Humanistic Studies is an interdisciplinary unit which prepares students to analyze ideas carefully, to speak and write convincingly, to be sensitive to other cultures, and to appreciate the historical, intellectual, and creative traditions and accomplishments of western civilization. Humanistic Studies supports the disciplinary programs offered by Literature and Language, History and Philosophy, as well as those interdisciplinary programs which bring these areas together. The unit fosters the critical and creative endeavors necessary for these activities within the university, and promotes and develops humanistic programs in the community at large.

To this end, Humanistic Studies:

1. Offers a major and minor, the core of which is the study of human values as expressed in various times and places.

2. Supports and directs programs in Literature and Language, Philosophy, History and other disciplines related to the humanities.

3. Offers courses which contribute to general education requirements and which introduce students to the humanities.

4. Supports and directs programs in foreign languages.

5. Supports the Literature and Language program, which provides courses in writing skills for all students.

6. Supports faculty engaged in scholarly activities and maintains a supportive environment for collaborative as well as individual research.

7. Offers related areas of emphasis in value studies, other-culture studies, religious studies, criticism of the arts, women's studies, American Indian studies, and other areas of significant student interest.

8. Supports the development of a Master's in Liberal Studies in the Graduate Program.

9. Supports programs for humanities as well as non-humanities students, which develop the skills and perspectives necessary for success in graduate school and professional life.

10. Supports the study of the great works of Western civilization.

11. Offers courses and programs for students who are working towards certification in primary and secondary education.

12. Offers courses and programs of study on other cultures, both on campus and in other regions and countries.

13. Supports faculty engaged in using their expertise to aid and enrich the community.