EXPLORATORY students in the HONORS COLLEGE considering BA (Humanities and Social Sciences) Catalog Year 2019-2020

Honors College Advisor: Dean Burr (mclarkp@gmu.edu to make appointment)

Note to First-semester Honors College students with interests in the humanities or social sciences:
There is no need to rush to declare a major. Students pursuing Bachelor of Arts degrees in the humanities or social sciences have room in their schedules to take elective credits (credits beyond major and core requirements) and still graduate in four years. We advise Exploratory BA students to start out by taking a mixture of courses that fulfill Honors Core requirements and allow you to explore majors and minors at the same time.

1st Year – 1st Semester (Fall)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Credits

- Honors College Foundations Requirement (must be taken in the first semester): HNRS 110: Principles of Research and Inquiry (Grade of C or better required).                                                                                                                                  4

- Quantitative Reasoning Requirement (may be taken in the first semester): Students who are confident that they will major and minor in the humanities and social sciences (those who will NOT be pursuing business, science, health, or technology) may take HNRT 125, HNRT 225, MATH 108 or MATH 111 to fulfill this requirement. Please note that HNRT 225 is only for students who have already taken Calculus in High School. NOTE: Unless you have an SAT quantitative score of 540 or above or an ACT quantitative score of 22 or above, it is highly recommended that you complete MATH 008 before you take any university-level math class. 3-4

Foreign Language (strongly advised). Students pursuing a BA must acquire intermediate proficiency in a foreign language. If you are continuing a language in a 3-credit course rather than starting a language with a 6-credit course, you may use 3 credits to take HNRS 122 or an introductory course in a subject that interests you. To identify an appropriate introductory course in a given subject, see the Honors College Sample Schedule for the relevant major to find out what students in that major take in their first semesters. 3-6

- An introductory course in a subject that interests you as a major or minor. 3

Semester Total 13-16
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To see what a 4-year schedule looks like in a given major, browse Honors College Sample Schedules for any and all majors that interest you. You will also want to use Honors College Sample Schedules to determine which introductory classes you should take.

As you explore majors in the humanities and social sciences, keep this in mind: The major that interests you the most is the best major for you. All humanities and social sciences majors provide students with opportunities to develop excellence in the following areas: research, creative and analytical thinking, written and verbal communication, and foreign language. The students who make best use of these opportunities to prepare for the future are those who study what matters to them.

https://chss.gmu.edu/careers

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1 If you earned a 4 or 5 for Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB, or a 5 for IB Mathematics HL, or a 6 for IB Mathematics SL, you have fulfilled the Quantitative Analysis Requirement for Bachelor of Arts degree (BA). https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/how-apply/transfer/transfer-credit-policy

2 Students with ANY interest in pursuing a STEM field major or minor should consider taking MATH 105, MATH 113, or the MATH 123 & 124 sequence. To get into any of these classes, students must take Mason’s Math Placement Test or earn qualifying scores on an AP Calculus or IB Math exam. If you do not place into the Math course required by the major you want to pursue, don’t despair – simply ask about your options. You may simply need to take some pre-requisite courses first. An excellent opportunity to prepare for the Math courses appropriate to a STEM major is available through the STEM Accelerator Math Boot Camp. https://cos.gmu.edu/stem/ Math Camp: August 7-10, 2019. STEM Boot Camp: August 11-16, 2019.

3 Except for HNRS 110, All HNRS courses are on Special Topics. This means that different sections of the same course are on different topics. So be sure to look at the course descriptions before choosing a section of HNRS 122. https://honorscollege.gmu.edu/academics/courses