

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

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The College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Southern Utah University is composed of six academic departments

- Department of Communication
- Department of English
- Department of Foreign Languages and Humanities
- Department of History and Sociology
- Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice
- Department of Psychology

Mission

In keeping with the mission of Southern Utah University, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences provides Southern Utah University students with a variety of learning experiences that foster their development as intelligent and compassionate persons capable of critically discerning issues that affect their personal, professional, and civic lives. The College of Humanities and Social Sciences provides exceptional teaching and encourages faculty to remain current in their disciplines through scholarly activity, professional development, and research. All departments have ties to their professional organizations and evaluate their programs in accordance with standards set by those organizations. Because of the disciplines included in the College—anthropology, communication, criminal justice, English, foreign languages, geography, history, literature, philosophy, political science, psychology, and sociology—we are in a unique position to provide students with the following experiences, which are in accordance with the SUU Mission Statement.

1. Affirm integrity, the search for truth and respect for all people: The College provides students with a connection to their past and to their present through virtually all the disciplines. Knowledge of personal and group behavior, analysis of historical and political events, the study of foreign languages, and the interpretation of a variety of literary modes and forms enable students to place themselves in a wide and varied world and to seek, through an inquiring mind, a truth that does not rely on simplistic answers and stereotyped attitudes.

2. Develop communication, analytic, creative, and information gathering skills. The College strives to foster critical thinking and creativity. All disciplines within the college afford students the opportunity of learning various modes of research, including statistical analysis, and of analyzing and articulating research findings. Creative opportunities and analytical thinking are fostered in disciplines. Such skills serve as building blocks for students as they formulate original ideas and conduct their own research.

3. Prepare students as informed and responsible citizens.

Through the integration of these disciplines, the College seeks to assist students in their personal development and to heighten their awareness of the communities in which they live. Familiarity with political and social trends, recognition of individual tendencies, and perception of societal messages found in the study of languages and literature enhance students' awareness of themselves and the world around them.

4. Afford opportunities for success in students' personal and professional lives.

The College offers opportunities to serve students beyond the classroom, to allow them to experience their profession in action, and to achieve recognition for their efforts. Opportunities to work as tutors, readers, research assistants, editors of student publications, and interns are offered regularly. In addition, students are encouraged to become members of, and serve as, officers in local affiliations of national organizations.

5. Enhance economic, technological, and cultural development.

The College recognizes the growing need for highly-skilled individuals to meet the demands of the modern-day workforce. Students' preparation for achieving excellence in all facets of their lives entails their understanding of the contexts in which they will live. Their exploration of culture, history, literature, languages, and social relationships all serve to prepare them for life's demands in an ever-challenging world.

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences works to meet the needs of students from a variety of educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. We offer general education courses, and majors and minors in our disciplines and work with the College of Education and Human Development in licensing teachers in humanities and social science disciplines. The College serves the community in many ways, including sponsorship of university-based, community-wide lectures, films, and discussions that focus on our disciplines.

Degrees

Graduate Degree

Master of Arts in Professional Communication

Master of Forensic Science

- Emphasis in Forensic Criminal Justice
- Emphasis in Forensic Psychology

Undergraduate Degrees and Majors

Bachelor of Arts

- English
- English Education
- French
- French Education
- German
- German Education
- Spanish
- Spanish Education

Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science

- Communication
- Communication Composite
- Communication Composite Education
in Interpersonal and Journalism
- Criminal Justice
- History
- History Education
- Political Science

Psychology
Social Science Composite Education
Sociology

Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (see pages 99, 236)

Individualized Academic Program

Examples of additional customized combinations of coursework may be generated in various programs. Contact Dean for appropriate information.

Associate of Applied Science

Criminal Justice
Paralegal Studies

Student Advising

Students are assisted in selecting appropriate general education courses and major and minor courses through the joint efforts of College academic advisers and faculty. Students interested in psychology should contact Jennifer Hedrick, GC 306D, (435) 865-8248, hedrick@suu.edu. Students interested in other disciplines in the college should contact Kelly Lid Stephens, ST 177, (435) 586-5419, lid@suu.edu.

Student Scholarships

Academic scholarships are available for students with outstanding academic credentials. College and department scholarships are available for students who demonstrate strong academic and leadership potential in the humanities and social sciences. Students must submit applications by February 1. Interested students should contact the Financial Aid Office, Sharwan Smith Center, Room 167, (435) 586-7535.

Student Organizations

The way to get the best experience is to participate in one of the excellent college student organizations. Among the many student organizations, the following are of particular interest to majors in the humanities and social sciences:

- Alpha Chi
- Alpha Kappa Delta (sociology)
- Alpha Phi Sigma (criminal justice)
- Lambda Pi Eta (communication)
- Pi Sigma Alpha (political science)
- Psi Chi (psychology)
- Phi Alpha Theta (history)
- Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish)

- Sigma Tau Delta (English)
- Michael O. Leavitt Center for Politics and Public Service
- Society of Professional Journalists/Sigma Delta Chi

The Michael O. Leavitt Center for Politics and Public Service

Southern Utah University's Michael O. Leavitt Center for Politics and Public Service is a non-partisan, interdisciplinary organization dedicated to preparing students to serve as responsible and educated leaders in a democratic society.

While politics exist without democracy, we cannot have democracy without politics and political leadership. Political leaders are the artists-in-government who define issues, develop solutions, build agreements and respond to citizen concerns. Leaders are the catalysts of self-government. Without a pool of well-trained potential leaders, a democratic society will not succeed. Preparing young men and women for careers in politics and public service is therefore, as right as democracy itself.

The Leavitt Center seeks to prepare students in three distinct ways. First, through providing internship and leadership experience, the Leavitt Center broadens student's career and professional opportunities. Second, through promoting citizenship awareness, the Center enhances political participation both within and beyond the university. And finally, through providing opportunities and recognition for humanitarian service, the Leavitt Center fosters the spirit of service and volunteerism for the benefit of the nation and the world.

Internships

Excellent internship opportunities are available for students in most disciplines of the college. Interns are able to gain valuable practical educational experience, academic credit, and often financial compensation. Internships significantly enhance career opportunities for students. Students interested in internships should contact the appropriate academic department or The Michael O. Leavitt Center for Politics and Public Service at (435) 586-7868.

