

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
Department of English	Russell Willerton, Ph.D., Chair drw067@shsu.edu; (936) 294-1402
Department of History	Brian Jordan, Ph.D., Chair bmj018@shsu.edu; (936) 294-4460
Department of Political Science	Jonathan Brown, Ph.D., Interim Chair jnb047@shsu.edu; (936) 294-4478
Department of Psychology and Philosophy	Maria Botero, Ph.D., Interim Chair mbotero@shsu.edu; (936) 294-3052
Department of Sociology	Bart Stykes, Ph.D., Chair jbs048@shsu.edu; (936) 294-1511
Department of World Languages and Cultures	Maria Barker, Ph.D., Chair mhb015@shsu.edu; (936) 294-4584

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 supports excellence in research, prioritizes student success, and collaborates with the community to provide a high-quality and accessible education that prepares students to engage in, and successfully navigate, a vibrant and multifaceted world.

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

- College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) faculty 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 research and scholarship with national awards. Among these awards is a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in History, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellow in Literature, and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellow in Creative Writing.

- CHSS is home to three Distinguished Professors: Drs. Marcus Boccaccini, Psychology; Mary Alice Conroy, Psychology; and Helena Halmari, English. Distinguished professors are recognized for having achieved a high level of scholarly distinction in their field and are recognized as national leaders in their disciplines.
- A national survey ranked the Psychology Program at Sam Houston State in the top ten Clinical Psychology Doctoral Programs.
- Four faculty in the Psychology department are recipients of the prestigious John Exner Award for young scholars in personality assessment. The four faculty and award years are: Dr. Jamie Anderson, 2018; Dr. Ryan Marek, 2021, and Dr. Adam Natoli, 2024, Dr. Jaren Ruchensky, 2025.
- Courses in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences exceed the national norms in teacher effectiveness and course excellence.
- 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 houses two Research Centers:
 - The Center for the Study of Disasters & Emergency Management (CDEM)
 - The Center for Multi-cultural Rural Development (CMRD)

Master's Degrees

Departments	Programs
Communication Studies	Communication Studies, MA
English	Creative Writing, Editing, and Publishing, MFA
English	English, MA
English	Technical Communication, MA
English	English, MA/Creative Writing, Editing, and Publishing, MFA (Dual Degree)
History	History, MA
History and Political Science	History and Political Studies, MA
Political Science	Political Science, MA
Political Science	Public Administration, MPA
Psychology and Philosophy	Psychology - Experimental 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
Communication Studies	Communication Studies
English	English
History	American History
Political Science	Political Science
Psychology and Philosophy	General Psychology
Sociology	Community Development
Sociology	Sociology

CHSS Graduate Scholarship

This enrollment-based scholarship awards \$1000 per semester for full-time students and \$500 per semester for part-time students. Application is located in Scholarships4kats.

Other

Departments within the college have numerous scholarships accessible through the Scholarships4kats application process.

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

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