

# HUMANITIES

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND LANGUAGES

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## CURRICULUM

The humanities curriculum integrates the study of history, literature, philosophy, and the arts in an effort to address the fundamental questions of cultural meaning and value common to humanistic fields and methods. Courses are offered in the traditional “phases” of Western cultures in selected major themes or issues that frequently cut across traditional cultural or historical boundaries. The curriculum emphasizes the close study of a variety of cultural texts, artifacts, and events in order to explore not only traditional assertions regarding the values of culture but also the criticism of those assertions, in a historical as well as contemporary light. Courses offered in the curriculum meet general education and transfer requirements in humanities and may be applied to a major in humanities for an Associate in Arts degree.

## MAJOR

The humanities major allows students generally interested in literature, history, philosophy, and art history and criticism to elect a general rather than specific emphasis to their degree. The major offers much diversity in terms of choices, and thus provides the opportunity for students to tailor the degree to meet their own interests and concerns. Humanities majors learn in particular how to read and write critically and how to synthesize complex ideas from a variety of sources, often diverse in kind and in time. The major is appropriate for students interested in a “general studies” degree at the lower-division level; its focus on the close study and criticism of culture makes the major applicable for students seeking careers in law, education, government, public affairs, journalism, and writing. The humanities major is also an excellent choice for students whose educational intentions are uncertain or undecided, or for students intending to pursue an upper-division education in literature, history, philosophy, or study of the arts.

Students majoring in the humanities should complete both Writing 1 and Writing 2 in fulfillment of the language and rationality requirements within the general education package. The department recommends that humanities majors do not select a humanities course to meet the humanities requirement for general education, but explore related subjects in the humanities that may be of interest to them.

## DEGREE OPTION

### • Associate in Arts Degree in Humanities

Students must complete a minimum of 60 units of credit, including the courses in the major (“Major Requirements”) and general education requirements (pages 56-61), with an overall GPA of 2.0 or better. A minimum of 12 units must be completed at Irvine Valley College. See pages 52-54 for further information.

## TRANSFER PREPARATION

Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree at Irvine Valley College may not be the same as those required for completing the major at a transfer institution offering a baccalaureate degree. Students who plan to transfer to a four-year college or university should (1) refer to the University Studies major (page 182) and “Transfer Planning” (page 63); (2) consult the catalog of their prospective transfer institution (see the IVC Transfer Center for assistance); and (3) schedule an appointment with an IVC counselor to develop a plan of study before beginning their program. It may be helpful to meet with the department faculty at IVC.

## MAJOR REQUIREMENTS: HUMANITIES

### ASSOCIATE IN ARTS DEGREE

<b>Complete the following courses:</b>		<b>Units</b>
<b>WR 2</b>	College Writing 2: Critical Thinking/Writing	4
<b>HUM 1</b>	Introduction to Humanities	3
<b>HUM 2</b>	Origins of Western Culture in Literature	3
<b>HUM 3</b>	The Culture of Medieval and Renaissance Europe	3
<b>HUM 4</b>	The Culture of the Modern World: 1700 to the Present	3
<b>HUM 50</b>	Mythology	3
<b>TOTAL UNITS:</b>		<b>19</b>

**Recommended Electives:** Any course in literature, philosophy, history, or history and criticism of the arts.

## COURSES

### ART HISTORY

#### **ART 20: Art Appreciation**

3 Units

3 hours

This course is an introduction to the visual arts for both art majors and students fulfilling general education requirements. The course surveys architecture, painting and sculpture from selected historical periods and various traditions, both Western and non-Western. The social, political and economic context in which art is produced will be emphasized, as well as traditional, formal analysis (color, line, material, technique, etc.). Attendance at scheduled field trips is required. NR

#### **ART 21: Women in Art**

3 Units

3 hours

This course presents a survey and history of women artists from the prehistoric period to the present, including those working outside of European/Western traditions. The course considers work that challenges dominant portrayals of gender and race, and work done in film, video and newer, more experimental digital media. Students examine the ideological, political, social, critical and discursive structures in which women artists have worked. NR

**ART 22: Survey of Asian Art**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This course is a survey of the artistic traditions of India, Korean, China and Japan from the prehistoric era to the present. The course examines works of painting, sculpture and architecture in light of their religions, cultural and historical contexts. Field trips may be required. NR

**ART 25: Survey of Art History:  
Ancient Worlds to Gothic**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This survey course in art history begins in the prehistoric world and continues through Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Aegean, Greece, Rome, Medieval Europe, and Mesoamerica. In each case, the work is analyzed for style, for meaning, and for its role in the evolution of its particular culture. (CAN ART 2; Art 25+26: CAN ART SEQ A) NR

**ART 26: Survey of Art History:  
Renaissance to Modern**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This course presents an overview of art, architecture, and sculpture produced between 1400 and 1940, focusing on the Renaissance and Mannerist periods, and the Baroque and Modern worlds. The social and philosophical issues which contributed to the creation of art will also be emphasized. Attendance at scheduled field trips may be required. (CAN ART 4; Art 25+26: CAN ART SEQ A) NR

**ART 28: Contemporary Art History**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This course in modern art history examines the major currents in Western art from the late 18th century through the early 20th century as they establish the foundations of modern art. The course begins with Neoclassical art in France and continues through the variety of 19th century movements—Romanticism, Realism, Impressionism—which usher in the 20th century. The course then concentrates on significant examples of 20th century painting, sculpture, and architecture. Each work is analyzed in the traditional, formal manner (examination of color, line, form, material, technique, etc.). In addition, the social, political and economic context in which the work was produced is examined. Attendance at scheduled field trips is required. NR

**FILM STUDIES****HUM 70: History of Film**

3 Units

*3 hours*

History of Film examines the development of film as one of the dominant art forms of the 21st century. Important technical achievements and practices will be discussed chronologically, as well as film as an industry, social ideologies, and historical epochs. Emphasis will be placed on the analysis of films which are important examples of the history of this art form. NR

**HUM 71: Introduction to Film**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This course is primarily concerned with the narrative, thematic, and aesthetic aspects of cinema. A wide variety of films will be examined, with an emphasis on styles of directors, and aspects of characterization and themes. Emphasis will be placed on the artistic quality of film and the development of technical methods used by filmmakers to present their ideas. NR

**HUM 73: Film Genre Studies**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This course examines the emergence of a category, or genre, of film within the context of film history. Each time the course is offered, it focuses on a particular genre (e.g., the western, gangster film, musical, film noir) and the societal and economic context in which it emerged. Students view representative films in order to identify and analyze techniques and conventions unique to the genre under consideration. R-E-3

**HUMANITIES****HUM 1: Introduction to Humanities**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This course introduces students to themes central to humanistic inquiry and to the methodologies employed by humanists to analyze artistic and written expressions that incorporate these themes. Students examine works of literature, art, architecture and philosophy chosen from a variety of historical periods and representative of distinctive approaches to the themes under discussion. NR

**HUM 2: Origins of Western Culture  
in Literature**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This course introduces students to representative examples of Greek and Roman art, literature and architecture that were instrumental in the development of what is known as the "Classical Tradition." Students examine works that defined and reflected Greek and Roman cultural values and subsequently influenced later artistic and literary developments in the West. NR

**HUM 3: The Culture of Medieval and  
Renaissance Europe**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This course provides a general introduction to the study of European medieval and Renaissance culture from the 12th through the 17th centuries by considering selected primary texts and other objects of cultural production. Students rehearse and question the "standard narrative" that defines the modern age as a repudiation of medievalism initiated by the wholesale transformation of Western culture in the European Renaissance. Typical topics and concerns include questions of secular and sacred authority; religious orthodoxy and heresy; medieval cosmology and natural philosophy; the heroic ethos and its transformations; gender and social identity; European encounters in and with the "New World"; speculations on the ideal state; and the emergence of skepticism, individualism, and personality. NR

**HUM 4: The Culture of the Modern World:  
1700 to the Present**

3 Units

*3 hours*

The course provides a general introduction to the emergence and development of modernism, modernity, and modern culture from the 17th century to the present, with an emphasis on Western civilizations. Students query the distinctive qualities and transformations of the "modern" world by considering selected primary works in philosophy, history, literature, criticism, and the arts. Typical topics include the rise of rationalist, materialist, and empirical methods of knowing; the clash of traditional ideas and the new science; the quest for social, political, and economic liberty and justice; the conflict between individualism and collectivism; the tension between romantic and classical visions of humanity; the emergence and consequences of subjectivity; and the challenges of postmodern theory and practice. NR

**HUM 50: Mythology**

3 Units

*3 hours*

This course examines from a variety of critical perspectives the mythologies that have played a crucial role in the formation of the themes, motifs, and concerns central to the development of the Western humanities. Critical approaches typically considered include those of Walter Burkert, Joseph Campbell, Sir James Frazer, Robert Graves, Jane Harrison, C.G. Jung, Lord Raglan, Bronislaw Malinowski, Jessie Weston and selected feminist and postmodern theorists. NR