



# Interdisciplinary Humanities Program

What does it mean to be human? This question has long been the basis of inquiry in the humanities, which encompass a wide variety of disciplines at Puget Sound. The Interdisciplinary Humanities Emphasis (IHE) allows students to engage with questions of enduring significance while tackling some of the most pressing issues that confront our society today, including environmental crisis, technological change, systemic racism and xenophobia, the breakdown of civil society and political discourse, war between religions, and changing conceptions of gender and sexualities.

The IHE's six innovative pathways are designed to complement any major, and allow students to customize their own academic experiences while simultaneously fulfilling core and graduation requirements. Students who complete the emphasis become strong writers, researchers, and thinkers able to respond thoughtfully and solve problems creatively.

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

First-year students in the Humanities Residential Program form a living-learning community by taking their first-year seminars together in the fall, and enjoy various activities such as film screenings, lectures, dinners, and off-campus excursions. Advanced students have many opportunities to apply skills outside the classroom through study abroad, funded summer research, and internships.

## AFTER PUGET SOUND

Because humanities coursework fosters both higher order thinking skills—such as problem-solving, critical analysis, and oral and written communication—and essential “soft skills” like flexibility, empathy, and collaboration, students are well prepared to succeed in competitive graduate programs or professional settings.

For more information on courses and requirements, visit [pugetsound.edu/humanities](http://pugetsound.edu/humanities) or contact Professor Katherine Smith at [kasmith2@pugetsound.edu](mailto:kasmith2@pugetsound.edu) or Professor Kriszta Kotsis at [kkotsis@pugetsound.edu](mailto:kkotsis@pugetsound.edu).



## SPOTLIGHT ON EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

### IHE Pathways

Students can follow one of six pathways which offer various opportunities for experiential learning:

- *The Artist as Humanist*
- *Challenging Inequality, Leading Social Change: Issues of Gender*
- *Challenging Inequality, Leading Social Change: Issues of Race and Ethnicity*
- *The Global Middle Ages*
- *Science and Values*
- *Visual Culture*



INTERDISCIPLINARY  
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