Southern Methodist University

MASTER OF LIBERAL STUDIES

Curricular Field Concentrations

The Arts and Cultural Traditions

Curriculum Description

The Arts and Cultural Traditions concentration explores the idea of the arts as evidence critical to the study of cultural history and the formation of cultural values. The term “arts” is broadly defined by the interdisciplinary study of visual art, art history, music, theater, literature, poetry and society. The Liberal Studies degree emphasizes the ways in which works of art express, shape and reflect cultural changes in all aspects of society. This concentration is not designed to be a professional or vocational credential, but rather to enrich the student’s knowledge and understanding of this curricular field of study.

Courses from departments at SMU other than Liberal Studies may be selected with the permission of both departments on a space-available basis (maximum of 6 credit hours). Non-GLS courses must be “in the spirit” of the Liberal Studies Degree Program with the approval of the Program Director and Department Chair. Independent Study courses may also be designed with designated faculty members (maximum of 6 credit hours) to supplement MLS course offerings, with the approval of the Program Director and Department Chair. The self-designed concentration will appear on the final transcript of record.

Students may participate in appropriate study abroad experiences, such as those offered in France and Italy and other sites through the Master of Liberal Studies program. A study tour may count toward the concentration electives.

Format

Students who select an Arts and Cultural Traditions concentration must complete the following:

- 36 credit hours (required for the overall MLS degree)
- The 3 credit hour introductory required course: The Human Experience
- 3 credit hour designated writing intensive course (not part of the concentration)
- 6 elective courses related to the designated concentration (determined by the student and faculty member)
- 6 plus credit hour thesis or 3 credit hour capstone project

COURSES, *The Arts and Cultural Traditions*

BHSC 6314	**Native American Heritage**
FNAR 6115	**Classic Works: Bar at Folies-Bergere**
FNAR 6201	**Art and Architecture in Hispanic New Mexico**
FNAR 6301	**Action! The Practice of Dramatic Writing**
FNAR 6305	**From Sunrise to Psycho: Form and Meaning in the Cinema**
FNAR 6309	**Art of the Italian Renaissance**
FNAR 6307	**Chemistry in Art**
FNAR 6310	**Art of the Ancient Maya**
FNAR 6311	**Etruscan Art and Archeology**
FNAR 6302	**The Black Aesthetic in the Visual Arts**
FNAR 6312	**Art and Architecture of Ancient Pompeii**
FNAR 6313	**Contemporary Art**
FNAR 6314	**Arthur Miller: Art, Activism, and Life**
FNAR 6315	**The Owl and the Nightingale: Music in Medieval France**
FNAR 6316	**On Being Funny: Physical Comedy and Beyond**
FNAR 6317	**Art of the Baroque**
FNAR 6321	**Great Books of Art History**
FNAR 6322	**Modern Movements in European and American Painting**
FNAR 6323	**Modern Painting in France**
FNAR 6326	**Shakespeare through the Eyes of his Clowns**
FNAR 6333	**Approaching Contemporary Art: Post WWII (1950-1980)**
FNAR 6380	**Music, Society, and Politics in the 19th Century**
FNAR 6394	**Creating Poetry**
FNAR 6395	**Spectacle of Theater**
FNAR 7360	**Creating the Short Story**
FNAR 7362	**Western Music as Propaganda**
HUMN 6301	**Shakespeare and the Nature of Man**
HUMN 6305	**Women and the Southwest**
HUMN 6307	**Etruscan Art and Archeology**
HUMN 6308	**Women's Lives and Women's Literary Tradition**
HUMN 6310	**"Tell About the South": Voices in Faulkner's Novels**
HUMN 6317	**Heroes and Heroism**
HUMN 6325	**Women in Modern Literature and Film**
HUMN 6328	**Love and Transformation**
HUMN 6330	**Wit and Humor in African American Literature**
HUMN 6337	**The Poetry of Spiritual Struggle**
HUMN 6350	**The Art of African American Storytelling**
HUMN 6351	**Interpretation and Performance of African-American Poetry**
HUMN 6352	**Interpretation of Folklore in African American Fiction**
HUMN 6354	**Remembering the 60s:Culture and Change**
HUMN 6356	**Oral Interpretation of Literature**
HUMN 6373	**American Regional Literature**
HUMN 6389	**Voices Riding the Waves**
HUMN 6391	**Classic Texts Seminar**
HUMN 6393	**Poetry Writing Workshop**
HUMN 7303	**The Culture of Rock and Roll**
HUMN 7345	**How the People of the Book Read it**
HUMN 7364	**The Individual and the Irrational, Ancient and Modern**
SOSC 6310	**Dignitas and Decadence: Society and Culture in Imperial Rome**
SOSC 6374	**Social and Cultural History of Spanish-Speaking Peoples**
SOSC 6376	**Cultural and Intellectual History of Modern Europe**
SOSC 6377	**Cultural and Intellectual History of Modern Europe: Romanticism to the Present**