

Johns Hopkins



JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY

Humanities

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS AT
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY



Humanities Majors

- Africana Studies
- Archaeology (pending approval)
- Classics
- East Asian Studies
- English
- Film & Media Studies
- French
- German
- History
- History of Art
- History of Science & Technology
- Italian
- Latin American Studies
- Near Eastern Studies
- Philosophy
- Romance Languages
- Spanish
- Writing Seminars

Humanities Minors

- Africana Studies
- Ancient Law
- Classics
- Film & Media Studies
- French Cultural Studies
- French Literature
- German
- History
- History of Art
- History of Science & Technology
- Italian
- Jewish Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Multicultural & Regional Studies
- Museums & Society
- Music
- Philosophy
- Russian
- Spanish for the Professions
- Spanish Language & Hispanic Culture
- Theatre Arts & Studies
- Women, Gender & Sexuality
- Writing Seminars



Humanities



How do you define what it means to be human?

At Johns Hopkins, the search leads you through many subjects—languages, literature, art, history, philosophy, theater, culture—because the human experience knows no bounds.

Interdisciplinary and small, the humanities program at Johns Hopkins offers you the rare opportunity to study in depth with authors, actors, curators, global experts, and rising academic stars at a school devoted to exploration and discovery. “Humanities are extremely strong here,” says one student. “I love exploring beneath the surface to see how the pieces connect.”

At some schools you study the humanities.
At Johns Hopkins, you’ll help redefine them.

Fact: *World renowned in science and medicine, Johns Hopkins has equally strong undergraduate programs in the humanities.*



Redefined

Close-knit, interdisciplinary

“Sometimes people are surprised that I came to Johns Hopkins for **art history and German**, but they are some of the **best programs** in the country. My professors are **inspiring ...** and they are making **major contributions** to their subjects.”

—**Katja Krumpelbeck, '07**
History of Art;
German (double-major),
Stamford, Conn.

Tradition of discovery:

In 1999, Johns Hopkins scholars helped verify that the first alphabet—from which modern alphabets evolved—dates from the 1900s B.C.E., centuries older than previously believed.



“The **interdisciplinary nature** of the humanities here is **quite distinctive**. I can work with **Italian literature by day**, write about **American manners by night**, and bring it all together in my undergraduate classes **every week**.”

—**P. M. Forni, Ph.D.**
Professor of Italian literature, award-winning expert on civility, and syndicated radio personality

Intersession:

An optional, three-week mini-semester between fall and spring, Intersession lets you try on something new and different. Course picks include Ballroom Dancing, Globalization, Contemporary Media, Appalachian Fiddle, and Reality Television (really!).

Crossing boundaries of knowledge:

Each semester, the Gilman Courses in the Humanities explore such topics as early modern China, Shakespeare, the Russian imagination, history of modern philosophy, monuments and memory, and more.

Language learning:

Looking for something a little different? The Language Teaching Center offers courses in Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Kiswahili, Korean, Persian, Russian, and Sanskrit.

Break out of the mold.



Become more engaged

“Class discussion in **small seminars** helps me become **more engaged** with whatever we’re studying. The **Socratic method** can be intimidating, but it trains you to **think under pressure**, which will undoubtedly be beneficial in a professional environment.”

—**Grace Roberto, '09**
Writing Seminars,
La Habra, Calif.

Laboratories for the creative spirit:

- **Mattin Center**—an entire complex dedicated to the visual and performing arts, including the state-of-the-art Digital Media Center
- **Shriver Hall**—1,100 seats and a full stage, an important campus venue for concerts, speakers, and special events
- **The Merrick Barn**—intimate theater and home to the Johns Hopkins University Theatre performing group
- **The Johns Hopkins Museums**—Homewood Museum, Evergreen Museum & Library, and the Johns Hopkins Archaeological Collection: venues for hands-on learning



“**Effective leaders** have **broad perspectives**, and the study of acting can do wonders for that. Students from **across the university** tell me that even **a single semester of acting training** can have **enormous benefit**, no matter what their major.”

—**John Astin**
Visiting professor, director of the theater program, and the original Gomez Addams from *The Addams Family* television series



Arts opportunities:

Johns Hopkins offers minors in music and theatre arts and studies; an arts certificate program in dance, digital media, fine/visual arts, music, and theater; and studio art and photography courses for all levels through the Homewood Art Workshops.

Setting the tone:

The Johns Hopkins *News-Letter* is one of the oldest continuously published independent student newspapers in the nation.

Best of:

Woodrow Wilson, who was awarded his doctorate in history from Johns Hopkins in 1886, is the only U.S. president to have earned a Ph.D.

Go beyond the ordinary.



The advantages of place

“I was **first attracted** to Johns Hopkins because of the **science programs**, but as a student I soon came to realize that the humanities departments have just as much, if not **more, to offer.**”

—**Bryce Olenczak, '08 (far right)**

History of Science and
Technology; Neuroscience
(double-major),
Hagerstown, Md.

Study abroad:

During any given year, more than 300 Johns Hopkins students study abroad in nearly 30 countries around the world. Johns Hopkins runs its own center in Bologna, Italy. Other Johns Hopkins programs are offered in Paris, Madrid, and Berlin, while special trips take students to places like Egypt, Ghana, and Latin America. Cooperative programs and flexible credit transfers mean that Johns Hopkins students really get around.

If you'd rather stay a little closer to home, a popular semester-long, residential fellowship program lets students take advantage of all the resources of nearby Washington, D.C. The Aitchison Public Service Undergraduate Fellowship provides classroom, internship, and cultural opportunities in the thick of our nation's capital.



“At Johns Hopkins, we tend to **treat undergraduates as graduate students**, especially in the humanities, which is **really personalized**. Most **departments are small**, and students are always dropping by the office for a chat. There is **a real closeness** because of this.”

—**Stuart W. Leslie, Ph.D.**

Professor of history of science, medicine, and technology; teaching and research interests span the history of technology and science-based industry, as well as regional economic geography



Milestones:

In 2006, museums and society, an interdisciplinary humanities minor for undergraduates, offered its first course, Art in London, in that city.

Harmonic convergence:

Peabody Conservatory is part of the Johns Hopkins system; that means you can pursue a double-degree, minor in music, take classes or lessons there, or play with a group.

Digital sandbox:

At the Digital Media Center, art and technology merge. Learn to integrate audio, video, animation, online technologies, and more to communicate your creative ideas.



Discover life's **possibilities.**

Dig deep into your subject

“The humanities experience is the best-kept secret at Johns Hopkins. In terms of visibility, humanities may be smaller here, but that’s precisely why everyone should be at a place like this: It feels like a small liberal arts college.”

—Jake Dalpiaz, '08
History major;
Entrepreneurship and Management
minor, Bay Shore, N.Y.

Independent inquiry:

Independent inquiry means pushing the boundaries of knowledge, making discoveries for yourself, and challenging the status quo. At Johns Hopkins, it’s an integral part of the educational approach—in all disciplines, including the humanities. You can complete a project of your own choosing, under the guidance of a faculty mentor, with the Provost’s Undergraduate Research Award (worth up to \$3,000) and the Woodrow Wilson Undergraduate Research Fellowship (worth up to \$10,000). The Honors Program in Humanistic Studies at the Humanities Center also lets you pursue independent, interdisciplinary work.



“Many students come here because they are interested in research, by which I mean learning in an independent way. That makes this a rewarding place to teach. Resources such as the Maryland Historical Society here in Baltimore are outstanding.”

—Sara Berry, Ph.D.
Dual appointments in the Center for Africana Studies and the Department of History; specializes in the economic and social history of Africa with an interest in agrarian studies



Chronicling the past:
A new \$476,000 grant will allow Johns Hopkins and the Afro-American Newspapers to open the company’s historic archives. Students will get hands-on experience with archival skills and present this cultural treasure to the world.

Hands-on humanities:
Collaborating with curators at Baltimore’s major museums, students study objects from the museums’ celebrated collections, pursue independent study projects, work as museum interns, and curate their own exhibitions.

Accomplishments:
Johns Hopkins University writer-in-residence Alice McDermott received the 1998 National Book Award for her novel *Charming Billy*.

Love what you do.



A degree of difference

Mummy or mommy?

On permanent loan from Goucher College since 1897, an Egyptian mummy in the Archaeological Collection was initially nicknamed "Boris." Faculty specialists and CT scans have determined it was a woman, probably from between 500 and 300 B.C.E. She's now proudly called Lotus.



“I really like classes that focus on **critical thinking** and **writing** because I plan to study law. Here, we all get a chance to **explore** and **express** our **ideas**. **Professors** are especially down-to-earth ... **great to be around.**”

—**Brandon Lawrence, '08**
Philosophy,
Los Angeles, Calif.



“Our undergraduates get the **best of both worlds**: the **attention** of a small liberal arts college and the **resources** and **opportunities** of a major university.

It's an experience students can't find at many other places.”

—**Matthew Roller, Ph.D.**
Professor of classics and department chair; research interests include ancient Roman culture (and dining customs!)



Breakthroughs:

In 1948, Johns Hopkins Near Eastern studies scholar William Foxwell Albright confirmed the authenticity of the Dead Sea Scrolls, considered to be the earliest extant biblical manuscripts.

Screening room:

Students in the film and media studies major learn theory, film history and criticism, screenwriting, and film production. Many make and promote their own films and get involved in hosting the popular Hopkins Film Festival every year.

Poetic justice:

In 2005, Jay Hopler, M.A. '94, received the Yale Series of Younger Poets Award for his first collection of poems, *Green Squall*.

Make it **happen.**



Humanities programs of study



Arts (certificate only)

The Arts Certificate is available in five different areas: dance, digital media, fine/visual arts, music, and theater.

Africana Studies

An interdisciplinary major that spans the humanities, the social sciences, and science-based fields such as public health and environmental studies, Africana studies encourages comparative inquiry into the achievements and experiences of African peoples in Africa, the African Americas, and African diasporas around the world.

Classics

The Classics Department offers a rigorous but flexible B.A. program, giving students strong grounding in the languages and cultures of ancient Greece and Rome while also accommodating a variety of interests in and approaches to the ancient world. Students are encouraged to spend a semester or summer overseas in either Italy or Greece. The Johns Hopkins Archaeological Collection provides an extraordinary opportunity for undergraduates to work hands-on with ancient artifacts in a museum setting.

East Asian Studies

The East Asian studies major introduces students to the knowledge, language skills, and research topics and methods needed to



work in international service or academia. Students complete a balance of course work in language and area studies, including at least six semesters of Chinese, Japanese, or Korean in addition to courses in history, literature, politics, sociology, anthropology, and history of science.

English

Every professor in the department—no matter how distinguished, no matter how many books he or she has written—teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses. These courses provide both the core of a liberal arts education and the basis for the advanced study of literature. They range from historical surveys and introductory courses in critical method to advanced courses and seminars in particular periods, authors, genres, and literary issues.

Film & Media Studies

The interdisciplinary film and media studies program collaborates closely with a number of departments in the humanities. Courses include the theory, history, and criticism of film; media studies; screenwriting; and film production. Within the intimate environment of a small program led by dedicated faculty, students receive the attention and mentorship needed to develop their critical thinking skills and cultivate their creative expression.



French

You might sum up the French program at Johns Hopkins by saying it's "live with Paris." "Live" in the sense of a constant flow of students and professors coming to the department from Paris and Geneva; and "live" in the reverse sense of our faculty and students studying and teaching abroad. Students also have the opportunity to compete for admission to the Johns Hopkins program at Sciences Po in Paris.

German

A wide range of courses for undergraduates in German literature, culture, history, and thought is offered. The undergraduate program places equal emphasis on the development of language skills and critical analysis. The department encourages majors and minors to study abroad for a semester or a year. Johns Hopkins is one of six universities participating in the Berlin Consortium for German Studies, located at the Free University of Berlin.

History

Areas of specialization range across the fields of medieval history; early modern and modern European history; British and Atlantic history; and African, Latin American, and East Asian history. Faculty members and students cooperate jointly with other academic departments such as



History of Science and Technology and History of Medicine, as well as with a number of interdepartmental programs such as the Center for Africana Studies; the Program for Women, Gender, and Sexuality; the Institute for Global Studies in Culture, Power, and History; the Program in the History of Political and Moral Thought; the Program in Latin American Studies; Jewish Studies; and East Asian Studies.

History of Art

Johns Hopkins offers unsurpassed opportunities for the study of art history. Undergraduates work closely with leading scholars of ancient, Near Eastern, Roman, medieval, Renaissance, baroque, and modern art. Visiting scholars and museum curators offer courses on the arts of Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. Excursions to local institutions such as the Baltimore Museum of Art and the Walters Art Museum, and to Washington's diverse museums just an hour away, supplement course work.

History of Science & Technology

This major provides unique perspectives on science, medicine, technology, and the humanities. Courses combine an appreciation of the development in science, medicine, and technology with an awareness of their cultural impact.



The program offers a humanities major that meets all the requirements for premedical students.

Italian

Small classes offer the ideal environment for active participation and discussion. The program's flexibility encourages students to combine studies in other programs, such as history, anthropology, history of art, English, or film and media studies, with a major or minor in Italian.

Jewish Studies (minor only)

The Jewish studies minor is available to all students interested in Jewish life, religion, and culture, from ancient times to the present. Because of its interdisciplinary nature, the minor offers students access to a broad array of humanities and social sciences disciplines.

Latin American Studies

This program concentrates on the history, culture, economy, and politics of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean basin. Under the close supervision of an adviser, students create an individualized program of study that focuses on a particular aspect of Latin America or a region within Latin America. The program offers opportunities for research and travel to Latin America.

"At most schools, freshmen or sophomores rarely get to participate in research, but here, it's the norm ... and it's not confined to a lab or hospital. Here, traveling to Europe to intern as an art history major is considered research. Johns Hopkins has really opened my eyes to other cultures."

—Ashley Wietsma, '08
English,
Hopkinton, R.I.

Humanities programs of study (cont'd.)



Museums & Society (minor only)

The museums and society minor is concerned with the institutions that shape knowledge and understanding through the collection, preservation, interpretation, and/or presentation of objects, artifacts, materials, monuments, and historic sites. Through classroom teaching, research, and real encounters with museums, the program promotes the study of material culture and its place in a wide range of scholarly disciplines.

Music (minor only)

A minor in music is offered for students who have some training and background in music and wish to pursue their interest in a systematic way without getting a degree in the field, utilizing many of the resources at the Peabody Conservatory. The minor consists of a selection of music courses, including music history and theory; ensembles; and/or lessons.

Near Eastern Studies

The Near Eastern studies program offers a wide range of courses on the cultures and languages of the ancient Near East, including Egypt, Israel, Syria, and Mesopotamia. Biblical Hebrew, modern Hebrew, and Arabic are available for study, in addition to hieroglyphs and cuneiform.

Archaeology is also an option for some students, since the department carries out excavations in Egypt and Syria.

Philosophy

The philosophy program introduces students to the history of philosophy and its place in Western civilization; it teaches how to read philosophical texts and sharpens thinking about philosophical problems. Courses include the history of philosophy, logic, philosophy of science, bioethics, ancient philosophy, ethics, aesthetics, philosophy of language, metaphysics, epistemology, and philosophy of mind.

Romance Languages

The goal of the Romance languages program is to provide students with a strong set of reading, writing, and speaking skills in their chosen languages. From that solid base, students then move on to study the literature, history, and culture of France, Spain, Latin America, and Italy. The department offers two possible tracks for a major in Romance languages: a dual-language option or a three-language option. Study abroad is a popular option for Romance languages majors.

Spanish

Small classes offer the ideal environment for active participation and discussion. The program's flexibility encourages students to combine studies in other programs, such as history, anthropology, history of art, or film and media studies, with a major or minor in Spanish. Selected students will spend a semester studying abroad in Johns Hopkins' Madrid program.

Theatre Arts & Studies (minor only)

The minor in theatre arts and studies offers a comprehensive approach to the arts of acting, directing, and playwriting, along with the fundamentals of technical direction, play production, play analysis, theater management, and theater history.

Writing Seminars

The distinctions of the Writing Seminars major can be described in three parts: quality of instruction, quality of faculty, and progressive curriculum. Writing Seminars students work primarily in one of the four principal areas—fiction, poetry, science writing, and nonfiction prose—and take supplementary courses in such areas as opinion writing, screenwriting, and playwriting.

College town:

Baltimore is home to 15 colleges and universities and thousands of college students. That makes this one of the liveliest and most welcoming cities you'll find anywhere in the country. Visit www.baltimorecollegetown.org to learn more.



Baltimore will surprise you.



"The humanities faculty here are top scholars in their fields and highly effective teachers. Our undergraduates have a virtually unparalleled opportunity to think about the humanities and their place in the world."

—Frances Ferguson, Ph.D., Professor of English and the Mary Elizabeth Garrett Professor in Arts and Sciences

Learn more

We hope this introduction to the humanities at Johns Hopkins has made you want to learn more ... because there's a lot more to learn. Log on to apply.jhu.edu/humanities to explore the humanities in more depth. Click over to apply.jhu.edu to learn everything you need to know about applying to Johns Hopkins. While you're online, be sure to check out our student-created Hopkins Interactive at apply.jhu.edu/hi, which features blogs, profiles, videos, message boards, and more. You can also call us at (410) 516-8171 or e-mail us at gotojhu@jhu.edu to discover for yourself the extraordinary world of Johns Hopkins humanities.



Humanities Heart Surgery

Johns Hopkins' beloved flagship building, Gilman Hall, is receiving an extensive \$73 million renovation. The project, already under way, seeks to restore the 93-year-old structure to its former grandeur, bringing it squarely into the 21st century and making it a national model for teaching and scholarship in the humanities.

Opened in 1915, Gilman Hall was the first academic building constructed on the Homewood campus. The renovations will leave the exterior largely untouched, but will give the interior a reconfigured design that will allow for better traffic flow and more space to house all 10 humanities departments together. A three-story, glass-topped atrium will provide natural light, and a first-floor space is designated for the exhibition and study of the university's archaeological collection. Project completion is scheduled for late summer 2010.

Shown here: an architect's rendering of the new Gilman Hall after renovation (left) and Gilman in the 1950s (right).

The Johns Hopkins community has a reputation for academic excellence, new discovery, and independent thoughts. The strength of this community lies fundamentally in the distinguished academic integrity of the university. A commitment to the principles of truth and honesty is essential to the goals of the university. Only through truth and honesty can the authorship, freedom, and collaboration that characterize and strengthen the university continue to thrive. It is the personal responsibility of all members of the Homewood campus—students, faculty, and staff—to uphold the ethical standards of the institution.

Johns Hopkins University is committed to recruiting, supporting, and fostering a diverse community of outstanding faculty, staff, and students. As such, Johns Hopkins does not discriminate on the basis of gender, marital status, pregnancy, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or other legally protected characteristic in any student program or activity administered by the university or with regard to admission or employment. Defense Department discrimination in ROTC programs on the basis of sexual orientation conflicts with this university policy. The university continues its ROTC program but encourages a change in the Defense Department policy.

Questions regarding Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504 should be referred to the Office of Institutional Equity, 130 Garland Hall, Telephone: (410) 516-8075, TTY: (410) 516-6225.

A copy of the Johns Hopkins annual security report is available at www.jhu.edu/security.