

## Core Humanities

Students can choose to take a Core Humanities course from one of the many disciplines within the humanities. These courses are specifically designed for Spartan Studies to help students expand their ability to understand and make meaning from the variety of human experiences around the world. These courses are not tied to any specific major. Students are encouraged and expected to utilize the skills learned in these courses to view and solve problems in other courses, their personal lives, and after graduation using perspectives based on reason and a common humanity. Because these courses incorporate the high impact practice of writing, they are taken in conjunction with or after AWR 201 Writing and Research: The Local and Global. This requirement must be met at The University of Tampa and cannot be transferred in.

### *Core Humanities Course Description*

Humanities courses use written texts, images, or other cultural expressions as evidence or inspiration and as a means to make meaning out of the complexity of the human experience. All students will take a course that uses reading and writing as a mode of inquiry to engage the humanistic disciplines. Humanities courses will examine cultural expressions, ideas, or experiences that focus predominantly on selected parts of the world outside of the United States. (4 credits)

### *Specific Courses with Course Descriptions*

#### UTART 200 Worlds of Art

No matter where or when, humans share a common impulse for self-expression through visual imagery despite vast differences among their creative choices. This course explores the significances of visual art for humanity as well as how its study can foster deep cross-cultural connections and individual self-discovery. We investigate the interpretive frames and types of evidence used to “answer” big questions, using objects such as paintings, sculptures, and architectural monuments as primary evidence, in combination with other sources (such as scholarly readings and historical texts) as inductive analysis tools and as modes for exploring art history as a humanistic discipline.

#### UTCOCOM 200 Global Media Cultures

Global Media Cultures explores how people living in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and beyond produce and consume media in both immediate (local) and distributed (global) contexts. Drawing from a global range of written texts that reckon with the political, economic, and technological constraints and affordance of media, communication, and culture around the world, students will watch complimentary popular forms of entertainment in order to understand how these artifacts process and document the human experience. Engaging with and writing about these materials, the class will radiate outward, from media-specific to nationally-specific considerations and beyond to transnational media convergence.

## **UTDAN 200 Dance in World Cultures**

An examination of Non-Western dance forms, including classical, ceremonial, and folk/traditional, in their historical and cultural contexts. This course is enhanced by observing video and live performances.

## **UTFMX 200 The World Image**

This course looks at the lens and screen arts (photography, film, video, animation, and new media). Students will learn how these creative image practices build real and imagined communities transnationally by exploring creative, lens-based image practices from around the world. Addressing images through photographic genres and modes such as portraiture, landscape, documentary, and more, the course will take a comparative approach that allows us to look at a range of cultures outside the US. Within this comparative framework, certain units may focus on one specific region of the world and its diasporic communities.

## **UTLIT 200 Global Medical Stories**

This course examines the ways that practitioners and patients from around the world narrativize medical conditions, health treatments, and the body. Our emphasis on medicine and the body not as static and known entities but as things that require “understanding,” in the senses that they both necessitate interpretation and should be approached compassionately. Our texts will include everything from medical memoirs, to ethnographies, to fiction. We will consider such questions as: How do public and personal interpretations of health impact wellbeing? How do understandings of health differ globally? And, how are health practices nationalized, gendered, and racialized?

## **UTLIT 201 Global Cities and Migrant Narratives**

This course will introduce students to narratives of immigrants to major cities as the foundation of our investigation into how ever-shifting local urban cultures inform and are informed by inter- and intra-continental networks of people, businesses, organizations, and political bodies. Through writing about migrant literature, films, plays, music, and/or other cultural artifacts, students will trace how “local” experiences from around the world influence the ever-shifting cultural milieu of the contemporary “global” city. Students will closely read and watch stories of immigrants to a city chosen for the focus of the class using critical texts drawn from several humanities disciplines such as history, literary studies, cultural studies, philosophy, and film studies to gain an understanding of what makes a “global” city.

## **UTMUS 200 United We Stand: Music, Protest, and Social Change in the Twentieth Century**

In this humanities course, students will study the role music plays in shaping and responding to social movements on a local, national, and global scale, considering what the function, potential, and limits of musical protests were in transforming civic life over the course of the twentieth century.

## **UTPHL 200 Moral Debates: Local and Global**

This course introduces students to moral thinking and to local and global ethical controversies across the world, predominantly outside of the United States. Students will learn the basics of

critical thinking and moral reasoning in a cross-cultural context, and use African, Anglo-European, Chinese, Indigenous, and Islamic moral frameworks to critically and respectfully examine global and local moral debates.

### UTPHL 201 What's Real, How Do We Know, and Why Should I Care

We will explore questions about metaphysics, epistemology, and value/ethics by engaging with philosophical texts and ideas from parts of the world outside the United States. We will examine a foundational text from ancient Greek, Hellenistic, and/or Roman philosophy (e.g., Plato, Aristotle, the ancient Stoics) and one from early modern philosophy by a French or German philosopher (i.e., Descartes or Kant). We will have additional readings and activities that support, challenge, or complement the foundational philosophical texts from geographically distant parts of the ancient and early modern world by bringing them into conversation with our own lives in our local communities.

### UTPHL 202 Zen, Yoga and The Way: Global Philosophy and Local Practice

This course explores three traditions of philosophy, religion, and contemplative mind-body practice from parts of the world outside the United States: Indian Vedic philosophy, Chinese Daoism, and Zen Buddhism. Students will explore connections between these global traditions and their own actions as individuals within specific local communities, critically examine philosophical/religious texts, learn through writing while cultivating knowledge and skills distinctive of the humanities and the discipline of philosophy, experience contemplative practices (i.e., hatha yoga, qigong, and/or meditation) outside of the class, and engage in respectful discussion in which they compare/contrast and critically assess these global traditions and their associated contemplative practices.