

HUMANITIES MAJOR

Interdisciplinary Major

The humanities include branches of learning that investigate what makes us essentially human, specifically languages and literatures, the arts, and history. This interdisciplinary program offers students the opportunity to define their own fields of concentration. They might, for example, choose a particular historical period and view it from a particular philosophical or aesthetic perspective, compare forms of artistic expression, or combine insights from distinct fields of research in the pursuit of specific themes or interests.

The humanities are central to the liberal arts and, as such, foster eminently practical skills that can be applied to a diverse array of professional fields. Written and oral communication, critical analysis, research techniques, and cross-disciplinary thinking are among the many strengths of students in humanistic fields. Our majors have gone on to graduate studies in a variety of subjects, from philosophy and English to library science. Others have chosen careers that value interdisciplinary skills such as publishing, public relations work, or the legal profession.

The program encourages students to seek a broad background in the associated disciplines and to recognize that all significant achievements of culture are closely interrelated. In the course of their studies, students will develop disciplined thinking and writing skills in more than one academic field and will learn to transfer insights and methods from one area to another.

HMN SCE Senior Capstone Experience 2 Credits

The Humanities Senior Capstone Experience is an intensive research project (thesis) on a topic of the student's choice. It must draw on and include research from at least two disciplines in the Humanities and it is advised by at least two professors from these fields. Students are responsible for finding SCE advisors from among humanities faculty. Students are enrolled for four SCE credits usually in the spring of their senior year, but the SCE is a year-long project that should be started at the end of the junior year. The Capstone receives a mark of Pass, Fail, or Honors.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 100 General Humanities 4 Credits

USED FOR TRANSFER WORK

Term(s) Offered: Other, Non Conforming

HMN 194 Special Topics 4 Credits

Topics not regularly offered in a department's normal course offerings, chosen based on current student interest and faculty expertise.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 294 Special Topics 4 Credits

Topics not regularly offered in a department's normal course offerings, chosen based on current student interest and faculty expertise.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 390 Humanities Internship 4 Credits

A learning contract is developed prior to enrollment in an internship. Evaluation of student performance is completed by the faculty mentor based on the fulfillment of the contract terms and written evaluation by the internship site supervisor. Students must work at least 45 hours for each internship credit and be enrolled in the course prior to beginning work. Graded A-F or Pass/Fail.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 394 Special Topics 4 Credits

Topics not regularly offered in a department's normal course offerings, chosen based on current student interest and faculty expertise.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 395 On-Campus Research 4 Credits

An agreement between a sponsoring faculty member and a student researching a topic of interest that is relevant to a student's major or minor. Research is conducted on campus. Students must be enrolled before the research can begin. Graded A-F or Pass/Fail. 45 hours are required per credit.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 396 Off-Campus Studies 4 Credits

An agreement between a sponsoring faculty member and a student researching a topic of interest that is relevant to a student's major or minor. Research is conducted off-campus. Students must be enrolled before the research can begin. Graded A-F or Pass/Fail. 45 hours are required per credit.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 397 Independent Studies 4 Credits

An agreement between a sponsoring faculty and a student letting the student study a topic of interest not offered at WC. 45 hours are required per credit.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 490 Humanities Internship 4 Credits

A learning contract is developed prior to enrollment in an internship. Evaluation of student performance is completed by the faculty mentor based on fulfillment of the contract terms and written evaluation by the internship site supervisor. 45 hours are required per credit.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 494 Special Topics 4 Credits

Topics not regularly offered in a department's normal course offerings, chosen based on current student interest and faculty expertise.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 495 On-Campus Studies 4 Credits

An agreement between a sponsoring faculty member and a student researching a topic of interest that is relevant to a student's major or minor.

Research is conducted on campus. Students must be enrolled before the research can begin. Graded A-F or Pass/Fail. 45 hours are required per credit.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 496 Off-Campus Research 4 Credits

An agreement between a sponsoring faculty member and a student researching a topic of interest that is relevant to a student's major or minor.

Research is conducted off-campus. Students must be enrolled before the research can begin. Graded A-F or Pass/Fail. 45 hours are required per credit.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

HMN 497 Independent Study 4 Credits

An agreement between a sponsoring faculty member and a student allowing the student to study a topic of interest that is presently not offered at WAC. 45 hours are required per credit.

Term(s) Offered: All Terms, All Years

Humanities Major Requirements

The major consists of a minimum of eight upper-level courses in at least two, preferably three, subjects listed below. Students must complete the introductory courses prior to enrolling in upper-level courses. Students should check the prerequisites for upper-level courses.

The upper-level courses may not double-count for other majors or minors.

While offering students the opportunity to work in several academic fields, the Humanities major nevertheless requires a distinct focus and careful planning, with regular contact with the director and affiliated professors is essential.

Students are encouraged to work from an interdisciplinary perspective. In addition, there are two courses specifically designed to introduce students majoring in Humanities to the history and development of the Humanities. These courses are offered when staffing allows, and they do not fulfill distribution.

Students interested in the major should discuss their ideas and plans with the director as early as possible in their college careers. Majors will take introductory courses in at least three of the following areas: art history, English, foreign languages, history, music history, philosophy, theatre, and world literature (International Literatures and Cultures). Humanities majors must complete 201 or higher in a foreign language (or equivalent if a student is approved for foreign language substitution).

The major consists of a minimum of eight courses on the 300 and 400 level in at least two, preferably three, of the disciplines mentioned above. Please be sure to take the necessary introductory courses prior to that and check the prerequisites for upper-level courses. These upper-level courses may not double-count for other majors or minors. While offering students the opportunity to work in several academic fields, the humanities major nevertheless requires a distinct focus and careful planning, and regular contact with the director and affiliated professors is essential. The Humanities Program offers no minor. Students generally select courses for the major from the humanities disciplines taught at Washington College (see list above), and they are encouraged to work from an interdisciplinary perspective in these courses. In addition, there are two courses specifically designed to introduce Humanities majors to the history and development of the humanities. These courses are offered when staffing allows, and they do not fulfill distribution.

Code	Title	Credits	Notes
Select 3 Courses From At Least 3 Subjects Below		12	
CHN 201	Intermediate Chinese I		_____
CHN 202	Intermediate Chinese II		_____
FRS 201	Intermediate French I		_____
or GRS 201	Intermediate German I		_____
or HPS 201	Intermediate Spanish I		_____
FRS 202	Intermediate French II		_____
or GRS 202	Intermediate German II		_____
or HPS 202	Intermediate Spanish II		_____
FRS 301	Advanced French I		_____
or GRS 301	Advanced German Proficiency I		_____
or HPS 301	Advanced Writing & Grammar in Spanish		_____
ART 100-, 200- level			_____
ENG 100-, 200- level			_____

HIS 100-, 200- level	_____
ILC 100-, 200- level	_____
MUS 100-, 200- level	_____
PHL 100-, 200- level	_____
THE 100-, 200- level	_____
Select 8 Courses From At Least 2 Subjects	32
FRS 302 Advanced French II	_____
or GRS 302 Advanced German Proficiency II	_____
or HPS 302 Advanced Oral Proficiency in Spanish	_____
ART 300-, 400- level	_____
ENG 300-, 400- level	_____
HIS 300-, 400- level	_____
ILC 300-, 400- level	_____
MUS 300-, 400 level	_____
PHL 300-, 400- level	_____
THE 300-, 400- level	_____
Senior Capstone Experience (HMN SCE)	2-4
Total Credits	46-48

Nicole Grewling, Director

T. Clayton Black, Advisory Board Member

Katherine Charles, Advisory Board Member