

Humanities (HUM)

HUM 200 WRITTEN AND ORAL ANALYSIS (3)

Students practice the techniques of critical reading and thinking, of expository writing, and of oral expression. They examine the principles of thinking, speaking, and writing, with a view to the multitude of purposes for which these activities are crucial. Satisfies GE, category A1 (Written and Oral Analysis). Prerequisites: completion of GE categories A2 and A3.

HUM 301 WAR AND PEACE LECTURE SERIES (3)

Students attend the public War and Peace Lecture Series and meet in discussion groups weekly to address a broad range of issues relating to the problem of war and prospects for peace. Lecturers represent diverse disciplines ~ e.g., economics, physics, peace studies, political science, sociology ~ and institutions. Discussion sessions synthesize material presented in lectures and outside readings and elicit students' personal responses to the issues raised. Reading and writing assignments required. Satisfies GE, category C3 (Ethics and Values).

HUM 395 LITERATURE, ARTS AND EDUCATION (1-4)

Students will work individually or in teams to present enrichment activities and curriculum to local schools in the Rancho-Cotati School District. Students may do this in conjunction with a current class they are taking or as an independent project.

HUM 460 TEACHING ASSISTANT IN HUMANITIES (1-3)

Provides students experience in assisting an instructor in an Humanities course by doing course related research and tutoring.

HUM 495 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-3)

Independent study designed in consultation with an instructor. Students must complete the standard SSU form. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

Hutchins School of Liberal Studies (LIBS)

LIBS 100 THE CRAFT OF WRITING (2)

A course designed to help students who are experiencing difficulties with writing. While the craft of writing will be emphasized (punctuation, sentence construction, word choice, paragraph and essay organization, etc.), the course will also address how the craft of writing can become the art of persuasion and self-expression.

LIBS 101 THE HUMAN ENIGMA (12)

Drawing on materials about small-scale societies, ancient cultures and contemporary civilizations, this course concentrates, within a comparative framework, on the development of cultural values, the concept of human nature, the growth of self-awareness, and the emergence of ethical and political thought. Prerequisite: A passing score on the EPT.

LIBS 102 IN SEARCH OF SELF (12)

This course focuses on the individual, exploring how personal history, unconscious processes, and political and historical environments shape the concept of the self. This course develops a fuller understanding of these influences through scientific investigation, historical exploration and creative expression, employing materials drawn from biology, psychology, sociology, literature, history, politics and the arts.

LIBS 201 EXPLORING THE UNKNOWN (12)

An investigation of the meaning and limits of knowledge with respect to the nature of the mind and physical reality. These issues are pursued through several different but interrelated fields of study, including literature, art, philosophy, comparative religion and science. The course considers Newtonian and quantum mechanical theories of physical reality, the religions of various cultures, and the functions of myth. The term includes a section focusing on the nature of human creativity.

LIBS 202 CHALLENGE AND RESPONSE IN THE MODERN WORLD (12)

An examination of modern accomplishments and problems that have derived from several sources: the 18th century mechanical models, the Scientific and Industrial Revolutions, and the rise of modern economic theories. Asking how it is possible in the 21st century to live a moral life, the course examines the rise of individualism, the tension between personal and social values, the problems of poverty and the distribution of wealth, and the multiple consequences of modern technology upon the human and natural environments.

LIBS 204 MINORITIES IN AMERICAN CINEMA (4)

This course is designed to examine the fundamental beliefs, assumptions, and "self-evident" truths that serve as the foundation for American culture, and then to consider those truths in light of challenges provided by multicultural perspectives. Our primary focus will be the representations of racial minorities in American cinema from the beginning of the twentieth century up to the present day. Applying an interdisciplinary and multicultural approach, we will investigate the depictions of race, racial identity, and interracial relationships in both mainstream (Hollywood) and alternative cinemas. We will supplement our inquiry through related works of literature and drama, in addition to readings in film theory, film history and critical cultural studies. Thus, even as we consider the historical truths of American culture, these "truths" will be consistently interrogated and reformulated by examining the representations of minority figures and groups in American cinema.

LIBS 302 INTRODUCTION TO LIBERAL STUDIES (3)

An interdisciplinary 'gateway course' examining the meaning of a liberal education, emphasizing seminar skills, oral and written communication, and introducing the Portfolio. It is taken with LIBS 304 or 308 in the first semester of upper-division study. (These are the prerequisites for all upper-division Hutchins courses.) Successful completion of LIBS 302 is required to continue in the Hutchins program. Students must earn a grade of C or higher to continue in Hutchins.