

Dear Master's Student or Candidate:

Congratulations on choosing the Masters in Humanities Program at Wilson College!

In these pages you can:

- learn about the Admissions requirements, Program Curriculum, and specific policies that relate to the M.A. in Humanities at Wilson;
- read about the opportunities that this program may offer you;
- and discover the keys to your own future success right here at Wilson College.

Prospective degree candidates can use these pages to explore the requirements of the program, get to know the faculty, and examine the specific courses available in the program. Current Master's candidates can use this handbook as a resource to answer questions about the program, learn about the steps to undertake when embarking on your thesis work, or understand the critical steps necessary to lead to degree completion.

The Master's in Humanities degree has been designed to actively engage working professionals and serious students in Humanities fields in order to further continue and accelerate their understanding of the critical interrogations, processes, and investigations that mark the field. The program is built on the best and most current practices found within the Humanities Division and focuses students on learning to articulate their own expression of original ideas based on rigorous theoretical, critical, and historical study of the Humanities field. A significant goal of the program is to prepare students to genuinely enjoy engaging their intellect in a variety of Humanities subject areas while also focusing the student in an in-depth study of a topic that will become that student's area of expertise. Ultimately, students will learn to conceptualize and write critically on a variety of areas within the Humanities before pursuing a particular subject area in which they can achieve expertise.

Students will enter the program from a wide variety of backgrounds. Many will be professionals returning to college to pursue graduate study. Others may come into the program directly from their undergraduate work. Local educators and teachers may also pursue this degree to develop their knowledge of their own subject areas and expand and refine their pedagogical expertise. Some may be embarking on a new career, while others may be seeking further opportunity where they work now. Some students merely wish to pursue the degree for their own intellectual curiosity, and to satisfy the personal goal of achieving their graduate degree. Regardless of your motivations, this degree will aid you in achieving your goals, whether in your working life, through future graduate study beyond the M.A. in Humanities, or in the life of your mind. Graduate study in the Humanities can prepare students for careers in teaching and education, publishing and communications, non-profit work, government work, arts and arts management, and many other fields. The skills and knowledge gained through this degree, combined with Wilson College's traditional hands-on investment in both you and your education, will only aid in making your education the experience you hope it to be.

Visit our website at www.wilson.edu/MAHum to learn more about the program. Should you have any questions please contact the Program Director Dr. Michael G. Cornelius at mcornelius@wilson.edu or at (717) 264-4141 ext. 3308.

Admission to the M.A. in Humanities Program

Degree program admission is based on the following criteria:

1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning. If the degree was not received in a traditional humanities field, the student will be required to meet with the Director of the M.A. in Humanities program before admission can be granted. Furthermore, insufficient background in the Humanities may result in the student being required to take selected undergraduate coursework in the Humanities prior to admission being granted into the program.
2. A minimum undergraduate cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
3. Completion of an application for admission into the M.A. in Humanities program.
4. Two letters of recommendation from faculty familiar with the student's academic work within a traditional humanities field or one approved by the Program Director. In situations where a student has been away from academic study for ten years or more, he/she should consult the Program Director to identify who could best recommend the student for admission into the program.
5. Non-native speakers of English who did not graduate from an English-speaking institution of higher learning will be required to submit TOEFL or IELTS scores. Candidates will be required to submit TOEFL scores of 570 (paper-based), 230 (computer-based,) or 88 (internet-based), or higher, or an IELTS score of 6.5 or higher.
6. Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate colleges and universities.
7. A fifteen to twenty page writing sample representative of work in a traditional humanities field.
8. A resume or curriculum vita.
9. \$35 non-refundable application fee.
10. Personal interview with the Director of the M.A. in Humanities program may be required of any student.

Enrollment of Non-Degree Students in M.A. in Humanities courses

Non-degree students may enroll in any course for which they have the necessary prerequisites with the approval of the Director of the Program. A student must be formally admitted to the Program *prior to enrolling in the fourth course* in order for the prior coursework to count towards the degree.

Provisional Status

Provisional status allows a student to enroll in graduate classes in order to qualify for admission to the degree program. A student may be granted provisional status by the Program Director after a plan of action is developed which will assist the student to meet the entrance requirements of the program.

If a student is granted provisional status, the student must first satisfactorily complete the educational plan approved by the program director with a GPA of 3.0 or higher before being officially admitted to the program.

Transfer Credits

At the discretion of the Program Director, no more than two courses may be transferred into the M.A. in Humanities program. For a course to transfer, the grade in the course must be 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale and the subject area, goals, and outcomes must be similar to that of courses designed for the M.A. in Humanities program. Students may be required to present supporting materials (such as a syllabus, assignments, etc.) beyond an official transcript when transferring in a class.

Wilson College Master's in Humanities Degree

Program Director: Michael G. Cornelius, Ph.D.

Program Faculty

Virginia R. Anderson-Stojanovic

Professor of Classics and Fine Arts

B.A., M.A., University of Washington; Ph.D., University of Texas

José Hernán Córdova

Professor of Spanish

B.A., Iona College; M.A., University of Hawaii; Ph.D., Cornell University

Michael G. Cornelius

Associate Professor of English

B.A., St. John Fisher College; M.A., Marshall University; Ph.D., University of Rhode Island

Robert Dickson

Associate Professor of Fine Arts

B.S., The Pennsylvania State University; M.F.A., Wichita State University

Aimee-Marie Dorsten

Assistant Professor of Mass Communications

B.S., Ohio University; M.A., University of Georgia; Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh

John Elia

Associate Professor of Philosophy

B.A., Carson-Newman College; M.A., Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin

Melanie E. Gregg

Associate Professor of French

B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Washington University

Paula C. Kellinger

Professor of Dance

B.F.A., Adelphi University; M.F.A., Sarah Lawrence College

Bertin Kouadio

Assistant Professor of International Studies

B.A., M.A., University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign), Ph.D., Florida International University

Philip Lindsey

Associate Professor of Fine Arts

B.S., M.A., Western Carolina University; M.F.A., Mount Royal Graduate School of Art,
Maryland Institute

Amanda McMenamin

Assistant Professor of Spanish

B.A., University of Delaware; Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University

Barbara A. Silliman

Adjunct Associate Professor of English

B.A., M.A., Rhode Island College; Ph.D., University of Rhode Island

Larry Shillock

Associate Professor of English

B.A., M.A., Ph.D., University of Minnesota

David True

Associate Professor of Religion Studies

B.B.A., Georgia State University; M.Div., Baptist Theological Seminary; Th.M., Ph.D.,
Union Theological Seminary

Lisa Woolley

Associate Professor of English

B.A., Augustana College; M.A., Ph.D., University of Minnesota

The Curriculum

M. A. in Humanities Curriculum

M.A. in Humanities program candidates will plan their course of studies with their academic advisor prior to enrolling in the degree.

Required Courses

All M.A. in Humanities program candidates are required to complete the following:

HUM 510	Methods and Materials of Research in the Humanities
HUM 598	Master's Thesis I
HUM 599	Master's Thesis II

HUM 510 should be completed during the first fall semester in which the degree candidate is enrolled. Students will be required to publicly defend their thesis.

Concentrations

All M.A. in Humanities program candidates are required to select from two areas of concentration:

- Language and Literature
- Art and Culture

Students then complete five courses within their given concentration. Two additional elective courses are also required.

The Concentration in Language and Literature

Students choosing the concentration in Language and Literature will focus their studies on critical, socio-cultural, and historical understandings and interpretations of written media and its influence on and interrelationship with the larger cultures that create, sustain, and define it. This concentration focuses on how the broadly defined constructs of text and media operate within culture, as well as how they transform it. Students study critical, theoretical, historical, and socio-cultural ways of understanding literature and literary history, film, drama, narrative, linguistics, and other media. Students gain insight into the textual process, the formulation of critical, theoretical and intercultural responses to written media, and the diverse human experiences that lead to the generation of said media. The Concentration in Language and Literature ultimately prepares students for a range of careers or further graduate study, including teaching, media work, public relations, human resources, technical or corporate communications, the non-profit sector, public history, publishing, and the arts.

Students selecting this concentration must take five courses in the Language and Literature concentration. Among those five courses, they must choose two of the following:

ENG 511: History and Structure of the English Language

ENG 535: Film Genres and Genders
 ENG 580: Literary and Cultural Interpretation
 MCM 504: Mass Media and Society
 HUM 570: Topics in Language and Literature

The remaining three courses may be selected from any coursework listed as Language and Literature (LL).

The Concentration in Art and Culture

Students choosing the concentration in Art and Culture will focus their studies on critical, socio-cultural, and historical understandings and interpretations of visual media and its influence on and interrelationship with the larger cultures that create, sustain, and define it. This concentration focuses on how the broadly defined fields of art and media operate within culture, as well as how they transform it. Students study formal, aesthetic, historical, and socio-cultural ways of understanding visual art and art history, film, theater, and other media. Students gain an understanding of the creative process, the formulation of critical, theoretical and intercultural insights into artistic creativity and representation, and the diverse human experiences that lead to the generation of visual media. The Concentration in Art and Culture ultimately prepares students for a range of careers or further graduate study, including media work, museum work, teaching, public relations, the non-profit sector, public history, and the arts.

Students selecting this concentration must take five courses in the Arts and Culture concentration. Among those five courses, they must choose two of the following:

HUM 572 Topics in Arts and Culture
 FA 510: Art History Theory and Methods
 FA 5XX: Movements of Art History
 ENG 535: Film Genres and Genders
 PHI 535: Aesthetics

The remaining three courses may be selected from any coursework listed as Arts and Culture (AC).

Graduation Requirements

The successful M.A. candidate will complete 10 course credits, which includes 2 course credits of Master's Thesis, while maintaining a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Graduate course credit will be awarded only for earned grades of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better.

All course work and degree requirements must be completed within six years of taking the first class in the M.A. Program. Appeals for extension of the six-year limit must be submitted in writing to the Program Director.

The MA in Humanities Thesis

Successful completion of the Master's thesis consists of the completion of two separate documents:

- 1) A proposal
- 2) A thesis

In addition, students will orally defend their work.

The committee structure is discussed below. The director should be someone from within the Humanities Master's degree faculty, but external members need not be.

This next section will briefly describe the expected outcome result of each document.

The Thesis Committee

The committee will consist of three members: a director, a primary reader, and a secondary reader.

The director will act as the primary mentor and advisor for the student's thesis work. Students and thesis directors will meet once a week to discuss the work and monitor its progress. The director will steer the student through drafting and submitting the proposal, work with the student in creating an appropriate timeline for the thesis, and steer the student through his/her thesis work. The director will read drafts of the thesis and proffer feedback as the work develops. The director also assigns a grade value to HUM 598, allowing the student to continue on to HUM 599 if the director sees fit. The director should be selected on a basis of primary expertise that the individual brings to the committee based on the thesis subject matter. The director must be a member of the MA in Humanities graduate faculty at Wilson College.

The primary reader should be involved in the thesis work from early on, though the extent of the primary reader's involvement is left to the discretion of the student, the director, and the primary reader. Minimally, the primary reader must approve the proposal before the student can continue working on the thesis. The primary reader should be selected on a basis of primary, secondary, or critical expertise that the individual brings to the committee based on the thesis subject matter. The primary reader must be a full-time member of the Wilson faculty, but does not need to be a member of the Humanities graduate faculty.

The secondary reader comes onto the thesis committee only toward the end of the crafting of the thesis itself. The secondary reader is one of the committee members who reads and responds to the completed thesis, but plays no formal role beyond this. The secondary reader need not be a Wilson faculty member, though any non-full-time Wilson faculty must be approved by the Program Director. While the first two faculty members must agree to serve on the thesis committee prior to the student beginning the proposal, the secondary reader need only agree to serve prior to reading the final version of the thesis.

All three readers must approve the thesis for the student, though it is the role of the director to assign a letter grade.

The Proposal

A successful proposal for the thesis will describe the project in some detail, giving readers not only a sense of the project but the confidence that the student, in conjunction

with her/his director, has thoroughly thought through and already explored the thesis and scope of the proposed work. The proposal is considered a road map for the thesis; while the department and the committee expects that the project will evolve over the course of the student's work, and thus change, the project should not be radically altered from the proposal without approval from the entire committee. A proposal should be between ten to fifteen pages in length and should minimally consist of the following:

- A lengthy description of the project itself, with emphasis on the thesis and three chapters being proposed (this will take up the bulk of the proposal);
- Some discussion that places the project into the context of other critical work about the subject area;
- Some discussion of how the student came to the project;
- A lengthy reading list of primary and critical works the student will consider and consult during the course of her thesis;
- Plus anything else that the student feels is relevant to the project.

Proposals must be approved by the director and the primary reader before the student can continue work on the thesis. A copy of the approved proposal must be submitted to the Program Director.

The Thesis

The actual thesis should consist of five sections: an introduction (20-25 pages); three chapters (20-25 pages each); and a conclusion (8-10 pages). It is advisable for the student to think of the project as three lengthy papers, all coordinated under the same general thesis and subject area, plus a lengthy introduction and more succinct conclusion.

The introduction is designed to provide the reader of the thesis with the proper background necessary to comprehend the nature of the project, while also explaining the thesis in some detail. The audience should be presumed to have strong knowledge of the general subject area (i.e. literary theory, media theory, art history) but not specific expertise in the topic of the thesis. This is where the nature of the literature review comes in (i.e., the discussion of the current state of the specific field.) The student should also provide some presaging of each subsequent chapter by discussing the contents of each. It is also recommended that the student attempt to place her/his project into the larger pantheon of critical studies surrounding his/her basic subject area.

Each chapter should be sustainable unto itself while also being an integrative part of the larger project as a whole. Each chapter will develop a particular thesis that will relate strongly to proving the larger overall thesis of the entire document. Students may be advised to think of each chapter as a more highly developed seminar paper from a graduate-level course.

The conclusion reiterates the main thesis and highlights each chapter accordingly while also providing concluding remarks and observations.

Program Policies

Academic Load

The typical full-time load is three classes per term or semester. (It is recommended, however, that candidates employed full-time take no more than two courses per semester.) Most coursework is offered at night, on weekends, or through online or hybridized online formats, allowing timely completion of the degree to fit into most work schedules.

A maximum of three classes may be taken during any fall or spring semesters, and a maximum of two can be completed during any given summer session. Candidates wishing to attempt more than the maximum load must receive permission from the Director of the M.A. in Humanities Program in advance of registration.

Academic Probation

Graduate students must maintain a 3.00 grade point average. If the GPA falls below 3.00 or a grade of 'C' is received in any course, the student will be placed on academic probation. A student may be dismissed from the program if an academic probation extends beyond the completion of three additional course credits, or the student receives two course grades of 'C' or lower or one course grade of 'F' at any time during their graduate studies at Wilson.

All students in the graduate program are subject to the Wilson College Honor Principle, the academic and administrative regulations, and the Wilson College Judicial Process.

Graduation Application and Forms

A student must complete and submit a graduation application to the Registrar by Registration Check-in Day two semesters before the anticipated graduation date. A fee will be assessed for late applications. If a student fails to officially submit a graduation application, s/he will not be eligible for graduation.

Housing

On-campus housing is available for qualified students in the program. For more information on housing, please contact the Wilson College Office of Residential Life and Student Development.

Independent Studies

Graduate-level independent study work may be allowed under certain circumstances. Anyone wishing to consider independent study work must seek the approval of the Program Director. Independent study work cannot be completed over the January term. For more information, see the Program Director.

Leave of Absence

A leave of absence for a graduate student may not exceed one year. See complete description regarding applying for a leave of absence and termination of a leave of absence in the current college catalog.

Time Limit to Complete Degree

All course work and degree requirements must be completed within six years of taking the first class at Wilson College. Appeals for extension of the six year limit must be submitted in writing to the Director of the Graduate Program.

Undergraduate Enrollment in Graduate Humanities Coursework

Wilson undergraduate students may not enroll in a graduate-level Humanities course for any reason except as follows:

- Students in the B.A. / M.A. in the Humanities 3+1 Program may enroll in the two graduate-level courses as outlined above; however, these classes do not count towards completion of the undergraduate degree but instead will count toward the eventual graduate degree.
- Education students who are working towards possible certification in ELL may enroll in ENG 511 (as outlined in the proposal for the ELL Certificate) with requisite permissions.

Students who complete undergraduate coursework at Wilson College may not enroll in any course as a graduate student that they did as an undergraduate, even though the number and major area may differ.

Special Graduation Circumstances

December graduates:

- A. A student who completes her/his degree requirements at the end of the fall semester will have her/his degree conferred on the first day of the January Term. This date will be noted on the official transcript.
- B. December graduates will participate in and receive their diplomas at the following May's Commencement and be considered part of May's graduating class.

Summer graduates:

- A. A student who completed her/his degree requirements during the summer will have her/his degree conferred on the first day of the fall semester.
- B. Summer graduates will participate in and receive their diploma covers at the preceding May's Commencement and be considered part of May's graduating class.
- C. Diplomas will be released to the students in late September.
- D. A student who has not completed all requirements for graduation must petition the Committee on Academic Procedures by the last day to withdraw from classes to participate in Spring Commencement if more than two course requirements remain to be met.
- E. Regardless of the number of courses remaining to be completed, the student must submit a written plan to the Registrar outlining how the requirements will be met before the end of the Summer following Spring Commencement. This plan must be signed and approved by the student's academic advisor. The written plan must be submitted by the last day of classes for the Spring semester.
- F. In the event that a student fails a degree requirement(s) during Spring semester of his/her graduation year, he or she must submit a written plan to the Registrar

outlining how the requirement(s) will be met before the end of the Summer following Spring Commencement. This plan must be signed and approved by the student's advisor and must be submitted to the Registrar by June 1st.

In areas not represented here, the M.A. in Humanities Program is governed by the general academic regulations of Wilson College. For more on these regulations, see the current college catalog.

M.A. in Humanities Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Below you can find answers for some of the most common questions regarding the M.A. in Humanities and/or 3+1 program at Wilson College. If you have a question that is not answered here, please contact the Program Director.

Q: I have a job and can't attend classes during the day. Can I still complete the degree?

A: Absolutely! Most courses in the M.A. in Humanities degree are offered at nights, during weekends, or through online formats. A student who can only attend courses during those time periods can graduate as quickly as any other.

Q: I can *only* attend classes during the day—and not on weekends. Will that impede my progress in the program?

A: I'm afraid some of the required courses are offered only at night. Students must be available to take some night classes as part of the degree.

Q: How many courses can I take in one semester as part of the program?

A: You may take a maximum of three courses in any Fall or Spring semester while you are completing the M.A. degree. Three courses is equivalent to full-time study for graduate study. Students can petition the Program Director to take more than three courses, but permission will only be given under exceptional circumstances. Students may only take one graduate-level course during Wilson's summer sessions. The program does not offer courses during the January term.

Q: Why doesn't Wilson offer graduate courses during the J-term? I'd like to get one done quickly.

A: The three-week, intensive format the J-term offers is not conducive to graduate study. The program will not be offering classes in that time period.

Q: I see a course listing in French or Spanish—but I've never studied those languages!

A: Graduate course offerings in French Humanities or Spanish Humanities are offered in translation—meaning that they are open to any student who is matriculated in the graduate program. Prior knowledge of the language and culture are certainly helpful in these classes, but the texts will be studied in English, not the original language.

Q: Okay, I want to attend full-time. How much is the rate of full-time graduate tuition at Wilson?

A: Wilson does not have a full-time rate for graduate study. Students are charged per course, whether they take one, two, or three courses in any given semester. To learn what the current charge per course at Wilson College is, please contact the Wilson College Office of Financial Aid.

Q: Is the 3+1 Program for undergraduates *really* less expensive than attending four years of study at the college and completing just a Bachelor's degree?

A: It may seem odd, but it is actually true. The 3+1 Program costs less than the regular, four-year undergraduate degree. For example, the cost of full-time tuition for four years

of undergraduate study at Wilson College, using the rates for the 2011-2012 school year, is \$105,480 (prior to any scholarships or discounts being added to undergraduate tuition cost.) Yet the cost of full-time tuition and attendance for four years of undergraduate and graduate study at Wilson College in the B.A. / M.A. in Humanities 3+1 Program for the same rates is only \$95,190 (prior to any scholarships or discounts being added to undergraduate tuition cost.) This represents a savings of \$10,290.

How can this be? This is because in the final year of study, the graduate year, the student will only be charged a per course fee. This represents a significant savings during the course of four years.

Q: What financial aid is available for students in the M.A. in Humanities Program?

A: The only financial aid available to graduate students at Wilson College are loans. For more information on obtaining loans for graduate study, please contact the Wilson College Office of Financial Aid.

Q: Will I be assigned an advisor for my degree?

A: Yes. All M.A. in Humanities students are advised by the Program Director.

Q: The Spring semester is coming up—can I enroll then? Or do I have to wait until Fall?

A: There is no need to wait for the Fall semester to enroll. Students may enroll in any semester graduate coursework is offered. However, all students are required to take HUM 510: Materials and Methods of Research in the Humanities during their first Fall semester.

Q: What do I do with my M.A. in Humanities degree?

A: This degree is designed to be quite versatile to meet individual students' needs. Some students will move on to advanced degrees in selected fields, including Ph.D.s and M.F.A. degrees. Other students will move into the workforce in a field that will appreciate the skills and knowledge obtained through the program. For more on where this degree may take you, see the "Beyond the M.A." section in this packet.

Do you have a question not answered here? Contact the Program Director, Dr. Michael G. Cornelius, at mcornelius@wilson.edu.

Beyond the MA Degree

Graduate study in the Humanities creates a unique combination of depth and breadth, one that is generally mirrored (though focused) in more specific Humanities-style degrees. Students who graduate from such programs have an array of opportunities available to them. This program offers opportunities for professional and intellectual development unique to this specific region. Thus in creating this program we strove to be 1) responsive to educational needs in the area; 2) mindful of the mission and strategic plan of the college; 3) playing to one of Wilson's great strengths, its liberal arts tradition and Humanities curriculum; 4) flexible enough for adult students and 5) rigorous enough to aid degree seekers in achieving subsequent educational and career goals. This degree allows students to fashion an education that may be tailored to meet a specific goal or need within the curriculum offered, and highly employable to the same extent that equivalency degrees within specific Humanities areas are.

The degree is designed largely for the following audiences:

- those who would seek the degree because of potential career development in a current occupation;
- those who seek advancement in one of the two specific areas of concentration;
- area secondary-level educators;
- those who would seek Doctorate-level degrees in the Humanities or Humanities-related fields

Many students completing the degree will do so because of opportunities with their current employer. Our degree allows for great flexibility—both in scheduling courses and in course selection—allowing candidates to shape a program that will enable them to meet their specific career-related needs.

However, many degree-seekers will enroll in the degree to better their current career opportunities. The MA in Humanities stresses intellectual skills and educational abilities that will further the opportunities for students in a wide range of fields and workplace settings, including communication offices, educational institutions, public relation firms and offices, museums and non-profits, media organizations—the list is potentially endless. Again, students can take a strong hand in shaping their program to best meet their future goals.

Some students will likely wish to continue their studies at the next level, and Wilson College will aid the student in selecting programs and institutions, seeking assistantships and aid, and preparing themselves for the rigors of doctorate-level study. Wilson's small class sizes, intense seminars, focus on critical and analytic reading, researching, and writing, and award-winning faculty will all play a key role in the future success of those students who wish to use this degree as a step towards someday completing a terminal degree in their chosen field.

Whatever the opportunity you seek, this program is focused on helping you achieve it.

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The following materials will complete the application process:

- Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate colleges and universities.
- A fifteen to twenty page writing sample representative of work in a traditional humanities field.
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty familiar with your academic work within a traditional humanities field or one approved by the Program Director at Wilson College. In situations where a student has been away from academic study for at least ten years, he/she should consult the Program Director to identify who could best recommend the applicant for admission to the program.
- A resume or curriculum vita.

Note: A personal interview with the Director of the M.A. in Humanities program may be required of any applicant.

MAILING ADDRESS

All application materials are to be mailed to the following address:

**WILSON COLLEGE
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS – NORLAND HALL
1015 PHILADELPHIA AVENUE
CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201**