HUMANITIES (MA)

Master of Arts in Humanities
Unit: College of Arts and Sciences (https://louisville.edu/artsandsciences) (GA)
Department: Comparative Humanities (http://louisville.edu/humanities) Program Website (https://louisville.edu/humanities/graduate/ma)
Academic Plan Code(s): See Concentration Requirements tab.

Program Information
The MA in Humanities is an interdisciplinary, comparative, and globally-oriented master's program offered by the Department of Comparative Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences. It is designed for students who seek to integrate two disciplines in the arts and humanities, and/or historical periods, with community enrichment. The MA in Humanities can be undertaken as an intensive two-year program, but there is the possibility of a part-time schedule for students with full-time jobs.

Degree Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concentration (see tab)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>21-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Methods</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis/Directed Project</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A minimum of fifteen (15) credit hours must be at the 600 level, excluding HUM 655. In addition to the coursework requirements listed above, some students may need to satisfy the foreign language competency requirement.

1 Hours vary between concentrations and depending on whether students opt for a Thesis or a Directed Study Project option.
2 Thesis option students take six (6) credit hours of HUM 648; Directed Study Project option students take three (3) credit hours of HUM 655.

Specific coursework information can be found on the Degree Requirements tab.

Areas of Concentration
The MA in Humanities offers three areas of concentration:

• Interdisciplinary Humanities
• Linguistics
• Public Humanities

Accelerated BA/MA in Humanities
Students who wish to pursue an accelerated master's degree will be allowed to apply to the baccalaureate degree up to nine (9) credit hours of coursework taken for graduate credit. 21 credit hours of graduate coursework, in addition, will constitute the minimum number of credit hours for obtaining the MA. The guidelines for the accelerated BA/MA in Humanities are as follows:

• Students must apply no later than the end of the junior year for admission to the accelerated program.
• A minimum overall grade point average and major grade point average of 3.35 will be required for admission to and for retention in the program.
• Students must complete the GRE and fill out the Humanities Division application for the accelerated BA/MA in Humanities.
• Students may take a maximum of nine (9) credit hours for graduate credit, which will also apply to the requirements for the baccalaureate degree in Humanities.
• The accelerated BA/MA in Humanities will be offered for the Interdisciplinary Humanities concentration and for the Linguistics concentration, but not for the concentration in Public Humanities.
• Students who enroll in the accelerated BA/MA in Humanities may elect the thesis or non-thesis option, whichever is appropriate to the concentration and course of study.
• All students in the program will take either HUM 609 or HUM 610 to fulfill the Methodology requirement.
• All requirements remain the same, including the foreign language requirement.

Admission Requirements
Regular admission to the MA in Humanities occurs twice yearly, for entry during the fall and spring semesters. The official deadline for Fall admission is January 15. The official deadline for Spring admission is July 15.

All applicants must have completed a BA in an appropriate field of study prior to beginning the program.

Applications should consist of the following:

• Online Graduate Application for Admission (http://louisville.edu/graduate/apply)
• Payment of Application fee
• A statement of intent (about 1000 words) focusing on the research interests or the applicant's professional goals
• A scholarly or creative writing sample (5,000-10,000 words)
• Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate-level work
• Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores
• NOTE: GRE scores are required; however, the Humanities Graduate Admissions Committee will do a holistic review of all the application material in order to make a final decision.
• Two letters of recommendation from former instructors/co-workers attesting to capability for graduate-level work and/or work ethic
• If applicable, proof of English proficiency (international students from countries where English is not the native language)
Program Requirements

Concentration (see Concentration tab)  
- First Core Area (12-15 credits)  
- Second Core Area (9-12 credits)

Research Methods
- HUM 609 Interdisciplinary Theory: Arts and Humanities  
  or HUM 610 Methods and Theories in the Study of Religion  
  or HUM 645 Directed Study Project  
  or HUM 645 Thesis Guidance

Thesis/Directed Project  
- HUM 655 Directed Study Project

Minimum Total Hours 30

In addition to the course work requirements listed above, students in two of the three concentrations need to satisfy a foreign language competency requirement.

Concentration credit hours vary depending on whether students opt for a Thesis or a Directed Study Project.

Thesis option students take six (6) credit hours of HUM 645; Directed Study Project option students take three (3) credit hours of HUM 655.

Concentrations

These concentrations are designed to provide students with a broad grasp of the Arts and Humanities with special strengths in selected areas such as Linguistics and Public Humanities.

In each track, students take a minimum of eight or nine classes and either write and defend a thesis or produce and defend a Directed Study Project at the end of the program.

Each concentration requires a minimum of 30 credit hours, with a minimum of fifteen (15) credit hours at the 600 level (excluding HUM 655).

Beyond the course work requirements outlined below, students in two of the three concentrations need additional credits to satisfy the foreign language competency requirement.

Interdisciplinary Humanities (formerly "Traditional" track)

Academic Plan Code(s): HUM_MA_TRD, HUM_MA_TAC

Students in this track can combine the study of two disciplines or focus on the culture of a particular historical period. The cultural periods included are: Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance, Early Modern, and Modern.

In addition to the course work listed below, MA students in the Interdisciplinary Humanities concentration must satisfy a foreign language competency requirement and complete a final oral defense of a thesis or Directed Study Project.

Interdisciplinary Humanities, Thesis
- First Core Area  
  - HUM 609 Interdisciplinary Theory: Arts and Humanities

Minimum Total Hours 30

A minimum of fifteen (15) credit hours for the degree must be at the 600 level (excluding HUM 655).

Core Areas to be selected from the following: Art History, Literature, Classical and Modern Languages, Music History, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Theatre Arts; or in one of the following Cultural Areas: Ancient, Medieval/Renaissance, Early Modern (17th and 18th c.), or Modern studies.

Students without one of the Humanities 591-596 sequence in their undergraduate coursework may be required to take one of these as part of their core area course work.

Public Humanities

Academic Plan Code(s): HUM_MA_PH

Students in this track are professionals; are interested in a professional degree program; or are enrolled in the Joint JD/MAH (http://louisville.edu/humanities/graduate/ma/accelerated/jd-ma) or MAH/MBA (http://louisville.edu/humanities/graduate/ma/accelerated/dual-mba-ma-concentration-in-civic-leadership) Programs. They can combine the study of Public Humanities with a discipline or a focus on the culture of a particular historical period. The cultural periods included are: Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance, Early Modern, and Modern.

MA students in Public Humanities must complete two required internships: one internal to the university and one external. There is no foreign language competency requirement for the Public Humanities concentration.

The Public Humanities concentration is not available for accelerated completion.

Interdisciplinary Humanities (formerly "Traditional" track)

Academic Plan Code(s): HUM_MA_TRD, HUM_MA_TAC

Students in this track can combine the study of two disciplines or focus on the culture of a particular historical period. The cultural periods included are: Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance, Early Modern, and Modern.

In addition to the course work listed below, MA students in the Interdisciplinary Humanities concentration must satisfy a foreign language competency requirement and complete a final oral defense of a thesis or Directed Study Project.

Interdisciplinary Humanities, Thesis
- First Core Area  
  - HUM 609 Interdisciplinary Theory: Arts and Humanities

Minimum Total Hours 30

A minimum of fifteen (15) credit hours for the degree must be at the 600 level (excluding HUM 655).

Core Areas to be selected from the following: Art History, Literature, Classical and Modern Languages, Music History, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Theatre Arts; or in one of the following Cultural Areas: Ancient, Medieval/Renaissance, Early Modern (17th and 18th c.), or Modern studies.

Students without one of the Humanities 591-596 sequence in their undergraduate coursework may be required to take one of these as part of their core area course work.
A minimum of fifteen (15) credit hours for the degree must be at the 600 level (excluding HUM 655).

1 Core Areas to be selected from the following: Art History, Literature, Modern Languages, Music History, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Theatre Arts; or in one of the following Cultural Areas: Ancient, Medieval/Renaissance, Early Modern (17th and 18th c.), or Modern studies.

**Linguistics**

Academic Plan Code(s): HUM_MA_LIN, HUM_MA_LAC

Students in this track combine in a unique way the study of the interdisciplinary humanities with a specialized concentration in linguistics. Students take three core courses and then a minimum of two additional 600-level linguistics courses. Along with our Humanities faculty, students are able to study with linguists in the adjacent departments of Classical and Modern Languages, English, Philosophy, and Psychology.

In addition to the coursework listed below, MA students in the Linguistics concentration must satisfy a foreign language competency requirement and complete a final oral defense of a Directed Study Project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING 603</td>
<td>Syntax</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 610</td>
<td>Phonetics and Phonology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 630</td>
<td>Language and Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or LING 640 Linguistic Anthropology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Six additional credits from the following:</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING/ENGL 520</td>
<td>World Englishes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING/ENGL 523</td>
<td>History of the English Language</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING/ENGL 570</td>
<td>Language and Social Identity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 621</td>
<td>Sociolinguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING/ENGL 522</td>
<td>Structure of Modern English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 606</td>
<td>Historical and Comparative Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 620</td>
<td>Special Topics in Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 624</td>
<td>Language and Cognition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 641</td>
<td>Recent Philosophy of Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 600</td>
<td>Independent Study 2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 620</td>
<td>Special Topics in Linguistics (G)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 690</td>
<td>Seminar in Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUM 609</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Theory: Arts and Humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or HUM 610</td>
<td>Methods and Theories in the Study of Religion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimum Total Hours: 30