

DEFINITION FROM MHEC: Arts and Humanities

The arts examine aesthetics and the development of aesthetic form. Courses in this area may include, but are not limited to, fine, performing, and studio art, appreciation of the arts, and history of the arts. All courses, including fine, performing, and studio arts, should explore the relationship between theory and practice. The humanities examine the values and cultural heritage that establish the framework for the inquiry into the meaning of life. Courses in the humanities may include but are not limited to, the language, history, literature, and philosophy of Western and other cultures. A speech communication or foreign language course may be placed within the Arts and Humanities category but should not be permitted to be the sole course required within the entire category, (e.g., may count one Speech if two or more courses are required from the Arts and Humanities). "Composition and Literature" courses may be placed within Arts and Humanities if literature is included as part of the content of the course. The minimum expectation in this category is one course (minimum 3 credit hours) each from at least two disciplines.

Upon successfully completing a general education course in the **Arts and Humanities**, students will be able to:

1. acquire, analyze, and express information about the role of the arts and humanities in human culture clearly and correctly in writing, speaking and/or signing;
2. identify, analyze, and use sources of information, including those in electronic formats, related to the arts and humanities and examine the impact of technology on these disciplines;
3. demonstrate how members of different cultures and times have used written and verbal communication, fine and performing arts, signs, symbols, and/or artifacts to solve problems, to communicate thoughts and values, and to express themselves creatively;
4. explain the connections between the arts and humanities and other disciplines;
5. analyze how the arts and humanities have helped to shape and reflect the ethics and values of our society;
6. determine how the arts and humanities help individuals to make informed decisions and to assume responsibility in a diverse society;
7. articulate appropriate criteria for making aesthetic judgments.