GE]

(Same course as Jewish Studies 130)

Hebraic and Jewish influences on the arts, literature, philosophy, and religion of Western civilization.

HUM 140. World Mythology (3) [GE]

Comparative themes and figures from various mythologies of the world. Interpretation of myths; their influence on art, culture, and history.

HUM 201. The Body: Identity, Crisis, Resistance (3) [GE]

How bodies shape our understanding of ourselves and others across multiple spheres of private and public life. The body and identity, physiological health challenges and solutions, the social power of physical movement.

HUM 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

(Intended for Undergraduates)

HUM 310. French Culture (3) [GE]

Literature and culture stemming from France. Literary, artistic, and intellectual achievements. Traditions and influences to include contributions of the Francophone world.

HUM 322. LGBT History and Culture (3) [GE]

(Same course as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies 322)

Interdisciplinary field of lesbian and gay studies with attention to history and artistic expression. Topics include varying attitudes toward homosexuality in history, as well as literary, artistic, theatrical, and musical contributions of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community.

HUM 330. Russian Culture (3) [GE]

Religion, literature, philosophy, music, and art of Russia. From the patriarchs of the past to the people of the present. Russia’s influence on European humanities and world culture.

HUM 360. Animal Humanities (3) [GE]

Humanities beyond “the human.” Nonhuman animals as subjects in the world. Animals as focus of ethics, literature, philosophy, theory, and visual culture.

HUM 370. American Culture (3) [GE]

Literary, artistic, and intellectual achievements of the United States from colonial times to the present day. Great cultural traditions and influences represented in the contributions of Americans of diverse gender, ethnic, geographic, and political identity.

HUM 380. Japanese Culture (3) [GE]

(Same course as Japanese 380)

Significant works of literary, performing, and visual arts to include array of artistic trends, cultural phenomena, historical developments, and socio-political discourses throughout the nation’s long and tumultuous history. Taught in English.

Humanities

HUM 390W. Writing in the Humanities (3)

Prerequisites: Humanities 101 or 102 with a grade of C (2.0) or better. Satisfies Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement for students who have completed 60 units; completed Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 8 or better (or earned a grade of C (2.0) or better in Rhetoric and Writing Studies 280, 281 [or Linguistics 281] if score on WPA was 6 or lower); and completed General Education requirements in Communication and Critical Thinking. **Proof of completion of prerequisites required:** Test scores or verification of exemption; copy of transcript.

Theoretical approaches in study of humanities. Writing in discipline of humanities through analysis of key thinkers in history.

HUM 405. Faith and Hope (3) [GE]

(Same course as Religious Studies 405)

Humanities as expressed in religion. Acquisition and/or loss of faith. Questioning of theological systems. Confrontation with death. Nature of hope. Use of signs, symbols, and narratives to generate social structures. Symbolic and mystical systems of meaning. Influence of religion upon culture.

HUM 406. Renaissance and Self (3) [GE]

Rebirth broadly defined, up to the present. The idea of progress. Humanities and cult of antiquity. Innovation in arts and letters. Traversing the globe. Quest for virtue, fame, glory. Questioning the past. The nature of genius.

HUM 407. Rationalists and Romantics (3) [GE]

Eighteenth century Enlightenment and its descendants. Rational interaction with the world. Literature, philosophy, music, art, and poetry representing rationalist and romantic ideologies. Conquest of nature and retreat to nature. Reason versus passion. Romantic responses to rationalists.

HUM 408. The Modern (3) [GE]

Conceptualizing past and present. Valorization of the new and improved. Cultural products of imperialism, monopoly, consumerism, mass media, and corporate identity. The culture of the "Other." Literary, artistic, and intellectual breakthroughs of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and their influences.

HUM 409. The Future (3) [GE]

Conceiving of time and visions for tomorrow in an ever-changing world. Being human in an age of artificial intelligence and cloning. Utopian and dystopian visions. Thinkers, artists, and scientists from past and present contemplate the unknown. Breakthroughs and possibilities.

HUM 410. Studies in Popular Culture (3) [GE]

Popular culture informed by significant cultural discourses, historical developments, and political debates. Representative works to include secondary critical readings, animated film, comics, literature, live-action film, and television.

HUM 411. Understanding Evil (3) [GE]

(Same course as Religious Studies 411)

Evil and how the language of evil has been used by diverse religious communities. Conceptions and portrayals of demons, hell, Satan, and vampires. Literature on the Holocaust, terrorism, torture, and war.

HUM 412. Science and the Humanities (3) [GE]

How developments in science and technology have informed artistic, literary, and philosophical production throughout the modern era.

HUM 413. Theory in the Humanities (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Humanities 101, 102, or upper division standing.

Humanistic inquiry. Theories and theoretical debates across geographical borders. Foundational theories and recent interventions.

HUM 490. Senior Seminar in Classics and Humanities (3)

Prerequisite: Classics or humanities major with more than 90 units; others with consent of department chair.

Senior capstone seminar in major. Discussion and research on topic in classics and humanities. Formal research paper.

HUM 496. Topics in Humanities (3)

Interdisciplinary topics in literature and the arts. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit six units.

HUM 499. Special Study (1-3)

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor and department chair. Directed individual study. Maximum credit six units.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

HUM 504. The Dark Ages (3)

(Same course as History 504)

Europe and the Mediterranean, sixth to eleventh centuries C.E. through various approaches: political, economic, social, and cultural. Topics include: barbarians and Vikings, the Byzantine, Arab, and Holy Roman Empires, the Norman Conquest, Charlemagne, Beowulf, feudalism, and serfdom.

HUM 506. The Renaissance (3)

(Same course as History 506)

Intellectual, artistic, social, and economic transformation in Europe from fourteenth to seventeenth centuries.

HUM 580. Topics in the Humanities (3)

Prerequisites: Three units of humanities and upper division or graduate standing.

Advanced systematic study of a motif or theme in the humanities. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units.

HUM 596. Topics in Humanities (1-3)

Prerequisites: Upper division standing and consent of instructor.

Interdisciplinary topics in literature and the arts. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. No more than six units of 596 may be applied to a bachelor's degree. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master's degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

HUM 599. Special Study (1-3)

Prerequisites: Consent of major or graduate adviser; to be arranged by department chair and instructor.

Directed individual study. Maximum credit six units.

Information Systems

Refer to "Management Information Systems" in this section of the catalog.