

Humanities and Cultural Studies (BA, Minor)

The Humanities and Cultural Studies major offers students the opportunity to study the meaning of the human condition by critically examining the values, systems, and productions of a variety of cultures. Throughout the program, students explore the fundamental questions that have shaped various cultures within the global human community while learning to apply knowledge of cultural difference as a resource for challenging and changing dominant world views. Students do so through multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary coursework in a program that brings together art history, history, literature, music, philosophy, religion, and socio-cultural ethnic studies. In order to gain depth in a particular field of study, students also choose a 15-unit concentration.

The hallmarks of a student completing this major are: competence in critical analysis and synthesis across disciplines, advanced skills in written and spoken discourse, heightened self-knowledge, deep curiosity, and a love of learning. Graduates in this program are well-prepared for the rigors of graduate school; many go on to advanced programs in law, social work, non-profit management, business management, arts administration, journalism, teaching, and ministry.

The curriculum has special features to prepare students for success in the workplace and in civic life. Internships and service-learning are integral to the coursework. The development of a career plan is part and parcel of the student's formal advising process. The senior project, conducted under the guidance of a faculty member, is developed with future goals in mind. Many students also spend a semester abroad in order to develop cultural competency in a second culture, and a number choose to teach abroad after graduation.

Students are encouraged to declare a minor and/or a second major. Where appropriate, coursework from the minor or second major can be applied to the student's concentration.

Program Learning Outcomes

The student should demonstrate the ability to:

1. Critically analyze philosophic, historic, literary, artistic, and musical texts in cultural context in order to facilitate inquiry into the enduring questions of humankind.
2. Apply knowledge of cultural difference as a resource for challenging dominant world views.
3. Apply appropriate (inter-)disciplinary skills and knowledge from the humanities and cultural studies to a substantial research inquiry in alignment with their future goals.
4. Articulate life and career goals within a framework of the humanities based on a sense of personal and civic responsibility.

Humanities and Cultural Studies (Day) Major Requirements

Relation of Major to General Education Curriculum (GE) and Dominican's Heritage

The Dominican educational philosophy, which prizes the fruitful intersection of self, community, service and reflection, guides the Humanities and Cultural Studies curriculum. The major's plan of study complements the broad general education liberal arts curriculum by providing greater depth in the key humanities disciplines via foundational coursework, and even greater depth in a single academic discipline or a thematic area via the student's chosen concentration. The multidisciplinary coursework inspires students to consider key social, cultural, personal, and historical interconnections from multiple perspectives. Finally, the capstone courses insure that students thoughtfully engage important social issues at considerable intellectual depth.

Foundational Courses (18 units)

Courses are selected in consultation with the student's academic advisor. At least 9 of the foundational course units must be upper division and taken at Dominican.

Art History		Any 3 unit Art History course that provides a global perspective or covers a broad time period. <i>1 unit courses may not be used as a substitute.</i>	3
History		Any 3 unit History course that provides global context and covers more than a single time period. <i>1 unit courses may not be used as a substitute.</i>	3
Philosophy			
Select one 3 unit course from the following:			3
PHIL 3104		Philosophy of Human Nature	
PHIL 3105		Ancient Greek Philosophy	
PHIL 3107		Argumentation and Logical Analysis	
PHIL 3175		Philosophy of Religion	
POL 3200		Ancient, Medieval & Early Modern Political Philosophy	
POL 3201		Modern & Contemporary Political Philosophy	
Literature		3 units of upper division literature involving literary analysis. The 1.5 unit genre and ethnic literature courses may be used in combination for a total of 3 units. <i>Creative writing courses do not satisfy this requirement.</i>	3
Language		Any 3 unit language course other than English, including American Sign Language. Students with four years of language taken at the high school level are encouraged to challenge their language course through the language department or take a CLEP or Excelsior exam.	3
Cultural Perspectives			
Select one 3 unit course from the following:			3
Any HCS course in the 3100 or 3200 series			
MUS 3301, 3302 or 3327			
Total Foundational Requirements			18 units

Concentration Requirements (15 units)

Concentrations are chosen in consultation with the student's academic advisor and are based on the student's individual interests. A concentration, involving 15 units of credit, of which at least 9 must be upper division units, is based in a single discipline or is structured around a thematic area. Students are encouraged to expand their concentration to earn a minor in fields offering a minor.

Policies

A maximum of 9 units earned for a GE requirement can be applied to a requirement for the major. A maximum of 12 lower division transfer units may be applied to the major. These courses must have earned a 'C-' or higher. Of the 12 allowed lower division transferable units, a maximum of 9 may be applied toward foundational requirements and a maximum of 6 may be applied to the concentration.

The following concentrations are offered:

Thematic	Discipline-based
Environment and Culture	
Social and Cultural Studies	Art & Art History
Social Justice and Community Engagement	History
	English
Teacher Preparation*	Music
Business and Culture	Philosophy
Student Defined Concentration	Religion and Spirituality

*Students interested in moving toward a teacher credential work with their academic advisor to identify which course will be most valuable for their particular credential interest in preparation for state exams. Students can opt to substitute LS 4001 Capstone for HCS 4910 Senior Project, although they must also enroll in HCS 4920, the corresponding Humanities workshop.

Capstone Requirements

HCS 4910	Senior Project	3
HCS 4920	Senior Project Workshop	1
HCS 4930	Humanities Seminar I: West	3
HCS 4931	Humanities Seminar II: Non-West	3
Select one of the following:		1-3
HCS 4996	Internship/Career Exploration (1-3 units)	
or	Any Service Learning course	
Total Capstone Requirements		11-13 units
Total Humanities and Cultural Studies Major		44-46 units