

What is the Humanities/Social Science Major?

The Bachelor of Arts in Humanities/Social Sciences offers students the opportunity to gain a broad-based understanding of human activities, institutions, and societies and to develop their ability to think and write critically in the classical tradition of the liberal arts. The program prepares students for a wide variety of careers in human services, the professions, and the corporate world. It is especially recommended for those intending to become elementary teachers. Given its broad academic scope, it provides the foundation for long-term career development and change.

The interdisciplinary nature of the Humanities/Social Sciences major makes it especially important that students work closely with their faculty advisor in selecting concentration areas, courses, and constructing a coherent academic program. Students are encouraged to consider pursuing minor in a department or topical area such as Women's Studies, Labor Studies, African/African American Studies, and Gerontology in addition to their HSS major course work.

Students are encouraged to declare the Humanities/Social Sciences major as soon as possible in their academic career and meet with the Director of the HSS Program to discuss their course path and to be assigned an HSS faculty advisor. The HSS faculty advisor will assist with selecting courses and helping students progress toward degree completion.

HSS Program Contact Information

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Humanities/Social Sciences Major Requirements

1. A total of 120 credits is required for the BA.
2. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in all courses is required.
3. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in all courses used to satisfy the HSS Major requirements is required.
4. The HSS Major requires 36 credits in Humanities and Social Sciences courses. Of these 36 credits, at least 24 credits must be at the 300- or 400- level. No 100-level courses may be used to satisfy the HSS Major.

Note also that the University-wide requirement of a minimum of 30 credits in courses at the 300- or 400-level applies, so if fewer than 30 credits of 300- or 400-level courses are taken for the HSS major, the remaining credits must still be completed.

5. Distribution of the 36 HSS credits:

(A) at least 6 credits must be taken in each of TWO of the fields in the Humanities AND at least 6 credits must be taken in each of TWO of the fields in the Social Sciences.

(B) In one of the four fields, a total of 12 credits must be completed including a 400-level course. The 2-2-2-4 distribution of courses totals 30 credits; the remaining six credits required for the HSS Major may be taken in any of the HSS disciplines.