

Department of

Humanities & Philosophy



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Introduction

The Department of Humanities and Philosophy at BYU–Idaho has the following goals:

- Help students differentiate between the workings of the mind and those of the heart.
- Help students discover avenues of both spiritual and intellectual enlightenment through the arts.
- Promote cultural literacy and enhance students' abilities to function in society by exposing them to a broad body of knowledge important to our culture.
- Advocate a holistic understanding of culture by elucidating the connections between historical events, philosophical movements, and styles of art, architecture, music, and literature.
- Assist students in making connections between the cultural achievements of the past and their own search for meaning and fulfillment in life.
- Encourage students to think deeply, feel acutely, and communicate precisely.
- Inspire students to reassess their own values and to bring their listening and viewing habits into conformity with the standards outlined in the 13th Article of Faith.
- Lay the foundation for a lifetime of arts enjoyment and appreciation.

In the words of President Gordon B. Hinckley, humanities “gives an aspect of living that is essential. You need technology. You need the professions. You need all of those things, but we need the heart also, and the humanities speak to the heart, men’s aspirations for the good and the beautiful.” LDS Church News March 19, 2005

Minors

The Humanities and Philosophy minors are a natural complement to majors such as English, History, Music, Art, and Foreign Language by providing a broader interdisciplinary perspective to these disciplines. Moreover, due to their broad foundation of knowledge and skills, students with a Humanities or Philosophy background are sought after for graduate programs in medicine, law, and business, as well as in the social sciences. These minors will also be of interest to students of unrelated disciplines who wish to temper their technical studies with a curriculum that will prepare them for a lifetime of clear thinking and enjoyment of the arts.

Clusters

A Humanities or Philosophy cluster is an excellent complement to virtually any university program. It allows students to achieve greater understanding of cultural and intellectual connections across multiple academic disciplines. We welcome and encourage students to cluster within the department and benefit from the depth and enjoyment such coursework provides.

Course Descriptions	Credits*	
GREEK 101 Greek 101 An introduction to Classical and New Testament Greek.	(3.0:3:0)	PHIL 110 Introduction to Philosophy (3.0:3:0) Introduction to philosophical thought through reasoning on such topics as ethics, reality, and knowledge. Practice articulating, assessing, and rationally defending positions on philosophical issues. Includes examination of major philosophical texts.
GREEK 102 Greek 102 Prerequisite: Greek 101 or equivalent Second semester Classical and New Testament Greek. Includes readings from the Greek New Testament and an introduction to scholarly resources from New Testament study. (Alternating Semesters)	(3.0:3:0)	PHIL 201 Ancient & Medieval Philosophy (3.0:3:0) An examination through leading texts of the historical development of western philosophy from Greek antiquity through the Middle Ages.
HUM 201 The Arts in Western Culture: Pre-Historic to Renaissance (3.0:3:0) A study of the development of Western civilization, examining the art, architecture, music, and literature of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, and Medieval Europe [3000 BC to 1400 AD] within historical, religious, and philosophical contexts.		PHIL 202 Modern Philosophy (3.0:3:0) An examination through leading texts of the historical development of western philosophy from the Renaissance to the present.
HUM 202 The Arts in Western Culture: Renaissance to Modern (3.0:3:0) A study of the cultural development of Western civilization as expressed through art, architecture, music, and literature from the Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Modern periods [1400 AD-present].		PHIL 203 History of Religious Thought (3.0:3:0) A survey of the development of religious thought from ancient times to the beginning of Christianity, including Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Greek, Israelite and Canaanite religions.
HUM 266 American Humanities (3.0:3:0) Fee: \$25.00 This survey course examines American art, architecture, music, literature, and film within a historical context. Students encounter the greatest American cultural achievements and discover the diverse influences that molded the arts in America.		PHIL 204 History of Religious Thought (3.0:3:0) A survey of the development of Christian religious thought from Christ to the modern era.
HUM 290R Independent Study (1.0-2.0:0:0) Directed studies for Europe Travel Program with individualized instruction on a topic in the Humanities.		PHIL 205 Introduction to Logic (3.0:3:0) Informal and formal logic, including syllogistic, propositional, and first-order predicate logic, and quantification theory.
HUM 333 Spirituality in the Arts (3.0:3:0) Fee: \$25.00 Prerequisite: Humanities 201 & 202 or Art 201 & 202 This course explores spiritual themes and concepts in art, architecture and music. Topics may include the nature of worship, art as an approach to the Divine, or religious symbolism. (Fall, Winter)		PHIL 313 Introduction to Ethics (3.0:3:0) Introduction to and evaluation of major ethical theories and their application to contemporary moral issues. Emphasizes practice in moral reasoning.
HUM 342 Humanities of the Islamic World (3.0:3:0) Survey of Islamic civilization including fundamental Islamic beliefs, historical development, art, architecture, music, literature and science. Students discover the cultural roots of current conflicts between Islam and the West.		PHIL 314 History and Philosophy of Science (3.0:3:0) Prerequisite: Completion of Physical Science GE class and its associated lab. Discusses the philosophical assumptions of modern science, criteria for theory selection, and traces their historical development. Describes the historical development of basic ideas in science. (Fall, Winter)
HUM 385 Independent Study (1.0-3.0:0:0) Prerequisite: Except for extenuating circumstances, students should take Humanities 201, and 202 before registering for this course. This self-study course allows one-to-one contact with a faculty member who helps focus and direct student inquiry. This course is offered in conjunction with Humanities Travel Study. (According to Need)		PHIL 315 Philosophy of Religion (3.0:3:0) Introduction to reasoning on philosophical issues regarding the existence and nature of God, religious experience, faith, religious knowledge, and the religious life.
HUM 497R Senior Seminar (3.0:3:0) Prerequisite: Junior or Senior Status This senior-level seminar takes an inter-disciplinary approach to topics in the Humanities as selected by the instructor. Topics may include period studies (such as the Renaissance) topical approaches (such as the concept of the hero) or theoretical or methodological studies in the Humanities. (Fall, Winter, Spring)		PHIL 497R Topics in Philosophy (3.0:3:0) Intensive study of a philosophical period, figure, or topic through close readings of primary and secondary texts. Includes a major research and writing project. (Offered on a rotating basis)
LATIN 101 Latin 101 (3.0:3:0) An introduction to Latin. Beginners and students with less than one year of high school Latin should register for this class. Vocabulary building, grammar, reading, and basic composition.		
LATIN 102 Latin 102 (3.0:3:0) Prerequisite: You must have taken Latin 101 or its equivalent (1 year of high school Latin). Reading Latin prose writers and study of Roman culture. Continuation of Latin 101, second semester. (Alternating Semesters)		