

# The Humanities

## Reason, Thought, and Belief ...

Advertising  
African and African American Studies  
American Indian Studies  
Art and Design  
Classical Studies  
Communication Studies

## Culture and Arts ...

English  
History  
Interdisciplinary Studies  
Journalism and Mass Communication  
Liberal Studies  
Linguistics  
Music and Performing Arts

## Language and Communication ...

Philosophy  
Religious Studies  
Speech Communication  
U.S. Latino/a Studies  
Women's Studies  
World Languages and Cultures

Iowa State University has more than 100 majors that provide virtually unlimited academic opportunities. In this brochure you'll find information about your specific area of interest and a family of related majors that you may want to explore during your adventure here at Iowa State. Please use the contact information listed inside and let us help you discover your passions, unlock your potential, and **enjoy the adventure.**

To study the humanities is to study the foundations of our own humanity. Humanities include the study of languages and communications; cultural, ethnic, and social heritage; music and the performing arts; and history, philosophy, literature, religion, and classical studies. Knowledge of the humanities provides us with the ability to (1) think critically and imaginatively about issues that confront us as individuals and society. (2) discuss basic values, morality, ethics, and the fundamental assumptions of any issue in a reasoned and open-minded manner; (3) understand the world around us from multiple vantage points and; (4) develop the skills and background to excel in writing, music, and art. The critical thinking skills embodied in the humanities provide preparation for any career that requires individual and unique decisions. Law, medicine, journalism, public relations, education, management, marketing, and personnel management are just a few of the career options that are open to you when you study the humanities.

### Who am I?

Of course this is a question many of us continue to ask all of our lives. But this question is one most commonly explored by students like you—creative thinkers who raise questions about the nature of humanity

and our relationship and responsibility to the world.

Iowa State is the perfect place to raise these questions. An interdisciplinary approach to philosophy, religion, culture, history, and

communications encourages you to discover, explore, and express yourself as an individual in a dynamic academic community. Many students combine several majors and minors so they can apply their skills in a variety of fields.

### What is my place in the world?

You may already have a good sense of your talents and abilities, but you may also be just beginning to discover what the world has to offer you and where you fit.

Internationally acclaimed Iowa State faculty will guide you as you explore where you fit by taking courses in a diverse range of subjects—from ethics to ethnicity, from archeology to antiquity.

Iowa State's distinguished faculty have earned awards for teaching, research, and writing. The awards have included National Endowment for the Humanities awards, the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, the National Book Critics Circle Award, awards for Winner of the Choice Book, five awards from the Association for Business Communication, Wilton Park International Service Awards, the National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, and a PEN USA 2007 Creative Nonfiction Award.

### How can I contribute to society?

Because humanities encompass studies in communications, history, philosophy, and culture, you will be prepared for a broad range of professions such as publishing, human resources, politics, journalism, education, professional studies in law or justice, social services, military service, international relations, ministry, advertising, and marketing.

# The Humanities

## Select an academic program that's best for you

If you have a strong interest in and aptitude for interpersonal communications, working with people in any environment, consider majoring or minoring in one of the programs listed here. As part of your program, you'll take a broad range of courses: English composition, foreign language, mathematics, social sciences, interpersonal communications, speech, ethics, and diversity studies.

No matter what career you intend to pursue, you'll discover that a humanities-based education enhances your professional goals. As you plan your curriculum with an adviser, remember that many courses in the fields listed here require similar introductory work. So take your time. Humanities means exploring and discovering the unique qualities and attributes of humanity and culture.

### History

Department of History  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.history.iastate.edu](http://www.history.iastate.edu)

Explore the history of America or of countries and societies worlds away—by distance or by time. Study our past and focus on agriculture or technology, befitting our university's heritage. History involves language, literature, philosophy, music, agriculture, technology, and more. What forces from the past helped shape our present?

History is the core department for the history and social sciences secondary education certification program. It is a great field of study to pair with virtually any other major or minor at Iowa State, for it provides deeper understanding of the world about us.

### Philosophy

Department of Philosophy  
and Religious Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.philrs.iastate.edu](http://www.philrs.iastate.edu)

Recent advances in technology have introduced into our personal and professional lives many benefits, but also many challenges. Issues of ethics, problem solving, logic, and decision-making are critical as we consider the future of our world. As a philosophy major, you will study theories of knowledge and truth, explore views of the world and reality, and examine the cultural and social impact of major philosophical

traditions, from ancient Greece to Western civilization. You'll discuss ethical issues posed by contemporary culture—issues that pertain to the family, the law, the environment, health care, genetic research, agriculture, business, and other areas. Faculty work one-on-one with a close-knit group of students, which allows for the development of individualized research projects and partnerships.

### Religious Studies

Department of Philosophy  
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College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
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In the spirit of personal interest, intellectual curiosity, and academic excellence, explore the nature and role of religion in our culture. Learn how to interpret religion in an empathetic and critical context as you explore and contrast religious traditions and systems. Iowa State's program in religious studies examines a variety of religious traditions through course work in

religious studies, philosophy, literature, history, anthropology, sociology, and ethics.

Graduates in religious studies pursue careers in fields such as education, ministry, or social services. A background in religious studies complements graduate work in anthropology, law, history, sociology, theology, and literature.

### Classical Studies

Department of Classical Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.language.iastate.edu/main/pro/cls/fut/index.cfm](http://www.language.iastate.edu/main/pro/cls/fut/index.cfm)

What are the functions of language, art, music, tradition, politics, and culture in the world today? Explore such questions as you travel to ancient Greece and Rome, learn from Plato and Aristotle, walk through the Acropolis, and learn the origins of our number and language systems. As a classical studies major, you will take courses in Greek or Latin, world literature, archaeology,

philosophy, ancient culture, history, and drama. Your course work will prepare you for a career as a teacher, museum curator, art historian, linguist, translator, or archaeologist. Classical studies can be declared as a major under Interdisciplinary Studies or as a minor, complementing other cultural studies programs.

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## Interdisciplinary Studies

Interdisciplinary Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.las.iastate.edu/academics/interdisciplinarystudies.shtml](http://www.las.iastate.edu/academics/interdisciplinarystudies.shtml)

If traditional majors and minors don't address your area of interest, you can develop your own major through Iowa State's interdisciplinary studies program. You may consider interdisciplinary studies if you are continuing your professional education in a health-related field or if you intend to develop an area of interest based upon one or more cross-disciplinary programs. Areas chosen in the past include

international relations, ecology studies, African and African American cultural studies, American Indian studies, classical studies, Asian studies, and U.S. Latino/a studies.

An interdisciplinary major supports further study or careers in education, international relations, social work, and graduate work in the humanities.

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## Liberal Studies

Bachelor of Liberal Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.las.iastate.edu/departments/bls.shtml](http://www.las.iastate.edu/departments/bls.shtml)

This Regents degree program is specifically designed for those students who are interested in a flexible and diverse curriculum. Up to three-fourths of the degree requirements can be transferred from other accredited colleges and universities. You can select course work in three areas of interest.

Students may complete courses in a variety of formats, such as on-campus, off-campus, evening, and distance classes. Your academic adviser will assist you in structuring your program to meet your educational, vocational, or personal goals.

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## African and African American Studies

Center for American Intercultural Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.las.iastate.edu/AfricanAmericanStudies/](http://www.las.iastate.edu/AfricanAmericanStudies/)

African and African American traditions, culture, and history play a significant role in the unfolding drama of this country. Understand the role of African and African American culture through studies in literature, art, music, drama, speech, sociology, political science, and history.

The program offers a minor and encourages you to partner with faculty and graduate students to conduct research, pursue creative projects, and contribute to academic discussions about contemporary issues challenging African and African Americans today.

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## American Indian Studies

Center for American Intercultural Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
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E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.las.iastate.edu/departments/ais.shtml](http://www.las.iastate.edu/departments/ais.shtml)

American Indians occupied the land we know as America more than 60,000 years ago. Much of this country's history and tradition finds its origin in the rich heritage of the American Indian culture. The minor in American Indian studies emphasizes cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural perspectives. This means that your course work will provide you with a sense

of the impact American Indian culture has had upon the way we understand the world. You may take courses in anthropology, English, art history, sociology, history, and political science. A broad background in cultural studies equips you for careers in multicultural education, human services, programming, health services, legal services, or public administration.

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## U.S. Latino/a Studies

Center for American Intercultural Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
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Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.las.iastate.edu/LatinoStudies](http://www.las.iastate.edu/LatinoStudies)

U.S. Latino/a studies is devoted to the study of Mexican Americans (Chicanos), Puerto Ricans, Cuban Americans, and other groups of people living in the United States who trace their ancestry to the Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America.

The interdisciplinary studies major in Latino/a studies provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the Latino community and encourages students to develop valid concepts

and generalizations regarding Latino issues and experiences. Courses include Latino/a history, Chicano literature, Latinos/as in contemporary society, religious themes in Latino literature, and others. This major will enhance the academic preparation for those students planning to go on to graduate school or those who desire careers as counselors or social service agents, or in multicultural education, law, business, and health services.

## Women's Studies

Women's Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.las.iastate.edu/WomensStudies/](http://www.las.iastate.edu/WomensStudies/)

Women's studies is an exciting field that allows students to examine women's contributions to and the role of gender in art, history, economy, politics, family life, science, and literature. Students investigate challenges women face in the United States and all over the world in areas such as the environment, professional careers, poverty, racism, health, violence, motherhood, and body image. Classes are usually small and encourage discussion. Writing, research, and

communication skills necessary for students' careers are emphasized.

In addition to financial awards and local internship opportunities, the program provides activities and promotes interaction between faculty and students. This interdisciplinary program offers a major and minor with courses from a variety of fields, ranging from anthropology and philosophy to literature and sociology.

## Music and Performing Arts

Department of Music  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
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[www.music.iastate.edu/](http://www.music.iastate.edu/)

Iowa State treats the performing arts not just as a preparation for a career but as a lifelong experience of artistic expression. Music majors may focus on music composition, music education, or performance. Majors in performing arts, offered by the theater program in the department, can select an emphasis in design, acting and directing, or dance. The curriculum covers a full range of study in the performing arts, from ancient music to rock and roll, from Shakespeare to original student works.

The department also offers a minor in music technology.

Because Iowa State's performing arts program focuses solely on undergraduate education, it offers unique performance opportunities for undergraduates often provided only by small institutions. Iowa State provides a world-class education by recruiting internationally known professionals to mentor and direct student productions. And all students, regardless of major, are encouraged to participate in performing ensembles and productions, on stage or behind the scenes.

## Art and Design

Department of Art and Design  
College of Design  
166 Design Center  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2344  
E-mail: [jdwagner@iastate.edu](mailto:jdwagner@iastate.edu)  
[www.design.iastate.edu](http://www.design.iastate.edu)

The art and design program offers two different degree programs. The bachelor of fine arts offers preparation for a career in art education or as a professional artist. The B.F.A. requires a studio concentration, which means that you will select an emphasis in two to three areas of integrated studio art: craft design; drawing, painting and printmaking; photography and computer art.

The bachelor of arts degree requires that you combine your study of studio and art history with a second major or minor which supports your career goals. If you are considering a career in art administration, art conservation, or art therapy, this program will prepare you for the graduate degree required for those fields.

## World Languages and Cultures

Department of World Languages and Cultures  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
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[www.language.iastate.edu](http://www.language.iastate.edu)

Immersing yourself in another culture through the study of a language broadens your perspective of the current world and the one that you will build as a future professional. Iowa State offers majors and minors in French, German, Chinese Studies, Russian Studies, and Spanish; a minor in Latin; and instruction in Greek. Courses are designed to teach you a foreign language while immersing you in the traditions and history of the culture you choose to study,

and to prepare you for careers in fields such as translation, the diplomatic corps, journalism, the military, education, social services, or the Peace Corps. Combining foreign language skills with other majors or minors also prepares you for professional opportunities in a world where business takes place in a global market.

A certificate in Latin American studies is also available.

## Linguistics

Program in Linguistics  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.las.iastate.edu/discover/linguistics.shtml](http://www.las.iastate.edu/discover/linguistics.shtml)

Students of linguistics study the structure, meaning, uses and history of human languages. They gain insight into how language is processed by the human mind and by computer, and they learn about cultural and linguistic diversity through the study of how language reflects meaning and world views. Through these perspectives, students discover how language reflects unique characteristics of humanity of connecting linguistic structure with the functional meanings that are used in communication.

Students learn how linguistic analysis can be used in practice through the study of such areas as second language acquisition and assessment, language teaching, computer processing of human language, and communication disorders. Linguistics courses are taught by outstanding faculty in language-related departments such as anthropology, computer science, English, philosophy and religious studies, psychology, and world languages and cultures.

**continued on back**

## English

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[www.engl.iastate.edu](http://www.engl.iastate.edu)

Discover, explore, and experiment with language and literature. Master critical thinking and writing skills that launch you into a career as a professional communicator or a teacher. Express yourself in creative writing.

The English curriculum focuses on how language functions in literature, mass media, and personal and professional writing. As an English

major, you will have access to internationally recognized faculty with diverse areas of expertise, and you will choose one of three areas of emphasis: literature, secondary education, or rhetoric and professional communication.

A major in technical communication is also a popular choice.

## Speech Communication

Program in Speech Communication  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.engl.iastate.edu/programs/speech\\_comm/](http://www.engl.iastate.edu/programs/speech_comm/)

“Practical,” “flexible” and “friendly,” those are the terms speech communications majors use to describe their major. Speech communication majors explore how language is used to create social change, study theories of communication to see how they help us make sense of everyday life, and practice a broad range of communication skills learning to create and adapt messages for different audiences within various contexts. If you want to develop strong people skills, become more confident as you prepare and deliver presentations, enhance your listening skills, learn to assess the quality of arguments and

other forms of public discourse, you may want to explore becoming a speech communication major. Our majors are prepared for future employment in human resources, nonprofit organizations, sales, training and development, and education, as well as for further education in graduate school, law school, or seminary. Speech communications majors know that oral communication and listening skills, supported by a deep understanding of the communication process, prepare them to have an impact and to be successful in their personal, civic, and professional lives.

## Communication Studies

Program in Communication Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.las.iastate.edu/commstudies](http://www.las.iastate.edu/commstudies)

If you have an interest in people and are fascinated by how people affect one another through their words and actions, then communication studies might be a good fit for your interests. Communication studies students tend to be people-oriented and are intrigued by such issues as how communication is used to develop relationships, how communication impacts the effectiveness of an organization, or how differences between cultures can be overcome through communication.

Communication studies focuses on the study of human communication theory and research within such contexts as interpersonal relationships, small groups, organizations, and cultures.

Students examine the role that symbolic communication plays in managing their interactions in both personal and professional contexts.

General areas where communication studies graduates are often employed include human relations, personnel, training and development, corporate communication, sales, public relations, management, and event planning. A degree in communication studies also serves as a foundation in graduate education in such areas as law, public administration, business administration, and graduate work in communication studies.

## Journalism and Mass Communication

Greenlee School of Journalism  
and Communication  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
343 Catt Hall  
Ames, Iowa 50011  
Phone: 515 294-2698  
E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.jlmc.iastate.edu](http://www.jlmc.iastate.edu)

One of the longest accredited journalism programs in America, the Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication is ranked among the top journalism programs in the nation.

When you study journalism at Iowa State, you'll find mentors among award-winning teachers and scholars with real-world experience. Your faculty adviser will help you choose from among five emphases: electronic media, print media (newspaper and magazine), public relations/public information, science communication, and visual communication.

Students have opportunities to meet the professional internship requirement in magazines (*Vibe*, *Field and Stream*, and *Better Homes and Gardens*), newspapers (*Chicago Tribune*, *The Des Moines Register*, and *Quad City Times*), broadcast media (MTV, CNN, and KCCI) and public relations (Fleishman-Hillard, Principal Financial Group, and Meredith Corporation).

## Advertising

Greenlee School of Journalism  
and Communication  
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343 Catt Hall  
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E-mail: [discover@iastate.edu](mailto:discover@iastate.edu)  
[www.jlmc.iastate.edu](http://www.jlmc.iastate.edu)

Communicate ... and the world will respond.

Iowa State University offers one of only 15 accredited advertising majors nationally.

As an advertising major you can expect to study news writing and copy writing, visual principles, multimedia production, media planning, and advertising sales. These unique courses will put you in the best position to conduct research, prepare strategic communication plans and create effective advertising campaigns. As an advertising

major you may also have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities such as student clubs and organizations and regional and national advertising case study competitions. The program prepares students for internships with a wide variety of media outlets. These experiences will allow you to apply the material you've learned in class and give you an excellent foundation for your future career.

# The Humanities

## Opportunities that support your personal and professional interests

Iowa State has pooled resources that make it easy for you to be involved, to find a place where you fit in. Consider some of these:

**Communications:** Opportunities for you to write and publish your work, intern with syndicated newspapers and magazines, do live broadcast on radio and television, and work on campus publications, such as newspapers and journals.

**History and civilization:** Participate in Iowa State's United Nations and take advantage of study abroad trips that focus on ancient civilizations.

**Foreign languages:** Consider joining foreign language clubs or language learning communities, or enroll in an intensive language program.

**Interdisciplinary studies:** Ethnic and cultural clubs encourage the exchange of ideas and promote social and academic interaction.

**Philosophy and religion:** The community features student associations that host speakers, provide academic support, and encourage social interaction.

**Women's studies:** Clubs and programs encourage social interaction and professional discussion, concerts, lectures, and film festivals.

## Student organizations

An important part of becoming a professional is working and interacting with others in your field. Consider joining student clubs and organizations to support your academic pursuits. Most majors offer opportunities to join peers in activities appropriate to that major. Here is a small sample of opportunities available to undergraduates.

- Advertising Club
- American Indian Rights Organization
- American Marketing Association
- American Red Cross
- Ames Science Fiction and Fantasy Association
- Amnesty International
- Black Student Alliance
- Broadcast Club
- Committee on Lectures
- *Ethos* (student magazine)
- French Club
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hispanic Heritage Month Planning Committee
- Hispanic Symposium Committee
- *Iowa State Daily* (ISU's student newspaper)
- ISUtv (Iowa State's cable TV channel)
- Kappa Tau Alpha (journalism honor society)
- KURE Radio
- Multicultural and International Network
- National Student Speech Language Hearing Association
- Phi Alpha Theta (history)
- Phi Beta Kappa (liberal arts)
- Philosophy and Religious Studies Club

- Pre-Law Club
- Public Relations Student Society of America
- Russian Eastern European Eurasian Club
- *Sketch* magazine (literary and art magazine)
- Society of Professional Journalists
- Society for Technical Communication
- Spanish Club
- United Native American Student Association
- Women's Center Projects
- Women's History Month Celebration
- YWCA-AMES

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Office of Admissions  
100 Enrollment Services Center  
Ames, Iowa 50011-2011  
Phone: 515 294-5836  
Toll Free: 800 262-3810  
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Web: [www.admissions.iastate.edu](http://www.admissions.iastate.edu)

## Questions about admission

In addition to writing us at the address at left, we encourage you to visit our Web site, which features a course catalog, online application, and campus information.

## Preparing to do your best while in school

The best preparation continues to be a strong college preparatory program of study, which includes courses in English, mathematics, laboratory science, social studies, and foreign languages. If you intend to transfer credits from another institution, you may contact our Office of Admissions for assistance in selecting the best courses for your program of study.

Material in this brochure was accurate at the time of printing. For the most up-to-date information, visit our Web site at [www.iastate.edu](http://www.iastate.edu).

Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. veteran. Inquiries can be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, 3210 Beardshear Hall, 515 294-7612.