

RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE IN THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Glenn Chambers, Interim DEAN

The Residential College in the Arts and Humanities (RCAH) is a residential college that mobilizes the arts and humanities through our wide range of programming to create collaborative, community engaged methods for addressing the complex societal problems facing our local and global communities and to reimagine and build a more just, equitable, and sustainable world.

RCAH students live and learn together in Snyder-Phillips Hall, a historic building on the MSU north campus. From this home base, students have the benefit of being part of a residential college while also having the diverse resources of one of the nation's most distinguished public research universities available to them. RCAH fosters an expanded and inclusive residential college identity in which students live their learning in the arts and humanities in ways that engage principles of social justice and community engagement.

RCAH students graduate with the vital writing, communication, problem solving, critical thinking, and research abilities that are desirable and transferable across a range of workplace settings. The college is an excellent choice for students interested in community engagement, the creative arts, culture, languages, history, and literature. Graduates have pursued graduate study at some of the nation's most prestigious universities and careers in the nonprofit sector, education, social work, business, and government.

RCAH students may choose to dual major in a traditional humanities or social science discipline or pursue a minor in one of the many programs available at the university, such as Museum Studies; Film Studies; Dance; Peace and Justice Studies; African and African American Studies; American Indian and Indigenous Studies; Asian Pacific American Studies; Chicano/Latino Studies; Muslim Studies; Jewish Studies; Women's and Gender Studies; and Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems. A high percentage of RCAH students are members of the Honors College, and individual and small group Honors options are offered frequently.

The college provides abundant opportunities for learning and hands-on training outside the classroom, in settings that include the RCAH Poetry Center, the LookOut! Art Gallery, the RCAH Theatre, and the Language and Media Center. Student-initiated groups include a theatre company, music ensembles, and a photography club, among many others. Students can often be found creating art at impromptu studio events, music at informal jam sessions, and poetry at the college's popular slam programs. The RCAH student government takes an active part in discussions that shape the college's living and learning environments.

The college faculty is drawn from a wide range of disciplines, including literature, art, theatre, philosophy, history, music, rhetoric and composition, anthropology, education, and the study of languages and culture. The faculty have a wide range of research interests and view engaged learning in the broadest sense – from workshop immersion experiences to community activism in local communities to study abroad – as a hallmark of good education for teachers as well as students.

RCAH is an educational space built on the ongoing transformative work of radically reciprocal teaching and learning. A residential college in the fullest sense, we build community among our students, faculty, staff, and the people around us, wherever we are living. We are grounded in—and push the boundaries of—the arts and humanities to create space for and deepen multiple ways of knowing that can be mobilized for equity and social justice. We strive to be accessible and accountable to communities as experts and coproducers of knowledge. Our transdisciplinary efforts address inequities that undermine the potential of a socially engaged and community-based university and a more just society.

Students admitted to Michigan State University are also admitted to the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities. Because enrollments in the college are limited, prospective first-year and transfer students should notify the Michigan State University Office of Admissions as early as possible of their desire to enroll in the college.

In addition to meeting the requirements of the university, students must meet the requirements specified below.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in the Arts and Humanities

1. The University requirements for bachelor's degrees as described in the Undergraduate Education section of this catalog; 120 credits, including general elective credits, are required for the Bachelor of Arts degree in the Arts and Humanities.

The completion of RCAH 111 referenced in item 2. a. below satisfies the University's Tier I writing requirement.

The University's Tier II writing requirement for the Arts and Humanities major is met by completing RCAH 492. That course is referenced in item 2. g. below.

The completion of RCAH 202 and 203 referenced in item 2. a. below satisfies the University's Integrative Studies in the Arts and Humanities requirement.

The completion of at least 30 credits in courses at the 300-level or above, which may include courses from items 2.d., 2. e., and 2.f. below.

2. The following requirements:

	CREDITS
a. All of the following core courses (28 credits):	
RCAH 111 Writing in Transcultural Contexts	4
RCAH 112 Writing, Research and Technologies	4
RCAH 150 Introduction to the Arts and Humanities	4
RCAH 202 The Presence of the Past	4
RCAH 203 Transcultural Relations through the Ages	4
RCAH 215 Introduction to Theory and Methods in the Arts	4
RCAH 225 Introduction to Community Engagement	4
RCAH 235 Introduction to Language and Culture Studies	4
b. Complete one of the following pathways (10 credits):	
Arts Pathway	
The following course:	
RCAH 315 Methods in the Arts	4
Two enrollments in the following course:	
RCAH 316 Topics in the Arts	6
Community Engagement Pathway	
The following course:	
RCAH 325 Methods in Community Engagement	4
Two enrollments in the following course:	
RCAH 326 Topics in Community Engagement	6
Language and Culture Pathway	
The following course:	
RCAH 335 Methods in Language and Culture	4
Two enrollments in the following course:	
RCAH 336 Topics in Language and Culture	6
Humanities Pathway	
The following course:	
RCAH 345 Methods in the Humanities	4
Two enrollments in the following course:	
RCAH 346 Topics in Humanities	6
c. Complete 6 to 8 credits in any of the following courses not used to fulfill item b.:	
RCAH 315 Methods in the Arts	4
RCAH 316 Topics in the Arts	3
RCAH 325 Methods in Community Engagement	4
RCAH 326 Topics in Community Engagement	3
RCAH 335 Methods in Language and Culture	4

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RCAH 336	Topics in Language and Culture	3
RCAH 345	Methods in the Humanities	4
RCAH 346	Topics in Humanities	3
d.	A minimum of 9 credits at the 300-level or above taken outside of RCAH chosen in consultation with the student's academic advisor.	
e.	Completion of a minimum 50-hour volunteer or paid experiential learning opportunity. This requirement can be satisfied with one of the following options in the junior or senior year.	
	(1) An approved internship	
	(2) An approved undergraduate research, creative, or community engagement project directed by a faculty member through enrollment in RCAH 450 (1 to 4 credits)	
	(3) An approved study abroad/study away with at least one course at the 300-400 level.	
f.	Completion of the language and cultural studies requirement by completing RCAH 235 Foundations of Language and Culture Studies, and one of the following two options:	
	(1) Participate in an approved language-intensive study abroad program.	
	(2) Complete one of the following combinations of language and cultural studies courses:	
	a. Complete 2 years of language courses in no more than two languages and complete one of the approved cultural courses from the list maintained by the student's academic advisor.	
	b. Complete 1 year of language courses in a single language and three of the approved cultural courses from the list maintained by the student's academic advisor.	
	c. Complete a minor in one of the approved area studies programs as approved by the student's academic advisor.	
g.	The following capstone course (4 credits):	
RCAH 492	Senior Seminar (W)	4

RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE IN THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES 3 + 3 OPTION

The Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, in collaboration with the MSU College of Law, offers an opportunity for selected Residential College in the Arts and Humanities students to earn a baccalaureate degree after satisfactory completion of a minimum of 91 credits at Michigan State University, and a minimum of 29 credits through subsequent enrollment at the Michigan State University College of Law. Students interested in this option should consult with their college academic advisor during their first year in the college.

Admission to the MSU College of Law component of this program is limited to a small number of students who complete the specified university and college requirements and who earn a grade-point average and LSAT score that is acceptable for admission to the Michigan State University College of Law.

All students in this program will complete a minimum of 91 credits at Michigan State University with at least 52 of those credits in the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities. The requirements for the program are as follows:

1. Completion of all the university-level graduation requirements, including integrative studies, writing, and mathematics.
2. Completion of the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities required courses, language proficiency, and elective pathway.
3. Completion of a minimum of 29 credits at the Michigan State University College of Law

Upon satisfactory completion of the specified 120 credits, students in this program will be eligible for the baccalaureate degree and may apply for conferral of their degree.

MINOR IN DESIGN JUSTICE

The Minor in Design Justice prepares students to address the challenges of global conflict, globalization, climate change and sustainability and how we design for justice and human sustainability. Students will learn to identify, design and implement creative solutions that address and acknowledge human conflict. The minor also offers experiential learning opportunities in community-engaged design projects, education abroad programs and collaborations with organizations working to find solutions to complex design problems at home, at work, in community, and around the globe.

The minor is available as an elective to students who are enrolled in bachelor's degree programs at Michigan State University. With the approval of the department and college that administer the student's degree program, the courses that are used to satisfy the minor may also be used to satisfy the requirements for the bachelor's degree.

Students who plan to complete the requirements of the minor should consult the undergraduate advisor in the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities.

Requirements for the Minor in Design Justice

	CREDITS
Students must complete a minimum of 16 credits from the following:	
1. Both of the following courses (6 credits):	
EGR 100 Introduction to Engineering Design	2
RCAH205 Transcultural Relations through the Ages: Design Justice	4
2. One of the following courses (3 or 4 credits):	
RCAH 235 Introduction to Language and Culture Studies	4
RCAH 316 Topics in the Arts	3
3. One of the following courses (4 credits):	
RCAH 112 Writing, Research and Technologies	4
RCAH 202 Presence of the Past	4
4. One of the following courses (3 or 4 credits):	
RCAH 325 Methods in Community Engagement	4
RCAH 326 Topics in Community Engagement	3