



School of Humanities

Undergraduate Areas of Study

Majors

African American Studies, B.A.

Art History, B.A.

Asian American Studies, B.A.

Chinese Studies, B.A.

Emphases:

Chinese Language and Literature

Chinese Culture and Society

Classical Civilization, B.A.

Classics, B.A.

Emphases:

Greek

Latin

Comparative Literature, B.A.

Specialization:

Cultural Studies

East Asian Studies, B.A.

English, B.A.

Emphasis:

Creative Writing

European Studies, B.A.

Emphases:

British Studies

Early Modern Europe

Encounters with the Non-European

World

French Studies

German Studies

Italian Studies

Medieval Studies

The Mediterranean World:

Past and Present

Modern Europe (1789–present)

Russian Studies

Spanish/Portuguese Studies

Film and Media Studies, B.A.

French, B.A.

German Studies, B.A.

Global Cultures, B.A.

Emphases:

Atlantic Rim

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School Overview

Consider some of the challenges we all face: the pressures created by demographic and economic changes, and increased ethnic and cultural diversity; the development of new technologies, and the increasingly complex problem of human interaction with the environment. Equipping students to understand and analyze such phenomena is precisely what a liberal education in the humanities accomplishes. Humanistic inquiry prepares students to interpret visual media and written texts in our changing world.

Humanities provides the ability to express oneself clearly and accurately; the skill of critical evaluation, both of ideas and actions; the courage to make choices based on shared values and priorities; the opportunity to conduct an intensive conversation with the traditions, present and past, that help make us who we are and, above all, who we will be; and as a result, the ability to comprehend cultural differences nationally and internationally.

In the UCI School of Humanities, students find the opportunities for personal and intellectual growth most often associated with small, selective liberal arts colleges, yet they can also access all the advantages of a large research university. The faculty is distinguished by the range of its scholarly interests, its international scholarly renown, and its commitment to undergraduate education.

Academic Offerings

African American Studies

Majors in African American studies investigate the histories and cultures of peoples in the African Diaspora from a variety of theoretical and interdisciplinary methodologies/practices. Students may select from course work that includes

the study of black protest throughout history, scientific racism, critical theories on blackness, and black urban political movements.

Art History

Majors in art history learn about the visual arts in all their guises — from ancient Greek statuary to Renaissance painting and sculpture; from Chinese and Japanese calligraphy to American streamlined appliances; from the spectacles of world's fairs to photography, collage, and assemblage. Majors learn how to write about these artifacts for their social and cultural functions as well as their formal properties.

Asian American Studies

Majors in Asian American studies examine the history, social organization, culture, literature, and art of Asian Americans as part of American multi-ethnic society. The program provides a context for understanding the cultures and histories of Asian American and Pacific American peoples, and their experiences in relation to their countries of origin. An upper-division honors program is available to qualified students.

Classics, Classical Civilization, and Latin

The department offers majors in classics (with an emphasis on Greek or Latin), and classical civilization, in which most of the required courses are in English translation. All three majors focus upon the reading and analysis of primary texts as the means to gain an in-depth understanding of the history and cultures of ancient Greece and Rome. Students will read texts from such key authors as Homer, Vergil, Euripides, Horace and others.

Comparative Literature

Comparative literature majors study literature from around the globe and throughout history. While students read novels, plays, poems and related literary artifacts written in English, emphasis is placed on works originally composed in other languages, usually in translation. Comparative literature majors are

Hispanic, U.S. Latino/Latina,
and Luso-Brazilian Culture
Inter-Area Studies
Locating Africas (Nation, Culture)
and its Diaspora
Locating Asias (Nation, Culture)
and its Diaspora
Europe and its Former Colonies
Pacific Rim

History, B.A.**Humanities and Arts, B.A.****Humanities (Interdisciplinary), B.A.****Japanese Language and Literature, B.A.****Korean Literature and Culture, B.A.****Latin, B.A.****Literary Journalism, B.A.****Philosophy, B.A.****Religious Studies, B.A.**

Emphases:

Judaism/Christianity/Islam
World Religious Traditions

Spanish, B.A.

Emphases:

Cinema: Spain, Latin America, and
U.S. Latino
Literature and Culture
Spanish for Future Teachers

Women's Studies, B.A.**Minors**

African American Studies
Archaeology
Art History
Asian American Studies
Asian Studies
Chinese Language and Literature
Classical Civilization
Comparative Literature
English
European Studies
Film and Media Studies
French
German Studies
Global Cultures
Greek
History
Humanities and Law
Italian Studies
Japanese Language and Literature
Jewish Studies
Korean Literature and Culture
Latin
Latin American and Caribbean Studies
Philosophy
Portuguese
Queer Studies
Religious Studies
Russian Studies
Spanish
Women's Studies

Concentration:

Medieval Studies (in combination with
any major in the Claire Trevor School of
the Arts or the School of Humanities)

Note: Major advising provided by the
School of Humanities Undergraduate
Counseling Office.

taught how to think critically about their objectives and methods, and learn the skills required to negotiate — and to enjoy — a multicultural world.

English

The UCI English major is distinctive in its focus on literary theory and criticism. Focusing on American and English literature throughout history, the flexibility of the curriculum allows students to tailor a program to fit their individual needs and interests. An emphasis is offered in creative writing (poetry or fiction).

European Studies

The European Studies major, with a variety of emphases, gives students a multidisciplinary view of Europe as a whole, and its historical, political, and cultural formations and global implications. It provides an opportunity to study Europe from the vantage points of several disciplines in the humanities and social sciences.

Film and Media Studies

An undergraduate education in film and media studies provides students with an opportunity to explore and understand the appeal and operation of these complex meaning-producing machines called cinema, television, and new technologies. Film and media studies at UCI trains students to read and understand the audio-visual languages of modern media and new technologies, and to analyze images from socioeconomic, political, aesthetic, and historical perspectives.

Language Majors

- Chinese Studies
- Classics (Greek or Latin)
- East Asian Cultures
- French
- German Studies
- Japanese Language and Literature
- Korean Literature and Culture
- Latin
- Spanish

Learning a new language involves more than just the ability to speak, read, and write it. Each language major program gives students a complete cultural understanding and appreciation of the literature, art, and philosophy of a given national identity. Upper-division courses develop critical and analytical skills necessary not only to interpret literary texts but also to deal with the increasingly complex and culturally diverse world at large.

Global Cultures

Global cultures is a rapidly growing undergraduate major (and minor) with an exciting mission: to explore the problems and processes of globalization from a *humanistic* perspective. The major equips students with twenty-first-century analytical skills and knowledge that is critical to understanding the complexities of the diverse world in which we live.

Tailored to their individual needs and interests, students choose from several approved geographic

emphases (e.g., Asia, Europe, Atlantic Rim, Pacific Rim, Inter-Area Studies, etc.), or they may define their own emphases. This arrangement allows for maximum flexibility, and fosters comparative/cross-cultural approaches. The degree leads students to a variety of careers (business, law, politics, print media, television, travel industry, etc.) and graduate studies. Ideally suited for double majors, and/or students participating in UC's Education Abroad Program.

History

History majors can build a Chinese empire, march with Roman legions, mingle with the Aztecs and Maya, have a rebirth (Renaissance), explore the events leading up to two world wars, or colonize North America and then revolt. They can also trace the interactions and origins of the globalism that daily shapes our world. Majors can focus on countries or topics. Faculty are experts not only in the more commonplace — the United States, England, France, Germany, and Russia — but also in Morocco, China, Japan, Mexico, Brazil, and Chile. They are a disparate group united by deep curiosity and a desire to try out new ways of thinking.

Humanities and Arts

Humanities and arts provides students with broad exposure to a range of disciplinary and methodological opportunities. It insists on the productive intersection of these two fields as the focus of each student's program. Students improve their critical and historical sophistication while learning about the process of performance and creative work, a combination that will equip them to participate more effectively in a society that increasingly joins critique and creation just as closely as it fuses image and information. Students submit proposals for this special major at the end of their sophomore year and work closely with select faculty.

Humanities (Interdisciplinary)

The Humanities (interdisciplinary) major allows students to define majors that cross traditional disciplines and fields of study. Students submit proposals for this special major at the end of their sophomore year and work closely with select faculty.

Literary Journalism

The major in literary journalism is designed for students interested in writing creative non-fiction and journalism, and in studying the history of each. Defined both by its historical and theoretical focus and by its intensive writing seminars, the program contextualizes literary journalism in a wider study of the discourses of fact throughout history, while also attending to the impact of new media technologies on the evolution of the field.

Philosophy

A major in philosophy trains students to be flexible, imaginative, and creative thinkers rather than skilled performers of a fixed routine. Students receive solid training in argument and reasoning, which exposes them to provocative and intriguing ideas by such master thinkers as Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, and

Kant. Courses in metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, and other areas are designed to emphasize discussion, essay writing, and the presentation and defense of personal points of view on topics central to the human condition.

Religious Studies

Religious studies includes an interdisciplinary major and minor that focus on the comparative understanding of the various ways different peoples, across space and through time, have developed their religious ideas, values, systems, beliefs, rituals, and traditions in response to fundamental questions of human existence. As an interdisciplinary academic discipline, the study of religion offers a rigorous, systematic, and dispassionate intellectual inquiry into various aspects of religious systems, their practitioners and outlooks, and their goals and expressions. It employs a wide variety of approaches and methods in order to understand the role of religion in both human experience and thought. Majors complete an emphasis in either Judaism/Christianity/Islam or in world religious traditions.

Spanish and Portuguese

With 350 million speakers, Spanish ranks third among the most spoken languages in the world. In the U.S., and especially in California, a Spanish major (or double major) offers wide-ranging career opportunities. The department prides itself on its world-class faculty and its high-quality program, offering courses in the literatures and cultures of Iberia, Latin America and U.S. Latinos. The major features three different tracks: Spanish for future teachers, literature and culture, and Hispanic cinema.

Women's Studies

Women's studies focuses on the study of women, gender, and sexuality in their complex connections with different races, ethnicities, socio-economic classes, religions, nationalities, and regions. Students learn how feminist transnational analysis can be used to study many compelling phenomena, including histories of identity production, body politics, religion and gender, the politics of fashion, remote intimacy through technology, human rights discourses, environmental politics, micro-lending, social justice philanthropy, and sexual rights. By emphasizing a rigorous interdisciplinary perspective, the major and minor train students to link the private and the public, the individual and the collective, and the local and the global. Courses integrate many aspects of learning, allowing students to apply what they learn in schools to their lives, careers, and to understanding the world around them.

Minor in Queer Studies

The minor in queer studies combines theories and methods in humanities, arts, science, and social science for a critical look into sexuality, and is open to students from any major.

Special Programs and Opportunities

Honors Societies

The School of Humanities provides membership in the following national honors societies: Eta Sigma Phi (Greek and Latin), Sigma Delta Pi (Hispanic), and Phi Alpha Theta (history). High-achieving students also may be inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious honor society.

Humanities Core Course

This year-long freshman sequence is central to the intellectual enterprise of the school. The course introduces students to critical thinking, writing, and literacy by exploring key intellectual issues at the center of contemporary humanistic inquiry. At the heart of the course is the careful reading of key texts drawn from history, literature, philosophy, and the arts. The Humanities Core Course has won national recognition and serves as a model for other institutions.

Humanities Education Abroad Program Scholarships

The Dean of Humanities annually provides two to three scholarships to meritorious humanities majors who participate in a UC Education Abroad Program.

Humanities Honors Program

This two-year, upper-division program challenges superior students from all fields by providing special opportunities to learn within a small seminar environment, working closely with the best teachers in the school. The program consists of a one-year interdisciplinary proseminar taken in the junior year, and culminates in the year-long writing of a senior thesis. An annual prize is awarded for the best senior honors thesis.

Humanities House

One of several theme houses in Arroyo Vista housing for undergraduates, Humanities House is reserved exclusively for majors in the School of Humanities. Residents are provided with an intellectual and social environment in which to share the "humanities experience" through a wide range of activities, including faculty guest dinners, discussions, symposiums, workshops, and films. Humanities faculty and academic counselors join the residents to give talks, moderate panels, and offer academic counseling.

Humanities Internship Program

This program brings highly qualified humanities majors together with public sector businesses and nonprofit agencies in the Orange County area who know that humanities students' education in critical thinking, writing, communication, and analysis equip them to be successful employees. Internships begin in the summer, last for one year and can lead to full-time jobs. Interns work 10-15 hours a week for a minimum of \$10-\$12 per hour.

Humanities Out There (H.O.T.)

H.O.T. is a literacy outreach program between UCI's School of Humanities and local schools. Each quarter there are workshops on several different topics, such as world mythology, creative writing, shakespearean improv, imagining America, "what is philosophy?," telemedia literacy, women's studies, and literacy through literature. Each workshop sends out a team of undergraduates to a K-12 classroom, supervised by faculty and advanced graduate students in the humanities.

Humanities Peer Mentoring Program

This program addresses some of the academic, cultural, and social needs of disadvantaged students admitted into the School of Humanities. It features small-group mentoring of new students. Participants attend workshops on topics such as study skills, library research, time management, and careers, as well as social events.

International Center for Writing and Translation

The International Center for Writing and Translation fosters writing, translation, and criticism in multilingual and international contexts. The center nurtures awareness of the international world of letters, and moves research and creative activities in the humanities in important new directions.

Minor in Archaeology

The interdisciplinary archaeology minor exposes students to the different approaches used to reconstruct past cultures based on their material remains. The minor includes coursework from anthropology, history, classics and art history, and stresses a comparative approach across history and geographic regions. The minor will help prepare students for advanced training in art history, the archaeology of specific geographical regions, cultural resource management, museum studies, and historical preservation. Students from all majors are welcome to pursue the minor.

Minor in Asian Studies

The Asian studies minor allows students to explore Asian topics in a variety of fields, to develop advanced language skills, and to acquire a broader perspective as they apply the disciplinary training of their major field to effective and informed studies of Asian subjects. The minor may be combined with any major, and requires that students choose a focus on China, Japan or Korea.

Minor in Humanities and Law

The humanities and law minor brings together coursework useful in preparation for law-related careers. Emphasizing reading, writing, and critical thinking skills, and humanistic approaches to problems of law and society, the minor can be taken in tandem with any major.

Minor in Jewish Studies

The minor in Jewish studies is an interdisciplinary program that introduces students to many facets

of Jewish cultures through the study of the history, philosophy, art, literature, languages, and social and political institutions of Jews from ancient to modern times. The minor provides students with grounding in areas of fundamental importance to the humanities and social sciences, supporting and enriching the students' majors. The minor may be taken in tandem with any major, and prepares students for graduate programs in Jewish studies, and a wide range of careers.

Minor in Italian Studies

The minor in Italian studies is an interdisciplinary curriculum that allows students to engage in various aspects of Italian culture by taking courses in Italian literature, history, and culture from departments such as Art History, English, Comparative Literature, Film and Media Studies, History, and Philosophy.

Minor in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

The minor in Latin American and Caribbean studies is an interdisciplinary curriculum designed to provide for an awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of Latin American issues in the areas of language, history, culture, literary studies, sociology, anthropology, political science, social ecology, health, folk medicine, and creative (art, dance, drama, music) accomplishments. The minor is open to all UCI students, and requires two years of college-level Spanish or Portuguese (or the equivalent).

Minor in Russian Studies

The Russian studies minor introduces students to the rich history and culture of Russia, and provides the intellectual and linguistic tools necessary for sustained engagement in this area of the world.

Career Opportunities

Because humanists deal analytically with complex problems and issues affecting people, students majoring in the humanities are well prepared for careers in which analysis, judgment, and argument are important. Thus, a humanities background is advantageous not only for a career in teaching, but also in such fields as management, law, medicine, communications, diplomacy, social work, and politics. In a world where people change careers several times during their lives, it is crucial that students develop the general skills of analysis and imagination that are fostered by humanistic inquiry and critical literacy.

Career fields pursued by School of Humanities graduates include:

- Advertising
- Banking
- Broadcasting
- Business
- Counseling
- Communications
- Diplomacy
- Editing/Publishing
- Film and Television
- Foreign Service
- Government Service
- Higher Education Administration
- Human Resources
- Insurance
- International Relations
- Journalism
- Law
- Library Science
- Management/Administration
- Marketing
- Medicine
- Personnel
- Politics
- Public Administration
- Public Relations
- Publicity
- Publishing
- Research
- Retail Sales
- Social Welfare
- Teaching
- Technical Writing
- Tourism
- Translation/Interpreting
- Writing

Additional Information

School of Humanities

Undergraduate Counseling Office
University of California
Irvine, CA 92697-3380
Telephone: (949) 824-5132
www.humanities.uci.edu

Admissions and Relations with Schools

204 Aldrich Hall
University of California
Irvine, CA 92697-1075
Telephone: (949) 824-6703
www.admissions.uci.edu

General Campus Information

Telephone: (949) 824-5011
www.uci.edu

UCI General Catalogue

UCI Bookstore
Telephone: (949) 824-2665
www.book.uci.edu
www.editor.uci.edu/catalogue (PDF Version)

Accommodations: Upon request, this publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities. Contact the UCI Disability Services Center; telephone (949) 824-7494, TDD 824-6272. The campus and all buildings are accessible by wheelchair.

Campus Safety: Pursuant to the Federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, UCI annually makes available to the public statistics on reported occurrences of criminal activity on and off campus and at UCI Medical Center at www.police.uci.edu/awareness/jca.html.

Nondiscrimination Policy: The University of California, in accordance with applicable Federal and State law and University policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services. The University also prohibits sexual harassment. This nondiscrimination policy covers admission, access, and treatment in University programs and activities. For more information, call (949) 824-5594.