



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 seven 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

Students have many opportunities to apply their skills outside the classroom through funded summer research, internships in Tacoma and beyond, service learning, and study abroad. All IHE students also create ePortfolios in which they reflect upon their unique pathway experiences and articulate the value of their humanistic skill sets for future employment and graduate school opportunities.

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 or contact Professor Katherine Smith at kasmith2@pugetsound.edu or Professor Kriszta Kotsis at 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*
- *Empire, Colonialism, and Resistance*
- *The Global Middle Ages*
- *Science and Values*
- *Visual Culture*



INTERDISCIPLINARY
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