

B.S. in Humanities

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Minimum Credits</u>
HUM 101 Reading Methods	3
1 Skills Elective	3
5 In-Major Electives	15
HUM 395 Practical Experience	0-3
HUM 495 Foundational Research Methods	3
HUM 490 Capstone	<u>3-6</u>
Total	30-33

Potential Learning Objectives (LO) for Humanities Major

- Apply humanities perspectives to technical, entrepreneurial, creative, and design projects.
- Critically engage with contemporary and historical human cultures in order to identify and assess how they shape human behavior.
- Access and evaluate a wide range of sources in regards to their credibility and reliability in different fields of study.

This proposal would require one new class (HUM 1XX) and the revamping of another class (Research Methods), which is already in process. The Capstone project would serve as a convenient artifact for program assessment, helping to streamline assessment. Everyone in the department could contribute to this degree through their distinct classes, and the program is designed to be attractive and convenient for students wanting a second major. It would also still serve as a reasonable parachute for students who need to change majors late in their studies.

HUM 101 has the goal of training students in critical reading practices and bibliographic methods. Full-time faculty in the department would work together to build a shared list of suggested titles of manageably sized texts, both academic and fictional, articles, movies, or documentaries. The goal would be to create a course that could be taught by anyone in the department.

Suggested Course Format (Possible):

- **Reading/Discussion** - Each individual faculty establishes their own theme for the course and chooses x sources from the aforementioned shared list for class reading/discussion. The remainder of the readings are up to the instructor.
- **Reading Journal (Rhetorical Precis)?** – Journal on course readings to be presented for review partway through or at the end of the semester (or both based on instructor’s discretion).
- **How to Use the Library** (2 class sessions) – one session would be for general orientation of the Galvin Library; the second session would be aimed at helping students with an annotated bibliography assignment (see below); note: students may also be required to

make a visit to the IIT Archives or even the Newberry Library on their own time to give them practical experience in doing research for their own individual projects.

- **Source Identification** – What is a primary/secondary source? What is a credible source?
- **Annotated Bibliography** – Students will build a bibliography on a topic of their choice within the broader umbrella topic for the course. They will articulate a question about their topic from their research and put together an annotated bibliography, which is to be turned in before the final synthesis project (at least in draft form).
- **Synthesis Paper/Project** – A final piece of research on their topic is turned in with a finalized version of the annotated bibliography. Note: paper does not need to be a massive research project; it could be 5-6 pages.

The course is projected to have at least 9-10 students, probably more, because students will be able to take it under the new Core Curriculum rubric that is in process at the moment.

Skills Electives would include both courses in the department currently offered (e.g., technical writing, exhibit design, data visualization) or courses from other departments that are pre-approved (e.g., classes from ITM, business, or social sciences).

In-Major Electives could be any Humanities course in any discipline in the department.

At least 4 of the 6 electives (both Skills and In-Major) need to be at the 300-level or higher. Students interested in co-terminal opportunities could apply graduate coursework here if they wanted to.

HUM 495 Foundational Research Methods would be shared by grad and undergraduate students and would replace the current introduction to research methods class for the graduate program. This process is already underway as the current class is being revised. Based on previous and current enrollment stats, this course would have around 3-5 graduate students for each time it is offered.

HUM 490 Capstone would be based on the current capstone model of independent research projects carried out through the 491 course designation for Humanities. Students will find an advisor who will agree to guide them through the process of researching and writing on a project of their own devising.

HUM 395 Practical Experience would not be required for double majors. Students will have 3 options: A Co-Op/Internship, a Teaching Practicum, or a Research Practicum with the Ethics Center. In all cases, students will be working under either a manager or faculty/staff member and working as an intern or teaching/research assistant.

Co-Ops and Internships are highly linked to career outcomes. For example, the ASU English Department finds that 90% of students who do a local internship in their own or a related field have a job when they graduate. Co-Ops are not a class, but a work experience, which would simply be overseen primarily by career services. Humanities role in this would only be to assess student artifacts either as a department or a subcommittee once a semester.