WELCOME TO
HUMANITIES

Now that you have chosen to study at McMaster, you are probably wondering what to do next - in particular, how to choose your courses.

A full course load includes 30 units, with 15 units each term. Each course you take is typically worth 3 units (half year) or 6 units (full year). You will select your Level 1 courses based on which Level 2 programs you are interested in.

You are required to take one 3-unit foundational Humanities course, HUMAN 1VV3. You are also required to take a minimum of 12 units from “Course List 1” - these courses qualify you for degree programs. The remaining 15 units can be additional courses from this list, electives from the Faculty of Humanities, or electives from other faculties at McMaster.

We have provided you with a worksheet inside this brochure to help you plan your courses. As always, if you have any questions, we encourage you to speak with an academic advisor.

Understanding Course Codes

The level of the course. 1AA3

How many units this course is worth.

Prerequisite: a requirement to be fulfilled before registration in a course is permitted. This is usually the successful completion of another course.

Co-requisite: a course which must be taken at the same time as your desired course.

Anti-requisite: an anti-requisite course will be listed if your desired course overlaps substantially with another one, and indicates that you cannot take both.

*Note: Music 1 and Studio Art 1 both have special lists of requirements. See our website for more details.

“I’m giving back, I hope, to first year students, my sense of excitement that I had as a first year student.”
John Weaver - Professor, History

“We are about helping students develop and articulate a vision for themselves and for the world they want to live in.”
Anna Moro - Professor, Linguistics & Languages

“The skills that you develop in this program – reading, writing, analytical skills – they are applicable to everything else you could want to do in the future”.
Ashlynn Whalley - Graduate, Justice, Political Philosophy, and Law (JPPL)

“I was…listening to someone who was so passionate about what they loved tell me about it and I just fell in love with it”.
Ryan Heydon - Graduate, History

“I love that we have these opportunities to explore our career choices, to be hands-on with our learning both in the classroom and outside the classroom”.
Kristi Kwan - Graduate, Cognitive Science of Language

“The faculty are outstanding. They really care about you individually. The students are amazing”.
Elise Naccarato - Graduate, Music

Contact Us

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HUMANITIES 1: Choosing Your Courses

1 Identify the degree programs you are interested in

☐ Art History
Choose at least 3 units
☐ ARTHIST 1A03: World Art and Cultural Heritage I
☐ ARTHIST 1AA3: World Art and Cultural Heritage II

☐ Classics
Choose at least 3 units
☐ CLASSICS 1A03: Introduction to Classical Archaeology
☐ CLASSICS 1B03: Ancient Myth and Literature
☐ CLASSICS 1M03: History of Greece and Rome
☐ GREEK 1203: Beginner’s Intensive Ancient Greek I
☐ GREEK 12Z3: Beginner’s Intensive Ancient Greek II
☐ LATIN 1203: Beginner’s Intensive Latin I
☐ LATIN 12Z3: Beginner’s Intensive Latin II

☐ Cognitive Science of Language
Take both
☐ LINGUIST 1A03: Introduction to Linguistics: Sounds, Speech & Hearing
☐ LINGUIST 1AA3: Introduction to Linguistics: Words, Sentences & Meaning
*must also take PSYCH 1X03 or 1F03 as electives

☐ Communication Studies
Take
☐ CMST 1A03 - Introduction to Communication

☐ English
Choose at least 3 units
(1C06 recommended)
☐ ENGLISH 1G03: Making and Unmaking Literary Traditions
☐ ENGLISH 1H03: Words in Place
☐ ENGLISH 1F03: The Written World
☐ ENGLISH 1CS3: Studying Culture: A Critical Introduction

☐ French
Take
☐ FRENCH 1A06 A/B: Introduction to French Studies: Advanced Level

☐ History
Choose at least 3 units
☐ HISTORY 1CC3: The Rise of Empires, 500-1950
☐ HISTORY 1DD3: The Making of the Modern World, 1750-1945
☐ HISTORY 1EE3: The Historical Roots of Contemporary Issues
☐ HISTORY 1FF3: Exploring History in a Small Group Setting
☐ HISTORY 1P03: A History of Magic
☐ HISTORY 1Q03: History of Medicine

☐ Linguistics
Take both
☐ LINGUIST 1A03: Introduction to Linguistics: Sounds, Speech & Hearing
☐ LINGUIST 1AA3: Introduction to Linguistics: Words, Sentences & Meaning
*6 units of a language other than English also recommended

☐ Media Arts
Take
☐ MEDIAART 1A03: Media Arts

☐ Global Peace & Social Justice
Take
☐ PEACJUST 1A03: Peace, Justice, Human Rights
☐ PEACJUST 1VM3: Voices at Mac: Understanding our World

☐ Philosophy OR
☐ Justice, Political Philosophy, and Law (JPPL)
Choose at least 3 units
☐ PHILOS 1A03: Philosophical Texts
☐ PHILOS 1B03: Philosophy, Law and Society
☐ PHILOS 1E03: Philosophical Questions
☐ PHILOS 1F03: Meaning in Life

☐ Theatre & Film
Take
☐ THTRFLM 1T03: Introduction to Theatre, Cinema and Society
☐ THTRFLM 1FT3: Breaking into Film and Television

2 Select the courses you need to be considered for your programs of interest (You must take at least 12 units from this list.)

3 Take your required Humanities foundational course.

☐ HUMAN 1W3: Voice and Vision: Words to Change the World

4 Choose enough electives to make your total credit units equal 30.

Humanities Electives

☐ ART 1T13: Making Art and Understanding Technology & Images
☐ ART 1UI3: Making Art and Understanding Images
☐ CHINESE 1Z06 A/B: Mandarin Chinese for Beginners
☐ FRENCH 1206 A/B: Beginner’s Intensive French I
☐ FARS 1Z03: Introductory Farsi
☐ FARS 1Z73: Introductory Farsi II
☐ GERMAN 1B03: Intermediate German I
☐ GERMAN 1BB3: Intermediate German II
☐ GERMAN 1Z06 A/B: Beginner’s Intensive German
☐ ITALIAN 1A03: Intermediate Italian I
☐ ITALIAN 1AA3: Intermediate Italian II
☐ ITALIAN 1206 A/B: Beginner’s Intensive Italian
☐ JAPANESE 1Z06 A/B: Beginner’s Intensive Japanese
☐ KOREAN 1Z03: Introductory Korean I
☐ KOREAN 1Z73: Introductory Korean II
☐ INGUIS 1Z23: Structure of Modern English II
☐ INGUIS 1Z03: Structure of Modern English I
☐ MUSIC 1CH3 – Rudiments of Music
☐ POLISH 1Z03: Beginner’s Polish I
☐ POLISH 1Z73: Beginner’s Polish II
☐ RUSSIAN 1Z03: Intensive Beginner’s Russian I
☐ RUSSIAN 1Z73: Intensive Beginner’s Russian II
☐ SPANISH 1A03: Intermediate Spanish I
☐ SPANISH 1AA3: Intermediate Spanish II
☐ SPANISH 1Z06 A/B: Beginner’s Intensive Spanish
☐ THTRFLM 1H03: Acting Skills for Life and Work
☐ GENDRST 1A03: Gender, Race, Culture, Power
☐ GENDRST 1AA3: Women Transforming the World

Electives from Other Faculties

Total Required Units Selected ___________
+ Total Elective Units Selected ___________

30