

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL

New Transfer Program at Los Medanos College

Application date: October, 2017

Program title: Humanities

Contact persons: Ken Alexander, Art and Humanities Department Chair
Edward Haven, Philosophy Department Chair
Luis Zuñiga, Music Professor
Nancy Ybarra, Dean of Liberal Arts

Projected program start date: Academic year 2018–2019

Type of program: A.A. Degree

T.O.P. Code: 1504.00

Total units for degree: 18

Projected annual completers: 16

Estimated FTE faculty workload: 1.4

Number of new faculty positions: N/A (will be taught by current faculty in several departments)

Estimated cost for new equipment: N/A

Type of new/remodeled facility: N/A

Estimated cost, library acquisitions: \$0.00

Listed as projected on inventory: N/A

MISSION

The goal of a Humanities program at Los Medanos College is to prepare students for transfer and upper division studies in Humanities or any of its related fields (Philosophy, Religion, History, Literature, Art or Music.) Students who have completed the Humanities program will be able to:

1. Define and discuss the characteristics of human cultures and the rise and fall of civilizations throughout history.
2. Discuss the arc of humanity's attempt to understand, explain and express itself and the cosmos through intellectual history, philosophy, religion, mythology, music and art, from the ancient through contemporary worlds.
3. Identify and explain the connections between the trends and events of history with diverse and distinct world cultures.
4. Relate the study of humanities to the development of the skills necessary to create responsible and useful civic participation in the political life of contemporary society.

The degree will seek to serve the following student populations:

1. Students seeking to transfer to Humanities programs. A number of CSUs offer Bachelors' Degrees in Humanities (Most notably CSU San Francisco, CSU Chico and CSU Sacramento).
2. Students seeking to complete a degree in religious studies. Humanities provides the only foundation in religion studies at LMC. Through the humanities program students will be introduced to the historic texts of world religions, provided within their historical context, providing the background for a pluralistic understand religion.
2. Students seeking to transfer with a degree in a related field. (Philosophy, Religion, History, Literature, Art or Music.) We know we have large populations of students majoring in these fields, but students may want to study more than one before transferring in order to enrich their education.
3. Students seeking to take a transdisciplinary approach to research or education. Humanities offers the unique opportunity to step outside of a single discipline and explore the intersection human experience. For example, the study of historical dance, transcultural iconography, feminist West African literature. Students who are seeing to take that approach in their own work will find a place in Humanities to enrich their education through the interactions across disciplines.

4. Students seeking a contextualization of their culture or religion, through the humanities. Through the transdisciplinary approach Humanities offers students the opportunity to explore their own context. Through this multi-cultural approach students learn how to critically engage with culture and identity in such a way that they will enrich their culture or religion context.

5. Undeclared majors interested in the humanities. Many first-year students do not know what major they would like to focus on, but do generally know they are interested in the humanities. Rather than being undeclared, this program will seek to give them an initial pathway towards areas of focus within the humanities.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Parent to child, human to human, we pass on life and culture to the generations that follow. Who are we? Why are we? What can we do with the life we have been given? Answers (and more thought-provoking questions) can be found in this program of study devoted to the art of being human. It provides an excellent preparation for university transfer for majors in philosophy, religion, history, literature, art and music. The broad-based interdisciplinary nature of Humanities provides a knowledge base and the communication and critical thinking skills necessary for many careers and occupations.

18 units are required. Students must complete a "core" survey sequence of three of four courses comprising 9 units and may select the remaining nine units from groupings that reflect the diverse subjects that represent more focused experiences in the disciplines included within the survey. All courses in the program are part of the General Education program and offer options for students to complete up to five Areas (C1, C2, D6, D7, D8) required for transfer.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: All courses in the program are 3-unit General Education courses. All COOR's list only advisories as to eligibility for English 100 with the exception of the 200+ numbered English courses that list English 100 as prerequisite.

REQUIRED CORE COURSES (Select three courses totaling 9 units from four courses listed below)

HUMANITIES

HUMAN 019: Ancient Humanities (Area C2)	3 Units
HUMAN 020: Medieval and Renaissance Humanities (Area C2)	3 Units
HUMAN 021: Early Modern Humanities (Area C2)	3 Units
HUMAN 023: Late Modern and Contemporary Humanities (Area C2)	3 Units

ELECTIVE COURSES (Select three courses totaling 9 units from three subject areas listed below)

ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTHR 005: General Anthropology	3 Units
ANTHR 006: Cultural Anthropology	3 Units
ANTHR 007: Culture Change and Globalization	3 Units

ART

ART 006: Ancient Art History (Area C1)	3 Units
ART 007: Medieval and Renaissance Art History (Area C1)	3 Units
ART 008: Early Modern Art History (Double counts Area C1)	3 Units
ART 009: Late Modern and Contemporary Art History (Area C1)	3 Units
ART 016: Asian Art History (Area C2)	3 Units
ART 017: American Art History (Area C2)	3 Units
ART 018: Art of the Ancient Americas (Area C2)	3 Units

DRAMA

DRAMA 025:	The Texture of Diversity: LGBT Identity in Dramatic Art Forms	3 Units
DRAMA 030:	Chicano/a Mexican American Cinema (Area C2)	3 Units
DRAMA 072:	The Color of Media: Africa American Life in Film, TV and Theatre (Area C2)	3 Units

ENGLISH

ENGL 127:	The Mythology and Literature of Ethnic Americans (Area C2)	3 Units
ENGL 135:	Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Studies	3 Units
ENGL 140:	Survey of World Literature I: Antiquity to Mid-17 th Century (Area C2)	3 Units
ENGL 145:	Survey of World Literature II: Mid-17 th Century to Present (Area C2)	3 Units
ENGL 210:	Introduction to Latino Literature and Its American Roots	3 Units

HISTORY

HIST 046:	History and Cultures of Native Americans in North America through 1838	3 Units
HIST 047:	History and Cultures of Native Americans in North America to Present	3 Units
HIST 052:	Mexican American History (1900 to Present)	3 Units
HIST 061:	History of African Americans since 1865	3 Units

HUMANITIES

HUMAN 022:	American Humanities (Area C2)	3 Units
HUMAN 024:	Shakespeare's English Kings: Drama, Literature, History (Area C2)	3 Units
HUMAN 030:	Modernist Paris: Artists and Intellectuals (1890–1950) (Area C2)	3 Units
HUMAN 050:	Hip Hop Culture: An American Phenomenon (Area C2)	3 Units

MUSIC

MUSIC 010:	Music Literature (Area C1)	3 Units
MUSIC 012:	Popular Music in American Culture (Area C1)	3 Units
MUSIC 015:	Basic Music (Area C1)	3 Units

PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 130:	History of Ancient Philosophy	3 Units
PHIL 132:	History of Modern Philosophy (Area C2)	3 Units
PHIL 142:	Comparative Religion (Area C2)	3 Units
PHIL 150:	Philosophy through Film and Literature	3 Units
PHIL 151:	Philosophy of the Arts	3 Units

POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLSC 043:	International Relations	3 Units
POLSC 050:	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3 Units

SOCIAL SCIENCE

SOCSOC 045:	Issues Facing African Americans	3 Units
SOCSOC 110:	Introduction to Social Justice Studies	3 Units
SOCSOC 135:	Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Studies	3 Units
SOCSOC 150:	Introduction to Race and Ethnicity	3 Units

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The currently-offered Liberal Arts A. A. degree with a focus on Arts and Humanities draws from some of the courses listed above, but not in such a coordinated and coherent program of study. It had been hoped that a State-sponsored AAT in Humanities would be available to build this program, but this does not seem to be forthcoming in the near future.

Until 2001, Los Medanos College did not offer coursework in the traditional Humanities. A self-designated subject area entitled "Humanistic Studies" included some of the coursework listed above, now designated as "Philosophy" but otherwise, no interdisciplinary, integrated courses such as those listed under the "HUMAN" aegis above were available to students. Since that time eight courses were added to this subject

area. Additional courses are currently in development or under consideration.

First, “Humanistic Studies” courses were first relabeled as “Humanities” courses. Subsequently, responsibility for their scheduling and staffing shifted to the full-time instructor who developed and taught them. Following this, they were formally amalgamated in a unified Art and Humanities Department.

Los Medanos College has always demonstrated a strong commitment to General Education, but high standards for instructors and strictures for student choice led over the years to a rather moribund curriculum in G.E. The imperative for more and varied curriculum was recognized in the Art Department, which developed a new, four-course Art History sequence to complement its Art Appreciation and studio-based coursework. Following a successful teaching experience in a District-based Study Abroad Program in Florence, Italy, the Art Department Chair decided to bring that experience back to LMC in a parallel Humanities sequence (as outlined above.)

Enrollments in the program, have been robust, typically reaching class maximums by the start of each semester. Two to three sections are regularly scheduled each semester at both our main campus and Brentwood Center. Summer sections are also offered each year. Students have provided support for these courses by offering “repeat business”, with some students having returned to complete all those currently offered. It is the result of conversations with these students that has led to this proposal. They represent a growing trend of students who are ready to embrace the integrated nature of learning characterized by these courses, which have, indeed, been an integral part of a growing Honors Program at the college. We are committed to offering a college curriculum that is both wide and deep to our growing community.

Given the history of Humanities at LMC and the number of students who go through the humanities, there is a need to identify and execute a clear picture of the role of humanities at LMC. Humanities cannot simply be part art department, part liberal arts degree and part its own department. In order to help students more equably navigate the broader liberal arts at LMC, the easiest solution is to introduce a AA in Humanities.

This is the easiest solution, because the department already exists and is already serving this role. No new faculty will need to be added, no new expenses introduced. The degree will simply provide the necessary alignment between the college and the students.

By adding a AA in Humanities, the college will be better able to meet the following strategic goals (LMC Strategic Plan 2014-2019):

1.2 Increase the number of students who: complete courses, certificates, and degrees; are prepared for transfer and career opportunities; and enter or advance within the workforce.

The degree, will not only help students who major in humanities, but all of those in the target populations. In doing so it will lay a transdisciplinary foundation for related majors. The degree can also serve as an initial pathway for undeclared students, helping to make sure they are part of a program and on the path to success.

1.3 Build and promote equitable engagement and learning opportunities.

Humanities’ intersection nature plays an important role in helping students engage with other cultures and ideas. This provides a more equitable learning environment, when we teach the skills necessary to engage with other ideas, cultures and religions.

This is captured in the program learning outcomes:

3. Identify and explain the connections between the trends and events of history with diverse and distinct world cultures.

4. Relate the study of humanities to the development of the skills necessary to create

responsible and useful civic participation in the political life of contemporary society.

3.3 Increase the effectiveness of the institution.

Creating a humanities degree will allow for better tracking of students' success. The existing humanities department does not have the ability to know which students are interested in transferring in the humanities and which only need credits. The degree will allow for the tracking of students, so that the program can align itself with student needs.

ENROLLMENT AND COMPLETER PROJECTIONS

Currently, two sections of two of the core courses are offered each semester in two locations. Each course has a class maximum of 40–43, retaining an average of 25–30 students by the end of the semester (this includes the Honors sections, which are *limited* to 30 students.) In addition, there are numerous offerings (some in multiple sections) of many of the elective courses listed above. We feel that the great variety of concentrations provided in the electives and the ability to double-count many of them towards transfer requirements combined with the integrated nature of the courses themselves will make this a highly-attractive program to students. A Humanities Program would, in addition, provide equal breadth to a more generic “Liberal Arts” degree with greater specificity in a major field of study.

Annually, at this stage, we project offering four to seven sections per year in a schedule consisting of both day and evening offerings at both the main campus and our Brentwood Center. This would constitute an estimated total of 300–4000 students per year.

We would not expect a great number of completers in the first year, but strong efforts will continue to be made to promote individual courses, and the initiation of a major effort to promote the value of the program as a whole. I would estimate perhaps ten completers the first year of availability (based on current students who have completed at least some of the coursework), 15 the second and 20 the third.

PLACE OF PROGRAM IN CURRICULUM/SIMILAR PROGRAMS

There is currently no such program in place, and the only similar program would be that of Liberal Arts. There is an option of a Liberal Arts degree with an emphasis in Arts and Humanities, but this is a generic degree that lacks true focus and serves more as a catchall for undecided majors who simply wish to pick up an AA degree on their way to transfer. A new Humanities Program will be focused on the Humanities and truly prepare students for a variety of majors should they choose to transfer, but will also stand on its own in terms of certifying a coherent set of learning outcomes. It will be both a feeder from and provider to many of the other programs that are represented in the list of electives above including Art, English, History, Music and Philosophy.

SIMILAR PROGRAMS AT OTHER COLLEGES IN SERVICE AREA

No similar programs exist at either Diablo Valley College or CSU East Bay.

DISPLAY OF PROPOSED SEQUENCE

All courses are G.E. and most are available every semester, day and evening, including summer inter-session.

OUTLINES OF RECORD FOR REQUIRED COURSES

According to guidelines for the preparation of this proposal, all courses listed are G.E. and do not, therefore, require submission of COOR's.

TRANSFER DOCUMENTATION

Associate of Arts Humanities

As listed above.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

LMC reviews all programs every other year with regular PSLO and CSLO assessments and a schedule of required COOR updates.

LIBRARY AND LEARNING RESOURCES PLAN

As all courses in this proposal are current in the College Catalog, issues involving library/learning resources have been dealt with as part of existing COORs. In the future, additional funding for books or media may be pursued through the College's Resource Allocation Process.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLAN

No additional facilities necessary. The College is physically expanding, freeing up many lecture spaces (those necessary for this program).

FINANCIAL SUPPORT PLAN

This program would be maintained out of the existing Art and Humanities Department budget on a on-going basis, supplemented by instructional equipment or improvement grants as necessary.

FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS AND AVAILABILITY

For core courses, there is adequate existing full-time and adjunct faculty availability.

MODEL CURRICULUM

N/A

LICENSING OR ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

N/A

STUDENT SELECTION AND FEES

N/A