SELECTING A HUMANITIES/SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVE

The College’s degree requirements in this area may be found at:

www.colorado.edu/engineering/academics/policies/hss

You need at least 18 credit hours in the humanities, social sciences, and writing in order to graduate. Some majors require more credit hours in this area. The distribution of these 18 hours is as follows:

- 15 credit hours of approved humanities and/or social sciences courses, of which 6 credit hours must be at the upper-division level (3000-level or higher courses)
- 3 credit hours of an approved writing course

OVERVIEW

Humanities courses are concerned with humans and their culture, while social science courses are concerned with individual relationships in and to society. Traditional subjects in these areas are philosophy, religion, history, literature, fine arts (appreciation), sociology, psychology, political science, anthropology (cultural), economics, and foreign languages other than the student’s native language.

In choosing your HSS electives, be guided by a coherent plan that combines a measure of both breadth and depth. Avoid accumulating a host of unrelated and/or introductory courses. There are many useful and reasonable ways to combine HSS courses, but you need to think first about your particular interests and needs. A few sample strategies are listed below.

Concentrate your courses in a single department, such as History, Philosophy, or Political Science. This sort of grouping may enable you to declare a minor field or earn a certificate; requirements vary by department.

Consider a Certificate. The College offers several Certificates that require HSS coursework:
- International Engineering Certificate
- Global Engineering Certificate
See www.colorado.edu/engineering/academics/degrees-minors-certificates/certificates for details.

Consider courses in the Herbst Program of Humanities for Engineers, which offers seminars that are already designed to fit well with your Engineering curricula. The Herbst Program’s small classes are an excellent opportunity for you to interact with faculty and with fellow students, and to work on your writing and public speaking skills. Both HUEN 1010 and HUEN 3100 satisfy the College writing requirement. Each semester Herbst also offers upper-division HSS courses with no prerequisites. See www.colorado.edu/engineering/herbst for more information.

In addition to its regular freshman and junior/senior seminars, Herbst has a variety of special interest classes, including: History of Modern Science; Engineering, Science & Society; the Meaning of Information Technology, etc.
Consider courses that are popular with engineering students:

- ECON 2010 - Microeconomics
- ECON 2020 - Macroeconomics
- Foreign language courses at the 1000- and 2000-level in French (FREN), German (GRMN), Italian (ITAL), Spanish (SPAN), etc.
- PHIL1100 - Introduction to Philosophy
- PHIL 1400 - Philosophy and the Sciences
- PSCI 1101 - American Political System
- PSCI 2223 - Introduction to International Relations
- PSYC 1001 - Introduction to Psychology

**AP or IB EXAM CREDIT**

If you took Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) exams in the humanities or social science areas, you should check if your exam score will earn you any college credit which satisfies the College's degree requirements. Check the AP or IB chart at admissions.colorado.edu/undergraduate/apply/freshman/credit to see if your exam score will earn you college credit for any CU-Boulder courses. Then cross-reference what you find with our degree requirements at www.colorado.edu/engineering/academics/policies/hss.

**PARTICIPATION IN SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

Some students will find that scholarships, residence hall programs, ROTC, or special interests will require certain choices of electives. For example:

1. Students in the Engineering Honors Program should enroll in EHON 1151. Call (303) 735-5631 to inquire about registration for this course.
2. Students may elect, or be required, to register for GEEN 1510, Self-Management and Leadership Principles 1. This one-credit course may be applied towards College HSS degree requirements. Call (303) 492-6606 to inquire about registration for this course.
3. Those students in a Residential Academic Program (RAP) may be required to take a course in their residence hall; contact that residence hall for specific course information. The "Quad" is not a RAP and therefore no coursework is required.
4. Students participating in the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) have a required course.
5. Students participating in the Presidents Leadership Class (PLC) have a required course.
6. If you are a scholarship athlete, you may have required practice periods; contact the Athletic Department for enrollment guidance.
7. Students wishing to join the marching band are to enroll in EMUS 1287 (this course does not count as an HSS elective).

**A FINAL NOTE**

Have a few options! Our students find that enrolling in an HSS class can be the most challenging part of course registration.