

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Administrative Officers

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Department of Communication Studies	Frances Brandau, Ph.D., Chair scm_feb@shsu.edu; (936) 294-1356
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Department of Political Science	Jason Enia, Ph.D., Chair jason.enia@shsu.edu; (936) 294-1467
Department of Psychology and Philosophy	Jorge Varela, Ph.D., Chair jgv002@shsu.edu; (936) 294-4161
Department of Sociology	Jason Konefal, Ph.D., Chair jtk007@shsu.edu; (936) 294-1514
Department of World Languages and Cultures	Maria Barker, Ph.D. mhb015@shsu.edu; (936) 294-4584
Bachelor of Science in Integrated Studies	Bill Fleming, Ph.D. eng_wpf@shsu.edu; (936) 294-4450

About the College

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences consists of seven academic units, the Departments of :

- Communication Studies
- English
- History
- Political Science
- Psychology and Philosophy
- Sociology
- World Languages and Cultures

Mission

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences provides an essential component to a liberal arts education: understanding human beings in their diversity as expressed in their literatures, histories, ideas, values, oral and written expressions, and behavior. By promoting analytic, interpretive, interpersonal, research, and communication skills, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences facilitates personal growth, competent professionals, and responsible citizens.

Contact Information

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CHSS Building 290

Website

College of Humanities and Social Sciences (<https://www.shsu.edu/academics/humanities-and-social-sciences/>)

Highlights

- Faculty in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) are committed to teaching excellence, curriculum innovation, research/scholarship, and community and university service.
- Faculty in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences have been recognized for their teaching excellence with national and local awards. CHSS is home to five Minnie Stevens Piper Professors. Only 10 Piper Professors are identified each year across Texas.
- Dr. Frances Brandau, COMS chair, was selected as one of six faculty for the 2020 Keys of Excellence Award sponsored by the SHSU Orange Keys, a prestigious, highly-selective honor society of eighteen upper class students.
- The interdisciplinary American Studies minor encourages students to discuss social, cultural, and political questions that powerfully shape our present moment and inspire critical thinking for the future. The three concentrations represent a diversity of perspectives across academic disciplines in CHSS, and include the following: Regional and Borderland Studies, Ethnicity and Race in America, and Gender in America.
- Faculty in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences have been recognized for their research and scholarship with national awards. Among these awards is a finalist for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in History, National Endowment for the Arts Fellow in Literature, and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellow in Creative Writing.
- A national survey ranked the Psychology Program at Sam Houston State in the top ten of emerging Clinical Psychology Doctoral Programs.
- Courses in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences exceed the national norms in teacher effectiveness and course excellence.
- Faculty in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences have been recognized for their research and scholarship with national awards. Among these awards is a finalist for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in History, a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellow, and a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellow.
- Interdisciplinary minors housed in the college include American Studies, Applied Ethics and Critical Thinking (THNK), Community Leadership, Latin American and Latinx Studies, Legal Studies, and Middle Eastern Studies.
CHSS students have the opportunity to take Academic Community Engagement (ACE) courses across the curriculum. In these courses, students gain applied skills while serving their communities.
- CHSS is home to many student organizations, both honorary and professional, to help build student resumes with active learning opportunities. Several of these clubs have been recognized regionally and nationally.
- CHSS also houses the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. This program is designed to provide talented first-generation, low income or ethnic minority undergraduate students with effective preparation for doctoral study. The program encourages students to engage in research with a faculty mentor and to acquire the skills necessary to succeed in doctoral studies.
- A student in the Clinical Psychology PhD program received the David Pilon Scholarship for Training in Professional Psychology from the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students. This national award is made to one graduate student in psychology each year.

Master's Degrees

Departments	Programs
Communication Studies	Communication Studies, MA
English	Creative Writing, Editing, and Publishing, MFA
English	English, MA
English	Technical Communication, MA
History	History, MA
Political Science	Political Science, MA
Political Science	Public Administration, MPA
Psychology and Philosophy	Psychology, MA
Psychology and Philosophy	Psychology - Clinical Psychology, MA
Psychology and Philosophy	Psychology - School Psychology, SSP
Sociology	Sociology, MA
World Languages and Cultures	Spanish, MA

Doctoral Degrees

Departments	Programs
Psychology and Philosophy	Clinical Psychology, PhD

Certificates

Departments	Programs
English	English
History	American History
Political Science	Political Science
Psychology and Philosophy	General Psychology

Sociology

Community Development

Sociology

Sociology

CHSS Graduate Scholarship

This scholarship is a one-year award of \$1000 divided between Fall and Spring semesters and is disbursed on the basis of financial need and academic performance. An application is available on the CHSS website (<http://www.shsu.edu/academics/humanities-and-social-sciences/>).

Other

The departments within the college have numerous scholarships which can be accessed through the Scholarships4kats application process.

Several of the department graduate programs have academic clubs that support students' integration into graduate studies and provide networking for students and faculty.

Departments provide internship/practicum experience in the application of academic work to world of practice.