

# EXPLORING HUMANITIES PRE-MAJOR

Department Co-Chair: Thomas Bowen, 847.376.7084,  
tbowen@oakton.edu

Department Co-Chair: Mohamed Mehdi, 847.376.7287 or  
mmehdi@oakton.edu

The Exploring Humanities Pre-major is based on a range of offerings from the Humanities and Philosophy Department. This interdisciplinary Pre-major combines materials and approaches from several different areas, including visual art, film, music, theater, literature, poetry, philosophy and popular media. Some courses include materials from all these disciplines, while others focus on a particular one. These courses use materials from the humanities to shed light on the cultural, artistic and intellectual movements and ideas that have shaped our societies, from ancient times to the present.

This pre-major is suitable for students who are interested in liberal arts but are not yet decided on a particular discipline. This pre-major offers a broad introduction to many disciplines, and provides a good background for transferring into many liberal arts programs. Students who are interested in a particular discipline within the arts should consult the programs offered by the Art, English, and Music or Theater departments. The Exploring Humanities pre-major can be easily combined with one or more concentrations, including Women's and Gender Studies, Global Studies, Peace and Social Justice Studies, Great Books and Environmental Studies. Students who take this interdisciplinary pre-major can also choose to focus on a specific area, such as art, music or film by taking several offerings in one of these disciplines over three to four semesters.

The pre-major is designed for students who have not decided upon a specific four-year college or university. Once a transfer school is selected, students are strongly encouraged to consult the Office of Advising, Transitions, and Student Success and the transfer institution's catalog to select courses that will meet both Oakton and transfer institution requirements. Part time students should also consult the Office of Advising, Transitions, and Student Success for part-time pre-major recommendations.

The recommended sequence of courses can be altered based on the interests of students and scheduling needs. Students should consult with the Co-Chair of the Humanities Department about alternative course selections and sequencing. **General Education courses should be selected from the list of IAI General Education Courses.**

First Year		
Semester One		Hours
EGL 101	Composition I	3
MAT 125	General Education Mathematics	4
Select one of the following: 3		
HUM 120	Western Culture and the Arts: Beginnings through the Middle Ages	
HUM 121	Western Culture and the Arts: Renaissance through the 20th Century	
HUM 122	Contemporary Culture and the Arts	
HUM 210	World Mythologies <sup>1</sup>	
Select one of the following: 3		
HUM 127	Introduction to Philosophy	
HUM 140	Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies <sup>2</sup>	
PHL 106	Ethics	
PHL 205	World Religions <sup>1</sup>	

Select one of the following: 3	
HUM 123	Introduction to Art
HUM 125	Introduction To Music
HUM 131	Introduction to Theater
HUM 160	Introduction to Film

**Hours 16**

Semester Two	
EGL 102	Composition II

Select one of the following: 3-4

Note: At least one science course with lab is required for degree completion

BIO 101	Introduction to Life Science (lab)
BIO 106	Introduction to Environmental Science (lab) <sup>1</sup>
BIO 109	Plants and Society <sup>1</sup>

Select one of the following: 3

HUM 120	Western Culture and the Arts: Beginnings through the Middle Ages
HUM 121	Western Culture and the Arts: Renaissance through the 20th Century
HUM 122	Contemporary Culture and the Arts
HUM 210	World Mythologies <sup>1</sup>

Select one of the following: 3

ART 114	Art History: Art of the Non-Western World <sup>1</sup>
EGL 130	Introduction to Global Literature <sup>1</sup>
HUM 161	Global Cinema <sup>1</sup>
HUM 165	Introduction to World Music <sup>1</sup>

Select one of the following: 3

ANT 102	Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology <sup>3</sup>
GEG 120	World Regional Geography <sup>1</sup>
GEG 122	Cultural Geography <sup>1</sup>
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology <sup>2</sup>
SOC 103	Social Problems <sup>3</sup>
SSC 201	Introduction to Global Studies <sup>1</sup>

**Hours 15-16**

Second Year	
Semester One	
SPE 103	Effective Speech

Select one of the following: 3

HUM 124	African-American Culture and the Arts <sup>2</sup>
HUM 141	Introduction to LGBTQ Studies <sup>2</sup>
HUM 142	Women and Creativity <sup>2</sup>

Select one of the following: 3

PHL 215	Asian Philosophy <sup>1</sup>
PHL 230	Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
PHL 231	Modern and Contemporary Philosophy
Modern Language course (202 <sup>1</sup> or higher) <sup>4</sup>	

Select one of the following: 3

ART 110	History of Photography
ART 114	Art History: Art of the Non-Western World <sup>1</sup>
HUM 162	Film and Literature
HUM 260	Perspectives on Film
MUS 236	Music Literature and History

Select one of the following: 3

HIS 131	Western Civilization to 1650
HIS 132	Western Civilization since 1650
HIS 140	History of Contemporary Non-Western Civilizations <sup>1</sup>
HIS 225	History of the Islamic Middle East from the 7th Century to 1918 <sup>1</sup>
HIS 226	History of the Islamic Middle East in Modern Times <sup>1</sup>
HIS 234	History of Modern Latin America <sup>1</sup>

**Hours 15**

Semester Two	
Select one of the following: 3	

HUM 220	Asian Humanities <sup>1</sup>	
HUM 242	Women, Art and Culture <sup>2</sup>	
PHL (Philosophy) course not taken previously		
HUM (Humanities) course not taken previously		
Modern Language course (202 <sup>1</sup> or higher) <sup>4</sup>		
Select one of the following:		3
EGL 113	Introduction to Drama	
EGL 115	Introduction to Fiction	
EGL 117	Introduction to Poetry	
EGL 129	Introduction to Literature (or other Literature course)	
Select one of the following:		3-4
Note: At least one science course with lab is required for degree completion		
ATR 115	Descriptive Astronomy	
EAS 100	Introduction to Earth Science (lab)	
EAS 105	Introduction to Weather and Climate	
EAS 121	Physical Geography	
EAS 125	A Survey of Oceanography	
Select one of the following:		3
PSC 201	Comparative Government <sup>1</sup>	
PSC 202	International Relations <sup>1</sup>	
PSY 120	Human Development	
PSY 202	Social Psychology <sup>2</sup>	
Select one of the following:		3
SOC 230	Sociology of Sex and Gender <sup>2</sup>	
SOC 232	Sociology of Race and Ethnicity <sup>2</sup>	
SSC 105	Introduction to Ethnic Studies <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15-16</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>61-63</b>

<sup>1</sup> Course fulfills the Global Studies requirement. At least one Global Studies course is required for degree completion.

<sup>2</sup> Course fulfills the U.S. Diversity Studies requirement. At least one U.S. Diversity Studies course is required for degree completion.

<sup>3</sup> Course fulfills both, the Global Studies and U.S. Diversity Studies requirements.

<sup>4</sup> Transfer institutions may have a language requirement. Any Modern Language Intermediate II course can meet the Humanities and Global Studies requirements.

**Note:** Pre-major is a recommended sequence and selection of courses. See Associate in Arts (A.A.) page for degree requirements.