

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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Department of Political Science	Jonathan Brown, Ph.D., Interim Chair jnb047@shsu.edu; (936) 294-4478
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About the College

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences consists of eight components:

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

Mission

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) 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.

Highlights

- Students have the opportunity to acquire critical marketable skills through the CHSS Skills Workshop Series.
- Students in CHSS can compete for scholarships through the CHSS Skills Challenge, while also serving their community in a major problem-solving project.
- Interdisciplinary minors housed in the college include American Studies, Community Leadership, Latin American and Latinx Studies, Legal Studies, and Middle Eastern Studies.
- CHSS houses the Bachelor of Science in Integrated Studies, an innovative program where students can help design their own degrees.
- CHSS houses two Research Centers:

- Center for the Study of Disasters & Emergency Management (CDEM)
- Center for Multi-cultural Rural Development (CMRD)
- 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 Literature Fellow, and a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellow.
- CHSS is home to three Distinguished Professors: Drs. Marcus Boccaccini, Psychology; Mary Alice Conroy, Psychology; and, Helena Halmari, English. Distinguished Professors are recognized as outstanding leaders in their field who have earned national and international honors.
- Courses in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences exceed the national norms in teacher effectiveness and course excellence.
- CHSS prides itself in the number of opportunities for undergraduate students to conduct research with recognized scholars and supports faculty/student research teams through the SPUR (Sponsoring Promising Undergraduate Research) initiative.
- CHSS publishes the academic journal, *The Measure: A Journal of Undergraduate Research*, which showcases research projects from CHSS courses and provides students with peer-reviewed publishing opportunities.
- 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.
- Courses offered through the Ethics, Western Civilization, and American Traditions (EWCAT) program provide students with the opportunity to explore classic texts and participate in peer-led discussions. EWCAT sections are among our most popular.
- 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.

Academic Programs

Departments	Programs
Major	Degree(s)
Communication Studies	B.A., B.S.
English	B.A.
French	B.A.
History	B.A., B.S.
Integrated Studies	B.S.
Integrated Studies: Bioethics and Policy in Healthcare Concentration	B.S.
Integrated Studies: Environmental and Occupational Health Concentration	B.S.
Integrated Studies: Land and Urban Property Development Concentration	B.S.
Integrated Studies: Law, Ethics, and Society Concentration	B.S.
Integrated Studies: Legal Writing and Communication Concentration	B.S.
Integrated Studies: Social and Data Analytics Concentration	B.S.
Integrated Studies: Sustainable Community Management Concentration	B.S.
Integrated Studies: Victimology and Mental/Public Health Concentration	B.S.
Philosophy	B.A.
Political Science	B.A., B.S.
Psychology	B.S.
Sociology	B.A., B.S.
Spanish	B.A.

Undergraduate Certificates

Departments	Programs
Communication Studies	Communication for Health and Social Care Professionals
Communication Studies	Communication for Legal and Criminal Justice Professionals
Communication Studies	Communication for Sport Professionals
English	Technical Communication

Scholarships

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences and its member departments are committed to supporting undergraduate students through scholarships. Please see the SHSU website under Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://www.shsu.edu/~fao_www/scholarships/). General scholarships are distributed through the Scholarships4kats system. Application deadlines are posted on this website. Please also refer to individual department websites for information on any additional scholarship opportunities in specific disciplines.

Course-based Opportunities

- Take Writing-Enhanced Courses (W-courses) to augment learning opportunities and enhance employable soft skills. Students take six hours at the advanced level in their major field of study, as well as six hours from other areas of study.
- Conduct research with recognized scholars.
- Publish in *The Measure: A Journal of Undergraduate Research*.
- Take classes across three areas of concentration in the American Studies minor—Regional and Borderland Studies, Ethnicity and Race in America, and Gender in America—to engage with a crucial diversity of perspectives across academic disciplines in CHSS.
- Choose from among several interdisciplinary minors such as, American Studies, Community Leadership, Latin American and Latinx Studies, and Legal Studies.
- Join one (or more) CHSS student organizations, both honorary and professional, to help build a strong resume with active learning opportunities.
- Study abroad in such locations as Canada, Central America, Europe, Taiwan, and Mexico.
- Gain course skills while serving your community through Academic Community Engagement (ACE) courses.
- Explore classic texts and participate in peer-led discussion through courses in our Ethics, Western Civilization, and American Traditions (EWCAT) courses, which are among our most popular courses in nearly every discipline.

College Requirements

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) offers two degrees at the undergraduate level: Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS). The standard for the two degrees are given below. Both the BA and the BS degrees require:

- 42 hours of the Core Curriculum
- 120 hours minimum requirement for a degree
- 42 advanced hours
- 30 hours (typically) residency credit¹ (25% of credit hours required of degree), 24 must be advanced, 12 in major, 6 in minor

¹ Residency credit is given to courses taken at Sam Houston State University. This includes campus courses, courses taken at the Woodlands Center, courses abroad taught by SHSU faculty, and online courses. Correspondence courses are not considered residency credit courses

The BA and the BS degrees differ in their emphases on liberal arts versus natural science and mathematics.

Bachelor of Arts

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree is one that focuses on the traditional liberal arts. The BA degree develops graduates with broad knowledge of language, humanities, fine arts, and social sciences. The requirements for this degree include:

- 30-36 hours in a major area
- 18-24 hours in minor (Most majors require a minor—check with specific departments)
- 3 hours of an additional course in Philosophy, Fine Arts, or Communication Studies, beyond the courses in the Core Curriculum.
- 14 hours in one Foreign Language

Bachelor of Science

The Bachelor of Science (BS) degree focuses on scientific investigation; therefore, courses that emphasize the scientific methods are included. The requirements for this degree include:

- 30-42 hours in a major area
- 18-24 hours in minor (Most majors require a minor—check with specific departments)
- 8 hours (two additional courses) in Natural Science, beyond the courses in the Core Curriculum
- 3 hours of an additional course in Mathematics, Computer Science, or Logic, beyond the Core Curriculum

It should be noted that these requirements are minimum requirements and specific departments may require additional courses.

Bachelor of Science in Integrated Studies

In addition to the core, and three chosen minors, students in this degree plan complete the following special courses.

INTG 3301. Critical Approaches to Integrated Studies. 3 Hours.

Students research their chosen discipline minors to critically investigate and enhance their understanding of the fields associated with these minors. Emphasis is on students exploring links between their minors in preparation for coursework and employment or education beyond the interdisciplinary Bachelor's degree. Students must earn a "C" or better in INTG 3301.

Prerequisite: Sophomore Standing.

INTG 4301. Integrated Studies Capstone. 3 Hours.

Students conduct career exploration activities as well as complete a capstone project linking the three minor areas of study that comprise the student's personalized Bachelor of Science in Integrated Studies degree. Students will research, review, and analyze the three academic minor areas and mold them into an innovative research report. Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in INTG 4301. Course Equivalents: LSTU 4301, UNIV 4301

Prerequisite: INTG 3301.

Integrated Studies

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