Humanities
M A S T E R  O F  A R T S
Find Your Inspiration

Dominican University of California’s Master of Arts in Humanities provides graduate students a rigorous, dynamic and intellectually nourishing program that affords them the opportunity to research and engage in a dialogue about the human condition. Students gain a deeper understanding of human thought, expression and experience by immersing themselves in one or more academic disciplines. They also find themselves making intellectual connections between and among fields of study—for instance, art history and political theory—and developing a greater appreciation for the scholarly pursuit of knowledge.

Imagine Career Possibilities

The Master of Arts in Humanities is designed to provide life and career enrichment, cultural understanding, and an opportunity for personal advancement and fulfillment. Students who successfully complete the program will be qualified to teach in community colleges and will receive the necessary preparation in library research, critical thinking, and scholarly writing skills to pursue further graduate studies.

Envision the Process

The Master of Arts in Humanities program takes an integrated, interdisciplinary approach, enabling students to concentrate in one or more of the following academic disciplines:

- Art History
- English
- History
- Music
- Philosophy
- Political Theory
- Religion
- Women and Gender Studies

In addition, students may pursue an emphasis in either Creative Writing or Applied Music.

Graduate seminars meet one evening per week for two hours, allowing the busy working professional an opportunity to participate in this rich academic program. Students with greater scheduling flexibility may wish to work with their academic advisors to select upper-division day classes or Pathways courses for graduate-level credit.

Features of the program include:

- Evening seminars to accommodate professional, family and academic responsibilities.
- An interdisciplinary approach that emphasizes the connections between and among scholarly fields of inquiry.
- Individually tailored coursework that allows students to pursue particular academic passions and interests.
- A collaborative academic environment that enhances a sense of collegiality, camaraderie and cooperation between students and faculty.
- Close professional relationships with faculty members, who serve as advisors and mentors, as well as teachers.

Achieve Success

The goals of the program are tailored to meet those of each student:

- Preparation to teach at the community college level.
- Preparation to pursue a doctoral degree in specific disciplines within the humanities.
- Enhancement of a broad understanding of the humanities as a means of enriching their lives.
- Enhancement of writing, communication, and analytical skills that will advance their performance in any profession.

Graduates of Dominican University’s Master of Arts in Humanities will achieve:

- A broad understanding of humanistic concepts.
- The ability to write graduate-level essays and papers, incorporating primary and secondary sources and providing accurate and thorough documentation.
- The ability to create a substantial work that analyzes and synthesizes material from various disciplines and media and that sheds light on humanistic issues.

An important aim of the program is to develop a sense of cooperation and scholarly fellowship as students explore, together with the faculty, the myriad manifestations of human wonder and creativity throughout seminars, courses, and projects.

Easy Access

Dominican University of California is conveniently located near the 101 freeway in central San Rafael and is easily reached by car or public transportation. Our beautiful campus is 12 miles north of San Francisco and just a short drive from Napa or the East Bay. Public transportation is readily accessible — the Larkspur Ferry Terminal is within three miles and the Golden Gate Bus Terminal is a mile from campus.

When driving on Highway 101, take the Central San Rafael exit, turn east on Mission Avenue, then left on Grand Avenue to Acacia Avenue (about one mile). Free parking is available at the University parking area at the corner of Grand and Acacia.
Program Description

The graduate program in the humanities offers a flexible, integrated, interdisciplinary 30, 33, or 38 unit Master of Arts composed of graduate seminars and upper division courses expanded to the graduate level. Students in the 30 or 33 unit tracks may choose an emphasis. The 38 unit track is for those students pursuing Applied Music. Students experience and benefit from our dynamic and challenging curriculum and gain a breadth of knowledge spanning the arts using methods and content of more than one discipline. Students are encouraged to make connections between different areas of human thought, expression, and experience in such fields as art, history, literature, music, philosophy, political theory and religion. The Master of Arts in Humanities is designed to provide life and career enrichment, cultural understanding, and an opportunity for personal advancement and fulfillment. Students who successfully complete the program will be qualified to teach in community colleges and will receive the necessary preparation in library research, critical thinking, and scholarly writing skills to pursue further graduate study.

Graduate seminars meet one evening a week for two hours allowing students to combine their career with graduate studies. Those students who are able to be more flexible in scheduling courses might wish to work with their advisor to choose an area of emphasis which incorporates upper division courses expanded for graduate credit and graduate seminars to emphasize a particular academic discipline.

The faculty seeks a diverse student body in terms of undergraduate major and current profession, which lends a richness to seminar discussions. Students may wish to pursue an emphasis within the degree by selecting courses in a discipline.

**Emphasis options include:**

- Art History, English, History, Music, Philosophy, Political Theory, Religion, and Women and Gender Studies

Students may also pursue an emphasis in Creative Writing or Applied Music.

**Creative Writing Emphasis:** Students must receive permission from the Chair of the Department of Literature and Language and the Director of the Graduate Humanities Program to select the Creative Writing emphasis. In the Creative Writing emphasis, nine of the required units must be Creative Writing Workshops.

**Applied Music Emphasis:** To select the Applied Music emphasis, students must have an undergraduate degree in music or equivalent course work in music, and permission from the Director of the Music Department and the Director of the Graduate Humanities Program.
Program Format

Students select either a project or non-project track. The project track is a 30 or 38 unit program depending on the choice of emphasis. The applied music emphasis requires 38 units, while all other emphases in the project track require 30 units. The non-project track requires 33 units. The MA thesis or culminating project is interdisciplinary and may be historical or contemporary in theme.

Project Tracks:

**30 unit program includes:**
- Pro-Seminar (3 units)
- Core Integrative Seminar (3 units)
- Humanities Seminars* (12-21 units)
- Flexible or Professional Study Units* (0-9 units)
- Culminating Project (3 units)

**38 unit program includes:**
- Pro-Seminar (3 units)
- Core Integrative Seminar (3 units)
- Humanities Seminars (18 units)
- Professional Studies (12 units)
- Applied Music (12 units)
- Culminating Project - Presentation of a one hour public recital or lecture/recital in the fourth semester (2 units)

Non-Project Tracks:

**33 unit program includes:**
- Pro-Seminar (3 units)
- Core Integrative Seminar (3 units)
- Humanities Seminars* (18-24 units)
- Flexible or Professional Study Units* (0-9 units)

* Up to 9 units may be Humanities Seminars, expanded upper division classes, internships, independent studies, teacher assistantships, travel seminars, applied music, creative writing workshops, studio art, or work transferred from another institution (no more than 6 units may be transferred).

Emphasis:

Students may choose an emphasis in one of the options previously noted. An emphasis requires 15 (30-unit project track) or 20 (38 unit project track) units, at least 6 units of which must be in a graduate humanities seminar (classes numbered HUM 5101 and above). For the 30-unit project track, 3 of the 15 units required for the emphasis are the Culminating Project (HUM 5002, 5003, and 5004). For the 38-unit project track (Applied Music) 2 of the 20 units required for the emphasis are for the Culminating Project (HUM 5004). For the 33-unit track, the emphasis is 15 units. The emphasis is planned in consultation with the Director and the student’s advisor. For some emphases, the student will need a substantial number of expanded upper-division undergraduate classes. You may tailor your degree program to your interest area and specialize in an academic discipline, an historical period, a geographical area, or a thematic area.
Examples of Culminating Projects (Master’s Theses)

Robert F. Bradford
Thesis: The Death of King David—A Play

Marisa Di Menna

Katherine Erickson
Thesis: Chivalry and Romantic Love in the Courts of Eleanor of Aquitane: The Quest for Civility in an Otherwise Barbaric World

Sundew Amber Evans
Thesis: Painting a Vision of Global Ecological Ethics through the Synthesis of Goddess Spirituality and Buddhist Philosophy

Diana Lynn Harrington
Thesis: The Book as a Cultural Object: Exploring the Symbolism of Artists’ Books

John Charles Harrington
Thesis: The Morality of Materialistic Self-Interest, the Corporation and the State

Sabrina Susan Kampf
Thesis: Two Artists, One Revolution: Jacques Louis David and Elisabeth Louise Vigée-Lebrun

Joseph Rozewski
Thesis: The Role of the Human Figure in Abstract Expressionism: An Anchor to Realism

Mikako Toh
Culminating Project: Recital and Performance Guide to Francis Puoulenc’s 15 Improvisations in B Minor and C Major; Franz Schubert’s Piano Sonata in A Minor, OP. 42, D845; and Claude DeBussy’s L’Isle Joyeuse

Diane Michelle Traversi
Thesis: Painter of Light: Fra Angelico, A History and Interpretive Analysis of Selected Frescoes at San Marco

Meredith Lee Wilson
Thesis: Artistic Landscapes: Dancing Beyond the Stage

Explore the challenges and rewards of this degree program. For more information, or to arrange for a visit, contact the Office of Admissions.
Toll Free: 888-323-6763 or 415-485-3204
Email: graduateprograms@dominican.edu
Online: www.dominican.edu
Master of Arts in Humanities Faculty

Full time faculty who regularly teach in Graduate Humanities:

**Martin Anderson, PhD - Assistant Professor of History**
Dr. Anderson earned a BA in History from University of California, Berkeley, his JD from Hastings College of the Law, his MA from San Francisco State University, and his PhD in History from Stanford University. He practiced law full-time for twelve years before returning to obtain his graduate degree in History. He has taught in the History and the Graduate Humanities programs at Dominican for several years and currently serves as the Director of Graduate Humanities.

**Joan Baranow, PhD - Assistant Professor of English**
Joan Baranow earned a PhD in English from Rutgers University and joined the faculty of Dominican in 2004. She teaches literature, composition, and creative writing, specializing in contemporary American literature. Her poetry has appeared in *The Paris Review*, *The Antioch Review*, *Feminist Studies*, *The Western Journal of Medicine*, and elsewhere. She authored a poem sequence featured in the online journal *Feminism and Nonviolence Studies*. She received a grant in poetry from the Marin Arts Council and is a member of the Squaw Valley Community of Writers. Living Apart, issued by Plain View Press, is a full-length book of her poetry. With her husband David Watts she produced “Healing Words: Poetry & The Art of Medicine,” a PBS documentary on poetry about illness and recovery.

**Christian Dean, PhD - Associate Professor of Politics**
Christian Dean received his BA in political science with a minor in criminal justice from San Francisco State University, and his MA and PhD in political science from University of California at Santa Barbara. Primarily a political theorist, he also teaches public law and American politics. His research generally explores contemporary understandings of the relationship between ethics and politics. His dissertation was entitled “The Ethics and Politics of Care: An Argument for a Heideggerian Regrounding and Synthesis of Liberal, Communitarian, and Feminist Approaches to Moral Autonomy.” He has presented his work at several regional and national conventions, and has taught at the University of San Francisco and Loyola Marymount University, where he was a visiting professor.

**Sister Patricia Dougherty, OP, PhD - Professor of History**
Sister Patricia joined the faculty of Dominican University in 1984. Her primary field is modern European history and her secondary fields are US and Russian history. Sr. Patricia earned her BA in History from Dominican University and both her MA and PhD in History from Georgetown University. She has published articles in US and European journals. One of her teaching interests is women's history. She was named Teacher of the Year in 1994. She leads a summer abroad study program (Fanjeaux, France Seminar) for students and faculty/administrators of Dominican colleges and universities in the US.

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Email: graduateprograms@dominican.edu
Online: www.dominican.edu
Philip C. Novak, PhD - Professor of Philosophy and Religion
Dr. Novak is chair of the Religion Department and manages the Religion Major and Philosophy Minor. He is the author of four books including the critically acclaimed *The World’s Wisdom* and *The Vision of Nietzsche*. Dr. Novak has been an expert commentator for the Arts and Entertainment Network’s Ancient Mysteries television series and has served twice as group leader on the Youth Seminar on World Religions, a two-month, globe-trotting survey of major religious traditions. Dr. Novak earned his BA in English from the University of Notre Dame and his MA and PhD in Religious Studies from Syracuse University.

Leslie Ross, PhD - Professor of Art History
Dr. Ross is an expert in the field of illuminated manuscripts and medieval art. She has published three books for Greenwood Press: *Text, Image, Message: Saints in Medieval Manuscript Illustration*, *Medieval Art: A Topical Dictionary*, and *Artists of the Middle Ages*. She participates yearly in the International Congress on Medieval Studies held in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Dr. Ross earned her BA from Dominican University, her MA from the University of California, Davis and completed her PhD in art history at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Craig Singleton, DMA - Professor of Music
Dr. Singleton joined the faculty of Dominican in 1997. For the previous thirteen years, he served as director of the Dixon School of Church Music of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. His performance areas are choral conducting and voice and include recitals and concerts in several states, Costa Rica, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Korea. Dr. Singleton earned his doctor of musical arts from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with majors in voice and music education and a minor in music theory. Post doctoral work included a master of music in music education with Kodaly emphasis from Holy Names College in Oakland.

Harlan Stelmach, PhD - Professor of Humanities
Harlan Stelmach’s graduate work in the field of ethics began at Harvard University where he received his master’s degree. He completed his doctoral work at the Graduate Theological Union in 1977 in an interdisciplinary program in ethics and social science. A post-doctoral visiting scholar stay at the Haas School of Business in Berkeley contributed to one of his specialties in business ethics. He was the director of the Center for Ethics and Social Policy in Berkeley for five years. He is the chair of the humanities department at Dominican and teaches courses in moral philosophy, medical ethics, and social science and religion.

Sister Aaron Winkelman, OP, PhD - Professor of English
Sister Aaron Winkelman is a professor of English and has served as chair of the department of English. Her service to the College includes creation of the English literature major and English literature with a writing emphasis major for the Pathways evening degree program, and the University General Education writing program. Sister Aaron earned her BA from Dominican University, her MA from San Francisco State University, and her PhD from UCLA, all in English Literature.

Adjunct Faculty:

Nahid Angha, Adjunct Faculty, PhD Newport University, University of Exeter - Islamic Studies
Heidi Chretien, Adjunct Associate Professor, PhD State University of New York at Buffalo - Art History
Eileen Herrmann-Miller, Adjunct Associate Professor, PhD University of California at Davis - English
James T. Mullaney, Adjunct Associate Professor, PhD Louisiana State University - English
Mairi Pileggi, Director of Women and Gender Studies, PhD Temple University - Mass Media and Communications
Scott Sinclair, Adjunct Professor, PhD Graduate Theological Union - Religion

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Tuition and Financial Aid Information

Tuition for the 2008-2009 academic year is $800 per unit. Upon admission to the program, a $200 non-refundable deposit is required to reserve a space. Deposits are required of all new students before registration and are not additional fees.

*Tuition and fees are subject to change at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

Financial Aid
To apply for financial aid each student must annually complete and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The online FAFSA is available at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Financial aid eligibility is determined through information the applicant provides on the FAFSA and the applicant must also provide any other documents as requested by the Dominican Financial Aid Office. A financial aid award notification letter is only sent to admitted students who have provided all required documents.

Grants
Dominican grants are available to graduate students who qualify based on financial need as determined through the FAFSA. Grants are awarded per academic year and recipients must be enrolled in 9 units each semester.

Scholarships
A limited number of scholarships are available to graduate students at the discretion of the faculty program director and in coordination with other forms of financial aid. Scholarships are awarded per academic year and recipients must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 units each semester.

Student Loans
United States citizens and permanent residents enrolled at least half time (6 units) in a graduate program are eligible to apply for low-interest federal student loans. Students are considered for subsidized and unsubsidized student loans, and may also apply for a credit based GRAD PLUS loan as an additional resource.
Steps to Enrollment

1. **Complete graduate application**
   - Complete the application online at www.dominican.edu and the $40 application fee is waived.
   - or
   - Complete the printed graduate admission application and mail it along with a $40 check. Please make checks payable to Dominican University of California, to:
     Office of Admissions
     Dominican University of California
     50 Acacia Avenue
     San Rafael, California 94901

2. **Send official transcripts.**
   A separate official transcript from every college/university attended must be sent to the Office of Admissions in a sealed envelope.

3. **Submit remaining program specific admission documents.**

4. **Apply for financial aid online.**
   Visit www.dominican.edu/admissions/aid/howapply
   Complete and submit the online Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA)

   *Financial aid notification letters will be sent only to admitted students who have submitted all required documents.*

Admitted Students

5. **Sign and return the financial aid award letter to the Financial Aid Office at Dominican.**

6. **Reserve space in the program by submitting the tuition deposit.**
   The letter of admission provides details on how to reserve a space in the program. Payment is by check or contact the Office of Admissions at 415-485-3280 to pay by credit card.

7. **Contact faculty program director to schedule an advising and registration appointment.**

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