

# MA IN HUMANITIES

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**SACRAMENTO STATE**  
*Redefine the Possible*

## In Workflow

1. HRS Committee Chair (jdubois@csus.edu)
2. HRS Chair (harvey.stark@csus.edu)
3. ALS College Committee Chair (irwin@csus.edu; j.gallegos@csus.edu)
4. ALS Dean (mwilson@csus.edu)
5. Academic Services (catalog@csus.edu)
6. Senate Curriculum Subcommittee Chair (curriculum@csus.edu)
7. Dean of Undergraduate (gardner@csus.edu)
8. Dean of Graduate (cnewsome@skymail.csus.edu)
9. Catalog Editor (catalog@csus.edu)
10. Graduate Studies (jdsmall@csus.edu; mxiong@csus.edu)
11. Registrar's Office (k.mcfarland@csus.edu)

## Approval Path

1. Wed, 21 Jun 2023 00:37:29 GMT  
Joel Dubois (jdubois): Approved for HRS Committee Chair
2. Wed, 21 Jun 2023 00:37:58 GMT  
Harvey Stark (harvey.stark): Approved for HRS Chair
3. Wed, 06 Sep 2023 20:38:04 GMT  
Jacqueline Irwin (irwin): Rollback to Initiator
4. Fri, 29 Sep 2023 00:44:40 GMT  
Joel Dubois (jdubois): Approved for HRS Committee Chair
5. Fri, 29 Sep 2023 01:31:06 GMT  
Harvey Stark (harvey.stark): Approved for HRS Chair
6. Fri, 29 Sep 2023 01:33:29 GMT  
Jacqueline Irwin (irwin): Approved for ALS College Committee Chair
7. Wed, 04 Oct 2023 18:05:41 GMT  
Melinda Wilson Ramey (mwilson): Approved for ALS Dean
8. Mon, 30 Oct 2023 23:01:28 GMT  
Katie Hawke (katiedickson): Approved for Academic Services

## History

1. May 4, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Mar 7, 2023 by Kaitlyn Ehrmantrout (k.ehrmantrout)

Date Submitted: Fri, 29 Sep 2023 00:34:43 GMT

### Viewing: MA in Humanities

**Last approved: Tue, 07 Mar 2023 19:58:15 GMT**

**Last edit: Fri, 29 Sep 2023 00:34:42 GMT**

Changes proposed by: Joel Dubois (102010387)

### Academic Group: (College)

Arts & Letters

### Academic Organization: (Department)

Humanities and Religious Studies

### Catalog Year Effective:

2023-2024 Catalog

**Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:**

Name (First Last)	Email	Phone 999-999-9999
Joël Dubois	jdubois@csus.edu	916-278-5332

**Type of Program Proposal:**

Major

**Program Change Type:**

Non-Substantive

**Delivery Format:**

Fully Face to Face

**Title of the Program:**

MA in Humanities

**Designation: (degree terminology)**

Master of Arts

**Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification:**

We are eliminating the 3/3 area of specialization structure, so that students take their six electives however they wish. Students can choose courses in any variety of these areas to either emphasize a generalist or more specialized understanding of the humanities. This is being done to allow greater flexibility for diverse student interests and a clearer and quicker path to degree.

**University Learning Goals****Graduate (Masters) Learning Goals:**

Disciplinary knowledge  
 Communication  
 Critical thinking/analysis  
 Information literacy  
 Professionalism  
 Intercultural/Global perspectives

**Program Learning Outcomes****Program Learning Outcomes****Learning Outcome**

(Same as before.)

**Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?**

No

**Catalog Description:****Total units required for the MA: 30****Program Description**

The Department of Humanities and Religious Studies offers an integrated approach to the study of world cultures from ancient times to the present. In our courses, students undertake interdisciplinary study of core ideas, ideals, and values. The Humanities – known by Renaissance thinkers as *studia humanitatis* (“studies of humanity”) – explore such subjects as literature, history, philosophy, religion, the visual arts, music, drama, and film. Religious Studies focuses on beliefs and practices of the world’s religions in their historical and cultural contexts. Employing the methods and insights of disciplines such as history, anthropology, sociology, psychology, and philosophy, Religious Studies approaches its subject matter with empathy while avoiding assumptions or judgments about religious truth claims.

The MA in Humanities provides graduate-level engagement with humanistic approaches to world cultures.

Students in all five available programs acquire concrete skills in critical thinking, analysis, research, writing, and organization that lead to attractive careers throughout the job market. Many of our students prepare for careers in teaching at the elementary level (as part of a Liberal Studies major program) or secondary level (as part of a single subject credential program in English/ Humanities). Others pursue postgraduate study in the Humanities, History, Theology, and related fields in preparation for careers in teaching at the community college and university levels or in library, museum, or curatorial work. Humanities majors are also well-

prepared for careers in government and fields such as law and counseling, which require interaction with people from diverse cultural backgrounds.

**Admission Requirements: Course prerequisites and other criteria for admission of students to the degree major program, and for their continuation in it.**

## Admission Requirements

Admission as a classified graduate student in Humanities requires:

- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited four-year college or university (or equivalent preparation if the student has done undergraduate work outside the U.S.);
- An undergraduate major in Humanities or in a closely related field (subject to approval by the Graduate Coordinator);
- A minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 semester units attempted and a minimum 3.3 GPA in Humanities courses (or in major in a related field);

Students with deficiencies in Admission Requirements that can be removed by specified additional preparation may be considered for admission with conditionally classified graduate status. Any deficiencies will be noted on a response to the admission application.

## Admission Procedures

Applicants should file the California State University, Sacramento Office of Graduate Studies application for admission to the University, and complete the supplemental application for the Department of Humanities and Religious Studies. Please check with the Office of Graduate Studies for current application deadlines.

All applicants must file the following with the Office of Graduate Studies, River Front Center 215, (916) 278-6470, [www.csus.edu/graduate-studies](http://www.csus.edu/graduate-studies) (<http://www.csus.edu/gradstudies/>):

- An online application for admission; and
- One set of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, other than California State University, Sacramento

Applicants must also file the following supplemental application:

- Statement of purpose of approximately 500 words (typed) in response to the following question: How does the Humanities master's program fit with your talents, interests, and aspirations?
- Two letters of recommendation. Letters should ideally come from college/university instructors, but if these are not available, any other credible source who can address qualifications will be acceptable (e.g., work supervisor or community leader);
- Academic writing sample of 3-5 pages, to be accompanied by a brief explanation regarding the context (e.g., the course and assignment) for which the writing was produced.

## Minimum Units and Grade Requirement for the Degree

Units required for the MA: 30  
Minimum Cumulative GPA: 3.0

## Advancement to Candidacy

Each student must file an application for Advancement to Candidacy, indicating a proposed program of graduate study. This should be initiated by the student as soon as the student has:


- Removed any deficiencies in Admission Requirements;
- Completed at least 12 units of 200-level courses in the graduate program with a minimum 3.0 GPA;
- Achieved a passing grade on the Humanities M.A. Preliminary Exam; and
- Received a placement Score Number of 80 on the Writing Placement for Graduate Students (WPG) timed essay exam or received a grade of "B" or better in a Graduate Writing Intensive (GWI) course in their discipline within the first two semesters of course work at California State University, Sacramento or met one of the graduate GVAR equivalency standards.

Advancement to Candidacy forms are available on the Office of Graduate Studies website. The student fills out the form after planning a degree program in consultation with his/her HRS advisor. The completed form is then returned to the Graduate Coordinator and the Office of Graduate Studies for approval.

As defined by policy <http://www.csus.edu/umannual/acadaff/fsm00010.htm>, a change in units constitutes a substantive change to the program. If your changes constitute a substantive change, please refer back to the "Program Change Type" field above to ensure that "Substantive" is selected.

**Program Requirements: (If new courses are being created as part of a new program, it will be useful to propose courses first.)**

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Units
<b>Required Courses (9 Units)</b>		
HRS 200A	Culture and Expression: Prehistory to the Middle Ages	3
HRS 200B	Culture and Expression: Renaissance to the Present 	3
HRS 202	Western Aesthetics: Traditions and Revision	3
<b>Electives (18 Units)</b>		
Select 18 units from the following: <sup>1</sup>		18

**A. Ancient Humanities**

HRS 213	Ancient Greek Culture
HRS 214	Ancient Roman Culture
HRS 234	The Gothic Spirit
HRS 290M	Saints, Relics, and Miracles in Late Antique and Medieval Europe

**B. Modern Humanities**

HRS 216	Historical Reflections on the American Dream
HRS 217	Ordinary America
HRS 235	Transcendence & Transgression in the Romantic Period
HRS 236	Modernism: Contingent Realities of Self and World
HRS 290B	Seminar in HRS: The Body
HRS 290H	Seminar in HRS: The Hero
HUM 290P	Course HUM 290P Not Found

**C. Global Humanities**

HRS 210	Gender and Religion in Cross-Cultural Perspective
HRS 220	Seminar in Religious Studies
HRS 237	Global Citizenship and Culture
HRS 290C	Seminar in HRS: The Many Realities of Consciousness
HRS 290D	Seminar in HRS: Death & Afterlife
HRS 296E	Seminar in HRS: Envisioning the Divine
HRS 296S	Seminar in HRS: Storytelling & Myth in World Cultures

**Culminating Requirement (3 Units)**

HRS 500	Culminating Experience	3
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**Total Units****30**

<sup>1</sup> Each semester we offer one required course, one grad only elective course and one paired course that includes undergraduates (190/290 or 196/296 series). Elective courses are organized into three areas—Ancient, Global and Modern—to clarify the varied emphases of these courses. Students can choose courses in any variety of these areas to either emphasize a generalist or more specialized understanding of the humanities. In order to allow students to explore areas of interest in more detail, six of the 18 units (two courses) may consist of HRS 100-level courses with the approval of the Graduate Coordinator, AND 3 of the 18 units may consist of HRS 299 with approval of the Graduate Coordinator.

**For graduate programs, the number of declared undergraduate major and the degree production over the preceding years of the corresponding baccalaureate program:**

We currently have 67 majors & 7 minors and we graduated ~10 this past year.

**Fiscal Impact to Change an Existing Program**

**Indicate programmatic or fiscal impact which this change will have on other academic units' programs, and describe the consultation that has occurred with affected units:**

None

**Provide a fiscal analysis of the proposed changes:**

None

**How will the above changes be accommodated within the department/College existing fiscal resources?**

No changes needed

**Will the proposed changes require additional resources?**

No

**What additional space, equipment, operating expenses, library, computer, or media resources, clerical/technical support, or other resources will be needed?**

None

**Estimate the cost and indicate how these resource needs will be accommodated:**

None

**Reviewer Comments:**

**Michelle Felten (mfelten) (Wed, 06 Sep 2023 19:10:42 GMT):** Thank you, Joel, for your proposal for MA in Humanities. The Committee has approved the proposal pending the following edits: 1.) Program Proposal has a typo in first line switch elimination to eliminating.

Cut second sentence phrase "from what is offered...interest" so it is less confusing. As a final statement add "Students can choose courses in any variety of these areas to either emphasize a generalist or more specialized understanding of the humanities." (pulled from "Program requirements" at very bottom below total units.) 2.) Small typo under "Admission Procedures" Bullet points with edited first letters "Ane" is meant to read "One". Additionally, under "Program Requirements" a course is listed- HUM290P- that is noted as "Not Found" This will need to be deleted from the Course Leaf for approval to go through. Thank you!

**Jacqueline Irwin (irwin) (Wed, 06 Sep 2023 20:38:04 GMT):** Rollback: Dear Joel, Please see suggestions for revision from Michelle. Once your proposal has been revised as per their recommendations, please resubmit and send me an email so I know that your proposal is ready to move forward. Thank you, Jacqueline, ALS Curriculum Chair

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