

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Dean: Jane Wong

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences consists of eleven departments and thirteen undergraduate degree programs and offers an array of minor programs and the largest share of the College's Liberal Learning program. Our school is a culturally and intellectually diverse and welcoming community of faculty, staff, students and alumni who value knowledge and the free and responsible exchange of ideas. Through the exercise of analytical rigor in the humanities and social sciences, our community: fosters disciplinary and interdisciplinary work to address significant social issues; develops knowledge and engages in creative activities; seeks to understand local, national, global, cultural, political, and historical perspectives; critically interprets language and symbols; thoroughly examines cultural artifacts and discourses; and promotes ethical reasoning and compassion. Working with our faculty, our students learn how to read and think analytically, solve problems creatively, work with diverse partners, communicate effectively in speech and writing, use technology wisely, and participate fully in civic life. The mission of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences is to prepare students for lifelong learning and responsible democratic citizenship. Upon completion of any of our majors, our graduating students are prepared to sustain and advance their communities and the world.

The following departments offer majors and well as minors.

African American Studies (Includes a Dual Major in Elementary or Early Childhood Education)

Criminology

English (Includes a Dual Major in Secondary Education)

History (Includes a Dual Major in Secondary Education)

International Studies

Philosophy, Religion and Classical Studies

Political Science

Psychology

Sociology

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

World Languages and Cultures (Includes Spanish, and World Languages and Linguistics)

Additional minors offered through Humanities and Social Sciences Departments:

African Studies Minor

Anthropology Minor

Arabic Minor

Central Eurasian Studies Minor

Chinese Minor

Classical Studies Minor

Comparative Literature Minor

Creative Writing Minor

Environmental Studies Minor

European Studies Minor

French Minor

German Studies Minor

Holocaust and Genocide Studies Minor

Italian Studies Minor

Japanese Minor

Latin American and Caribbean Studies Minor

Law, Politics and Philosophy Minor

Linguistics Minor

Middle Eastern Studies Minor

Public Policy and Management Minor

Quantitative Criminology Minor

Religion Minor

Sexuality and Queer Studies Minor

United States Studies Minor

Other programs:

Open Options in Humanities and Social Sciences

Description of the program: The Open Options Program in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences is designed for those students who are not ready to declare a major but are interested in one or more programs within HSS.

Students in the Open Options Program choose courses that fulfill requirements in the Liberal Learning Curriculum as well as courses in areas they are interested in exploring as possible majors. Students must leave the Open Options Program and declare a major to graduate.

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for the Open Options in Humanities and Social Sciences Program:

- Students may remain in the Humanities and Social Sciences Open Options program no longer than the second semester of their sophomore year.
- Open Options students who are unable to make significant progress toward a major by the end of their sophomore year will become “UNDESIGNATED TRANSITIONAL” students.
- In rare cases students may remain in the Open Options Program beyond the second semester of their sophomore year if they have shown significant progress toward a major or self-designed major.