

Undergraduate Bulletin

Humanities and Justice

2012-2013

HUMANITIES AND JUSTICE (BACHELOR OF ARTS)

The Humanities and Justice major offers students the opportunity to explore fundamental questions about justice from a humanistic, interdisciplinary perspective. Rooted in history, literature and philosophy, Humanities and Justice prepares students for basic inquiry and advanced research into issues of justice that lie behind social policy and criminal justice as well as broader problems of social morality and equity. Its courses are designed to help students develop the skills of careful reading, critical thinking and clear writing that are necessary for the pursuit of any professional career. This major provides an excellent preparation for law school and other professional programs, for graduate school in the humanities, and for careers in law, education, public policy and criminal justice.

The Humanities and Justice curriculum involves a sequence of five interdisciplinary core courses in Humanities and Justice (designated with the HJS prefix); six courses from a list of humanities courses in history, literature, or philosophy (HIS, LIT, PHI), and a choice of one of two courses on theory.

Credits required. 36

Prerequisites. ENG 102 or ENG 201, one of the required general education courses in literature, history, or philosophy; one of the required general education courses in the social sciences, and upper-sophomore class standing.

Please note: GOV 101 or POL 101 is a prerequisite for POL 375 and LAW 203 or POL 301 is a prerequisite for LAW 301. Part III of the major requires either POL 375 (or GOV 375) or LAW 301.

Coordinator. Professor Margaret Tabb, Department of English (212.237.8578, mtabb@jjay.cuny.edu). Students must review their course of study with major faculty.

Additional information. Students who enrolled for the first time at the College or changed to this major in September 2008 or thereafter must complete the major in the form presented here. Students who enrolled prior to that date may choose the form shown here or the earlier version of the major. A copy of the earlier version may be obtained at the Office of Undergraduate Studies or at the Lloyd George Sealy Library.

Senior-level requirement. Students must complete HJS 410 Problems and Theory: Thesis Prospectus and HJS 415 Thesis in Humanities and Justice Studies.

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PART ONE. FOUNDATIONS

Required

- HJS 250 Justice in the Western Traditions
- HJS 310 Comparative Perspectives on Justice
- HJS 315 Research Methods in Humanities and Justice Studies

PART TWO. THE DISCIPLINARY COMPONENT: HISTORY AND/OR LITERATURE AND/OR PHILOSOPHY (SIX COURSES)

Subtotal: 18

Students take six advanced elective courses in one or more of the humanities disciplines in order to explore how the fundamental assumptions, methods and general subject matter of these disciplines relate to issues of justice. These courses will be chosen by the student with faculty advisement, from the following list or from a designated list of other humanities courses being taught in any particular semester. Permission by the Humanities and Justice Coordinator is required for any course not listed below in Categories A, B, or C to count toward the major. A minimum of 12 credits must be taken at the 300-level or above.

Category A. History Courses

- HIS 217 Three Hundred Years of New York City: A History of the Big Apple
- HIS 219 Violence and Social Change in America
- HIS 224 A History of Crime in New York City
- HIS 252 Warfare in the Ancient Near East and Egypt
- HIS 254 History of Ancient Greece and Rome
- HIS 260/LLS 260 History of Contemporary Cuba
- HIS 265/LLS 265 Class, Race, and Family in Latin American History
- HIS 277 American Legal History
- HIS 290 Selected Topics in History*
- HIS 320 The History of Crime and Punishment in the United States
- HIS 325 Criminal Justice in European Society, 1750 to the Present
- HIS 354 Law and Society in Ancient Athens and Rome
- HIS 381 Social History of Catholicism in the Modern World
- HIS 383 History of Terrorism

Credits Category B. Literature Courses

Subtotal: 9

- LIT 219 The Word as Weapon
- LIT 223/AFR 223 African-American Literature
- LIT 290 Special Topics*
- LIT 305 Foundations of Literature and Law
- LIT 311 Literature and Ethics
- LIT 313 Shakespeare
- LIT 314 Shakespeare and Justice
- LIT 315 American Literature and the Law
- LIT 316 Gender and Identity in Western Literary Traditions
- LIT 327 Crime and Punishment in Literature
- LIT 342 Perspectives on Literature and Human Rights
- LIT 346 Cultures in Conflict
- LIT 340/AFR 340 African- American Experience in America: Comparative Racial Perspectives
- SPA 208 The Theme of Justice in 20th-Century Spanish Literature

Category C. Philosophy Courses

- PHI 203 Political Philosophy
- PHI 205 Philosophy of Religion
- PHI 210 Ethical Theory
- PHI 302 Philosophical Issues of Rights
- PHI 304 Philosophy of the Mind
- PHI 310/LAW 310 Ethics and Law
- PHI 315 Philosophy of the Rule of Law
- PHI 322/CRJ 322 Judicial and Correctional Ethics
- PHI 326 Topics in the History of Modern Thought
- PHI 340 Utopian Thought
- PHI 423/POL 423 Selected Topics in Justice

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PART THREE. TOPICS IN POLITICAL OR LEGAL THEORY

Subtotal: 3

Select one

LAW 301 Jurisprudence

POL 375 Law, Order, Justice and Society

PART FOUR. PROBLEMS AND RESEARCH

Subtotal: 6

Both are required

HJS 410 Problems and Theory: Thesis Prospectus

HJS 415 Thesis in Humanities and Justice Studies

Total: 36

* HIS 290 Selected Topics in History, LIT 290 Selected Topics, LIT 390 Individual Reading and LIT 401 Special Topics may be used to satisfy the six-course requirement of the Disciplinary Component when the topic is applicable to the Humanities and Justice major. To approve these courses for inclusion in the major, students and/or faculty must petition the program coordinator.