

# Learn More About the Humanities!

The following slides will give you more information about the Departments, Centers, and Programs in the School of Humanities.

Or visit our website:  
**humanities.rice.edu**



RICE UNIVERSITY  
School of Humanities



Menu ≡



## Our Pursuit

The Humanities reach far and wide and into every dimension of life. We invite you to join us in exploring some of the biggest questions of our time — on who is at the center of the study of medicine; on ethics and morality in the face of disaster; on the place of law and politics in the future of democracy; on the digital arts that connect the arts and engineering; on the substance of real justice; and on the shape and consequence of a life well lived.







What is a work of art? Why have human beings throughout history, found the need to make (and destroy) images and monuments? And how do new technologies — from concrete vaulting to oil paint to cinema to jpegs — change the nature and function of pictures and built spaces in our lives?

These are some of the questions asked in the Department of Art History, a place where images, architecture and works of art are examined with open minds and attentive eyes.

Our faculty includes experts in the art and architecture of the Americas, Asia, the African Diaspora, Europe and the Islamic world, spanning from antiquity through contemporary times. Across these diverse fields, we look beyond categories of period and style to ask essential questions about what images, built structures and works of art do, and what we do with them in turn.

[arthistory.rice.edu](http://arthistory.rice.edu)

Major:

**Art History**

Minors:

**Art History**

**Cinema and Media Studies  
Museums and Cultural Heritage**



RICE HUMANITIES

Department of Art History

[arthistory.rice.edu](http://arthistory.rice.edu)



## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



English at Rice offers a distinctively innovative creative and critical education. Unique among our peer institutions, our signature creative and critical curriculum integrates the creative aspects of the study of literature and the critical features of creative writing. Across research, reading and writing, students and faculty encounter literature's power to transform what we know and who we can be. Our courses examine how cultural forms and legacies shape our imagination and craft creative visions of the possible. We invite you to explore our department's offerings. We promise that the work you do in English will open new worlds, alter how you see yourself and profoundly imprint any path you pursue.

[english.rice.edu](http://english.rice.edu)

## CREATIVE & CRITICAL

Rice English integrates creative and critical practice through training in close reading, analytical writing, cultural history and craft/form. Our faculty research and pedagogy cover the breadth of the study of British and American literatures and cultures ranging from the medieval era to the present. The curriculum emphasizes literature and literary history, race and ethnicity studies, feminist and gender studies, queer theory and the history of sexuality, visual culture and comparative media studies, and the Anglophone literature of the postcolonial world. Faculty have particular strengths in the newer interdisciplinary areas of medical humanities, ecocriticism, posthumanism and environmental humanities. Rice English is also home to a vibrant creative writing concentration offering a range of courses in fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction and podcasting.



RICE HUMANITIES

Department of English

[english.rice.edu](http://english.rice.edu)



## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



*Go everywhere. Meet everyone.*

### WHY STUDY HISTORY AT RICE UNIVERSITY?

**Skills:** Students of history acquire transferable and highly marketable skills in communication, writing and research, analysis and organization of ideas. They learn to use evidence to develop interpretive skills and a broad perspective.

**Great classes:** The Department of History at Rice is among the largest of the departments in the humanities. We offer an exciting range of undergraduate classes that explore the human experience from ancient Rome and medieval Central Asia to the Indian Ocean and the Middle East, from colonial Brazil to modern China, Mexico, the American South and much more. Our award-winning faculty, celebrated for their teaching talents as well as their cutting-edge research, offers small, discussion-based classes across the undergraduate curriculum. Our emphasis is on comparative studies across time and geographic regions.

**Research opportunities:** Undergraduate research in history is supported through generous endowments, such as the Garside Prize and the Gruber Fund. History majors at Rice have been able to do independent research in libraries, museums and archives across the U.S. and internationally.

**Independence and flexibility:** History offers a major that is flexible and customizable. It is a rich and intellectually exciting major and can easily combine with a second major, such as economics, political science, pre-med and pre-law, Asian studies, public policy and many more.

[history.rice.edu](http://history.rice.edu)

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

### REQUIREMENTS FOR A DEGREE IN HISTORY AT RICE

A student majoring in history must take a minimum of 30 semester hours (10 courses) in history, of which 18 semester hours (six courses) must be on the advanced level (300 or 400).

Majors take at least one course in four of the following five fields:

- A. Pre-modern
- B. Europe
- C. United States
- D. Asia, Latin America, Africa
- E. Transnational, Comparative, World



RICE HUMANITIES

Department of History

[history.rice.edu](http://history.rice.edu)



## DEPARTMENT OF MODERN AND CLASSICAL LITERATURES AND CULTURES



ENGAGED. CHALLENGING. GLOBAL.

Six programs in six languages, spanning nearly 3,000 years and the world, from ancient Greece to modern Europe, the Caribbean and Global Latin America.

We are the only department at Rice in which you can take courses on French citizenship, the Mexican Revolution, German film, Spanish Baroque drama, the literary culture of the Roman Republic and Greek tragedy — at the same time and in the same semester, taught by renowned faculty, and with study-abroad opportunities in Athens and Rome, in Paris, Madrid and Cuba, and in Leipzig and Berlin.

Our students go on to become diplomats and investment bankers, federal prosecutors, lawyers and advocates for social justice. Not surprisingly, many continue their education at some of the top graduate and professional schools in the world.

Studying in our department is a career-building experience. Our students today work for a wide range of businesses and institutions — from NGOs and tech startups, to higher education and health care, to multinational corporations and NASA.

[cultures.rice.edu](http://cultures.rice.edu)

## DEPARTMENT OF MODERN AND CLASSICAL LITERATURES AND CULTURES

Majors:

Classical Studies  
European Studies  
French Studies  
German Studies  
Latin American Studies  
Spanish and Portuguese

Minors:

Classical Civilizations  
French Studies  
German Studies  
Greek Language and Literature  
Latin Language and Literature  
Spanish and Portuguese

Our students travel the world.  
They intervene in the world.  
They change the world.



RICE HUMANITIES

Department of Modern and Classical  
Literatures and Cultures

[cultures.rice.edu](http://cultures.rice.edu)



## DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY



Philosophy begins as an attempt to answer certain fundamental questions that arise in life. Is there a reality beyond what we can observe? How do we know what to believe? What is justice? What is the good life? What is good reasoning? And these ancient questions lead to more modern ones. What makes a government legitimate? What ought a physician do to balance health outcomes with respect for patient decisions that might not lead to good health? What makes a study scientific? What makes a painted piece of cloth a work of art? What makes us conscious? All of these questions are philosophical ones.

Anyone can think like a philosopher. But studying philosophy systematically allows you to build on the best and most compelling ideas of the past and of today. To make progress on big fundamental questions, philosophers rely on thinking clearly and logically, imagining new possibilities, challenging old dogmas, and expressing their thoughts with precision. Courses in philosophy teach students to tackle old and new questions with these tools.

*love wisdom.*

## WHY STUDY PHILOSOPHY?

Have you ever had a big question that you couldn't shake? Have you ever felt the need to look under the surface of everyday concepts? Do you sometimes feel like you could be making more sense of basic foundations of the world, if only you thought harder? Thoughts and feelings like these are what lead college students to take courses in philosophy: to feed their curiosity and their hunger to understand, at the most general level. Discovering how much clarity and insight is possible when the big questions are approached thoughtfully is what keeps students coming back.

In addition to the intrinsic joy of struggling with big questions, philosophy also trains us to read and write and speak with a new level of care and precision. It rewards imagination but insists that it be followed by its intellectual aides, logic and evidence. Philosophy students learn how to distinguish promising lines of argument from misleading ones. They learn how to systematically organize complex systems of information and synthesize them into careful arguments with well-supported conclusions. They think collaboratively and capaciously, in discussion with other curious minds. And they do it all in service of discovering the truths that await discovery if we can only think hard enough together.

Given the rigor and challenges of philosophical reading, writing, and thinking, our courses will serve you well in any profession you enter. Philosophy majors do better than almost all others when writing the exams that are required for admission into business, law and medical school, in part because of the level of rigor and the combination of creativity and logic it calls for. Because philosophy hones these skills to exceptional sharpness, while also dwelling on some of the most fundamental human questions, it enhances any other major taken in combination with it. It is a popular second major as a result.



RICE HUMANITIES

Department of Philosophy

[philosophy.rice.edu](http://philosophy.rice.edu)



# RELIGION

Whatever you think of it, whether you are devoutly religious or are somewhere in-between, religion is a very big deal. It shapes the people we are and the communities we live in. It influences how we interact with our sexualities and the natural environment. While religion can fill our personal lives with meaning, it can also foster intolerance, ignorance, and even hatred and violence on a social level.

It affects our sensibilities around ethnicity, class and race; our attitudes about medicine, contraception and the end of life; and our approaches to poverty, immigration, social justice and war. Religion is everywhere.

Religion matters.  
[reli.rice.edu](http://reli.rice.edu)

The Department of Religion at Rice University engages students in the study of diverse religious phenomena and their historical, social, political, economic and cultural contexts. From small seminars to large lectures, students gain exposure to a fascinating range of religious traditions, texts, peoples, and practices and disciplinary approaches to studying religion that hone their critical, comparative and communicative skills.

Religion at Rice features an undergraduate major and minor that both bring undergraduates into a dynamic community with distinguished faculty and their distinctive lines of research. Religion undergraduates collaborate with faculty advisers to construct individualized concentrations of study close to students' interests and faculty expertise. They also talk regularly with faculty and graduate students at monthly teas, majors' dinners, open houses and alumni guest lectures. With 10 courses for the major, and six courses for the minor, students construct their own concentrations with minimal requirements.

Training in the study of religion equips majors to think critically, creatively and comparatively about religious practices, beliefs and traditions. Engaging in discussions with faculty, undergraduate peers and graduate students, majors come to hone their academic interests and see how the knowledge and skills they build in the major contribute to myriad professions and shape them as religiously literate individuals. So what exactly do religion majors do after graduation? They go on to professions across the fields of medicine, law, journalism, education, politics, public policy, nonprofits and even the academic study of religion.



RICE HUMANITIES

Department of Religion

[reli.rice.edu](http://reli.rice.edu)





**We are proud to bring you the new  
Department of Transnational Asian Studies!**

What do we mean by Transnational Asian Studies? Students in our department work across disciplines in the humanities and social sciences to better understand the peoples, ideas, practices and cultures of greater Asia, including immigrant communities across the globe. We research and study Asia not as a collection of nation-states or regions but as a series of global transformations, influences, demographic movements and migrations, trade and political formations. Classes in Asian studies are taught by the faculty in our newly expanded Department of Transnational Asian Studies and our many affiliates in departments across campus. Classes and research opportunities can include the study of gender, migration and diasporas, race and identity, medicine and technology, literature and history, religion and the arts, globalism, consumerism and economics. Visit [asianstudies.rice.edu](http://asianstudies.rice.edu).



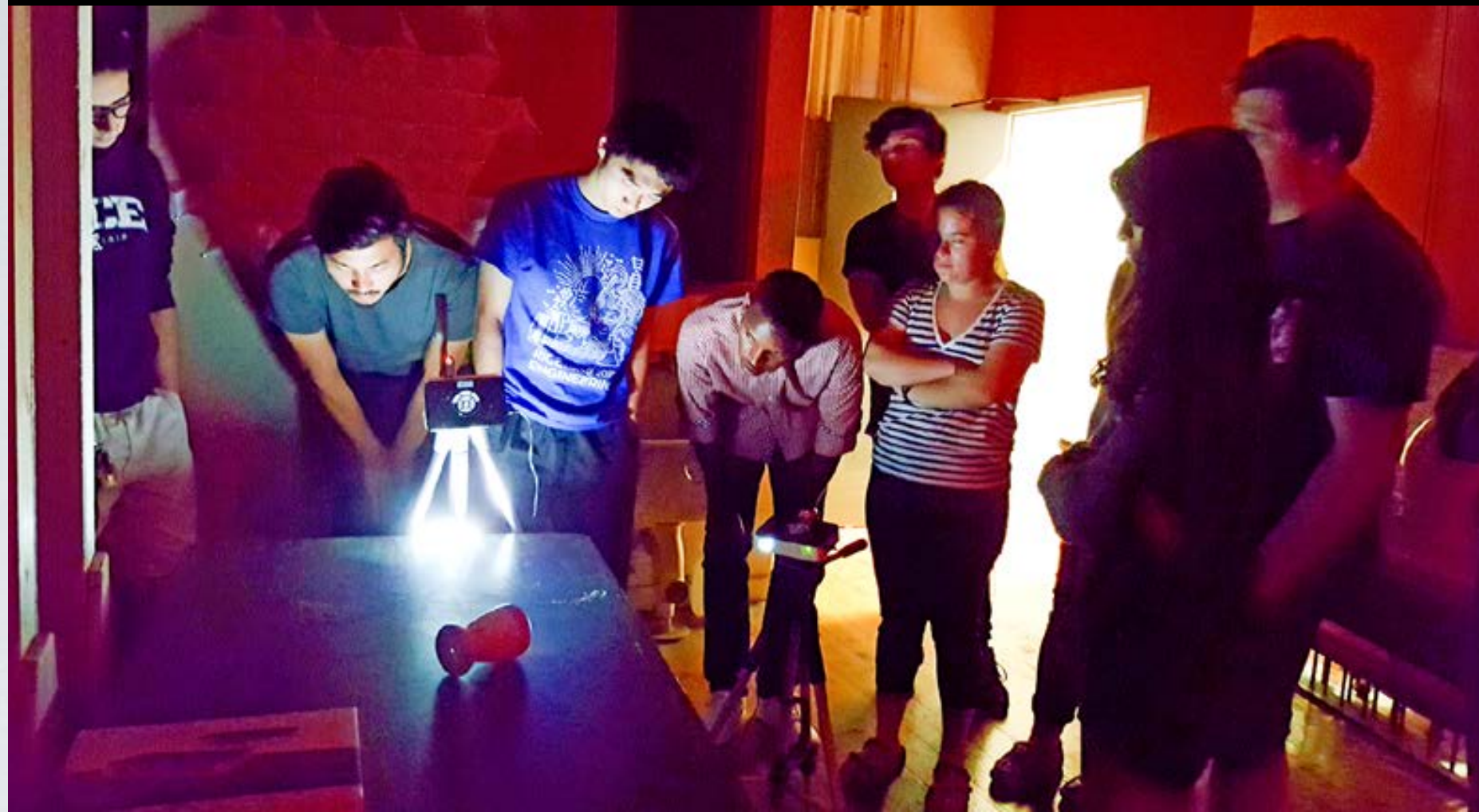
The B.A. degree in Asian studies is flexible and can be easily adapted to your individual interests. Majors in Asian studies engage in faculty-supervised research, internship programs, language acquisition, study and work experience abroad. Those who choose the minor are able to bring their interest and understanding in Asian studies to their major field of study, enhancing their academic and professional goals. Students interested in Asian studies may also choose to join the Rice Asian Studies Organization, promoting and planning Asian studies programming and organizing student-led events. One of RASO's major activities is the publication of the Rice Asian Studies Review, which publishes exceptional undergraduate research. The Department of Transnational Asian Studies and the Chao Center for Asian Studies are now housed on the third floor of Lovett Hall. More information about classes, faculty interests, student activities and opportunities can be found at [asianstudies.rice.edu](http://asianstudies.rice.edu).



RICE HUMANITIES  
**Department of  
Transnational Asian Studies**



## DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL AND DRAMATIC ARTS

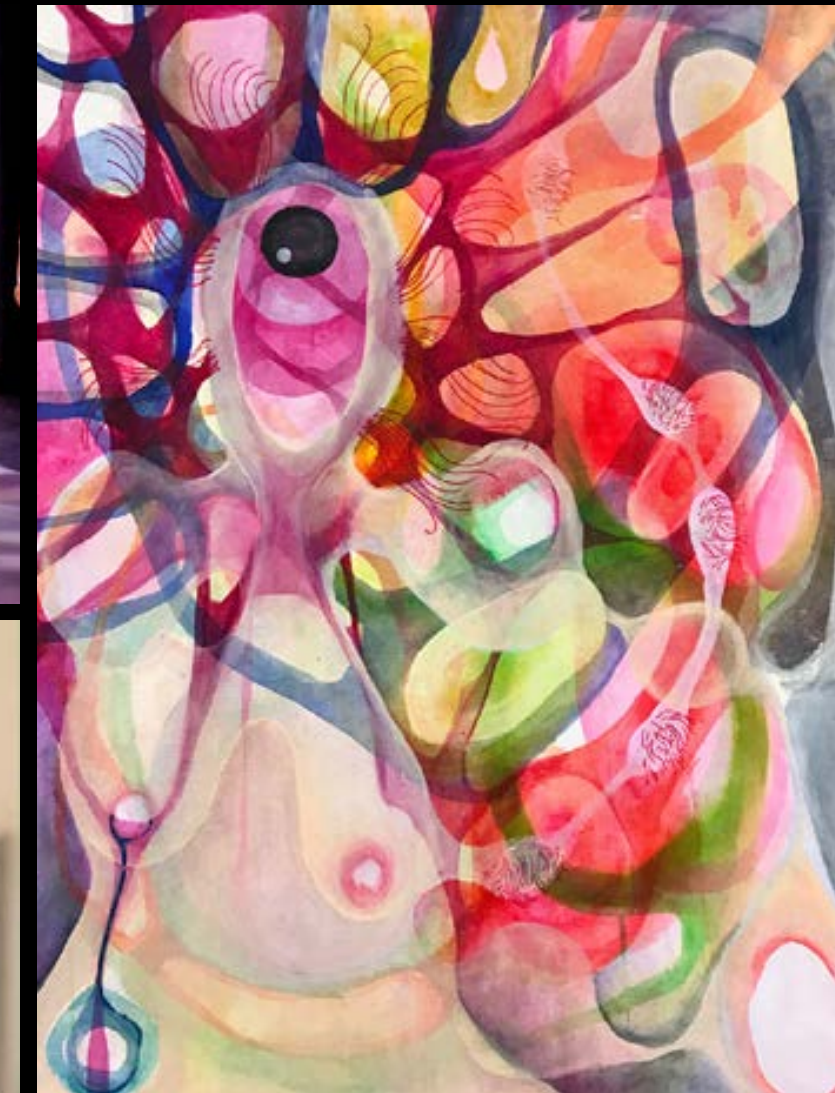


The Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts welcomes the full spectrum of Rice students. Scientists, architects, historians, engineers and economists, among many others, augment our core of arts majors to create a diverse, lively forum of artists and thinkers. We believe this composite community is a vital asset to majors and nonmajors alike: art thrives in contact with new and varied perspectives, and the risk-taking and critical thinking necessary to making art are crucial in many other fields. Beyond a dynamic artistic practice, we aim to cultivate an artistic frame of mind.

[vada.rice.edu](http://vada.rice.edu)

VADA

Major Concentrations:  
**Film and Photography**, Studio Arts, Theater



[vada.rice.edu](http://vada.rice.edu)



RICE HUMANITIES

Department of Visual  
and Dramatic Arts





The Center for African and African American Studies is Rice's primary location for curriculum and research related to Africa and to people of African descent in the Americas and beyond. The center is a clearinghouse for critical conversation, instruction, cutting-edge research and community outreach in an interdisciplinary fashion.

A collaboration between the School of Humanities and the School of Social Sciences, the center produces synergies and harnesses collaborative engagement across the university. The center provides a unique hub for work on such crucial topics as: critical approaches to race and racism, the nature of diasporic histories and identities, and the complexity of Africa's past, present and future, to name a few.

**The African and African American studies minor** provides students with resources and opportunity to think about key issues and themes within this field of study that enrich their overall education. It also provides key competencies that will enhance students' subsequent professional and community life. Upon completion of the minor, students will be able to:

- Understand and appreciate the complexity of African and African American history and culture;
- Compare and contrast the experiences of African peoples in different regions of the continent;
- Understand the role of Africa and African peoples in the diaspora in global histories and networks;
- Understand and employ key concepts and frameworks utilized in African and African American studies.

## Requirements:

- Students must take at least six courses (18 credit hours);
- Students must take the interdisciplinary core course;
- At least three courses must be at the 300 level or higher;
- Students must take at least two List A courses from two different departments and two List B courses from two different departments;
- Students must complete elective courses from at least three different subject codes, reflecting coursework taken from both the School of Humanities and the School of Social Sciences;
- No more than two courses (six credit hours) can apply from transfer credits.



**Fay Yarbrough '97**  
Professor, History  
Affiliated Faculty, Center for African and African American Studies  
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and Special Projects, School of Humanities



**Alexander Byrd '90**  
Associate Professor, History  
Affiliated Faculty, Center for African and African American Studies  
Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
Co-Chair, Task Force on Slavery, Segregation and Racial Injustice



RICE UNIVERSITY  
**Center for African and African American Studies**

*School of Humanities • School of Social Sciences*





The Environmental Studies (ENST) minor takes a multidisciplinary approach to the urgent planetary issues facing us now. The scope and scale of environmental dilemmas addressed in our courses and in the minor require scientific, social and cultural approaches. We highlight the insights of all academic disciplines along with robust conversations across them, with particular emphasis on the arts, architecture, humanities and social sciences.

*Fall 2021 Environmental Studies (ENST) courses include:*

**ENST 100: ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND SOCIETY**,  
Joseph Campana and Sophie Moore

**ENST 250: UNDERSTANDING ENERGY**, Brian Spector

**ENST 301: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**, Gisela Heffes

**ENST 313 / ARCH 313: CASE STUDIES IN SUSTAINABLE DESIGN**, RivesTaylor

**ENST 368 / ENGL 368: LITERATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT**, Bren Ram

**ENST 437 / ECON 437: ENERGY ECONOMICS**, Ken Medlock

Many additional courses that qualify for the ENST minor are offered by other disciplines. See the General Announcements for details on qualifying courses. To learn more, visit the Center for Environmental Studies website:  
[enst.rice.edu](https://enst.rice.edu)

**“Planet Now!”** — a webinar series organized by the Center for Environmental Studies and the Environmental Studies Minor — stages urgent conversations about critical issues designed to support research and teaching in and beyond the Rice community and to encourage a broad audience for invigorating dialogue across disciplines.

To learn more about the center and the Environmental Studies minor and our “Planet Now!” conversations, visit [enst.rice.edu](https://enst.rice.edu) and [enst.rice.edu/planet-now](https://enst.rice.edu/planet-now).



RICE UNIVERSITY  
**Center for Environmental Studies**  
*School of Architecture · School of Humanities*

[enst.rice.edu](https://enst.rice.edu)



## CENTER FOR LANGUAGES AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION



Learning languages can take you far and allow you to have a positive impact on society.

- Visit different countries and connect meaningfully with locals
- Learn more about other cultures and societies
- Live or study abroad
- Connect to your roots by deepening your knowledge of the language of your ancestors
- Invest in your professional future with a certificate that attests to your knowledge of a second language
- Understand the needs of and better serve your future Spanish-speaking clients and patients and their communities

Through the Center for Languages and Intercultural Communication you can:

- Learn one or more of the 10 languages we teach
- Study abroad and complete six credits in six weeks in one of our summer Rice in Country programs
- Talk to native speakers in the language you are learning without leaving campus
- Complete our Certificate in Language and Intercultural Communication and have your proficiency in the second language appear on your transcript
- Take a course in medical Spanish, Chinese or Spanish for heritage learners, accelerated Portuguese for Spanish speakers or accelerated Italian for speakers of Spanish or French

[clic.rice.edu](http://clic.rice.edu)

## CENTER FOR LANGUAGES AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

### Languages we teach

Arabic  
Chinese  
French  
German  
Italian  
Japanese  
Korean  
Portuguese  
Russian  
Spanish

### Rice in Country programs

Rice in Egypt  
Rice in Taiwan  
Rice in France  
Rice in Germany  
Rice in Italy  
Rice in Japan  
Rice in Korea  
Rice in Portugal  
Rice in Costa Rica  
Rice in Spain



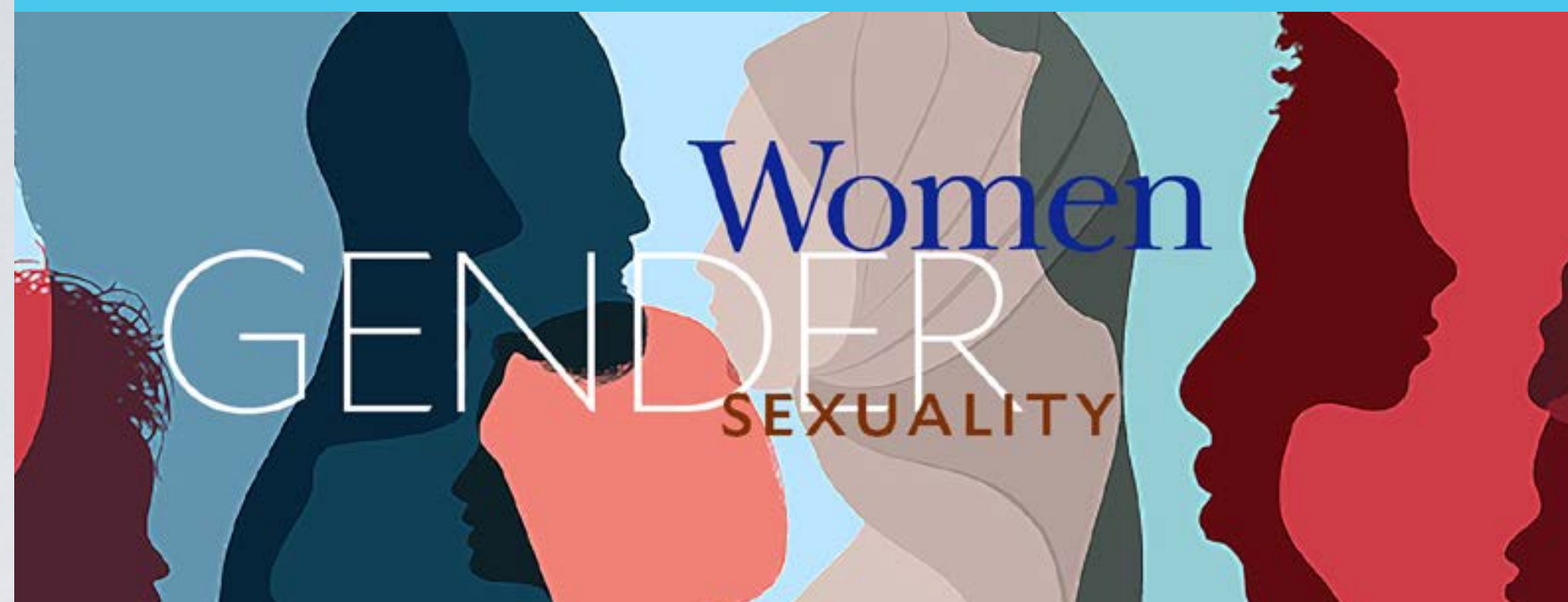
Start your language learning journey by visiting our website and taking the language placement test. The earlier you start the more opportunities you will have. Visit [clic.rice.edu](http://clic.rice.edu).



RICE HUMANITIES

Center for Languages and  
Intercultural Communication





We live in a time of intensified debate over issues impacting women's lives and the politics of sexuality and gender. Now more than ever, feminist voices are needed to address them. Come join the conversation. The Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality supports undergraduates through innovative teaching and engaged research.

Our gateway courses introduce students to key concepts from sex and gender to intersectionality, human capabilities and transnational feminism.

Our major and minors feature research partnerships with local, national and international organizations. The center's goal is to make a better world by promoting critical knowledge and relationships with communities that extend our understanding of the lives of women, the history and politics of sexuality, and gender as a key influence on the quality of life.

**Major:** Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

**Minor:** Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality  
(forthcoming)

**Minor:** Poverty, Justice and Human Capabilities

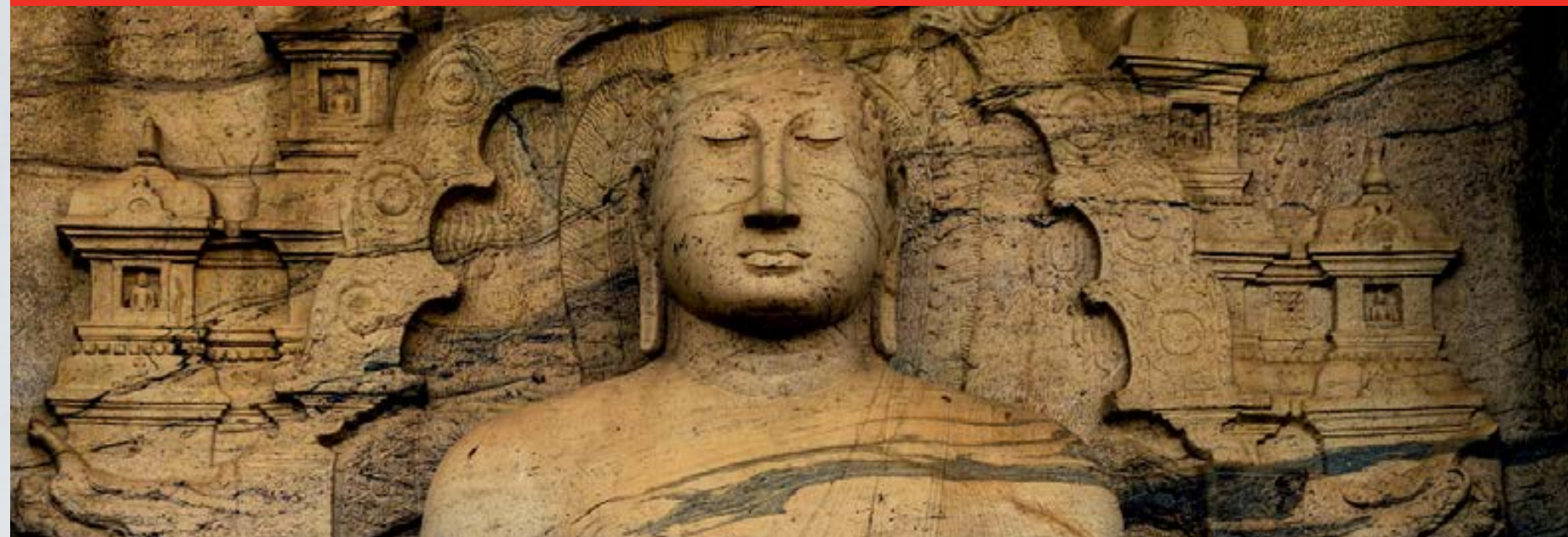
**Graduate Certificate:** Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality



RICE HUMANITIES

Center for the Study of Women,  
Gender and Sexuality





The Chao Center for Asian Studies is the premier research hub for faculty, students and post-doctoral scholars working in Asian studies at Rice. Our focus is on transnational, trans-historic, diasporic, and global movements of peoples and cultures of greater Asia. The mission of the Chao Center includes outreach to Asian and Asian American populations in Houston and beyond, promoting scholarly community building and broader understanding. The center is the home of the Transnational Asia Research Initiative, supporting the work of a team of post-doctoral scholars, and publishes a twice-yearly online journal, Transnational Asia. The Chao Center also supports programs such as the Houston Asian American Archive and hosts the Frank Liu Distinguished Visitor Series. The center works very closely with the Department of Transnational Asian Studies in the School of Humanities.

[chaocenter.rice.edu](http://chaocenter.rice.edu)



The Chao Center was founded with a generous gift from the T. T. and W. F. Chao Family Foundation in 2008 and has been awarded grants from the Henry Luce Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education and the Academy of Korean Studies.



RICE HUMANITIES

Chao Center for  
Asian Studies

[chaocenter.rice.edu](http://chaocenter.rice.edu)



## PROGRAM IN ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN CIVILIZATIONS



Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations (AMC) is an interdisciplinary major centered on the interconnected ancient world. From Greek temples to Roman chariot races, from Egyptian goddesses to Babylonian law codes, from the rise of Christianity to the cultures of early Jews and Muslims, from prehistory to philosophy, AMC students explore the complex web of links and innovations that revolutionized the ancient Mediterranean world and helped shape our own. You will immerse yourself in more than two millennia of some of the world's most influential cultures, studying their histories, arts, religions, philosophies, economies, literatures, languages and political systems, and evaluating their contributions to modernity. The astonishingly diverse range of ancient peoples and ideas you encounter will change the way you see the world.

Want to study abroad in Rome? Intern at a museum? Excavate an archaeological site in Turkey? AMC students travel the globe. Don't just read about it, go experience it.

[amc.rice.edu](http://amc.rice.edu)

## ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN CIVILIZATIONS



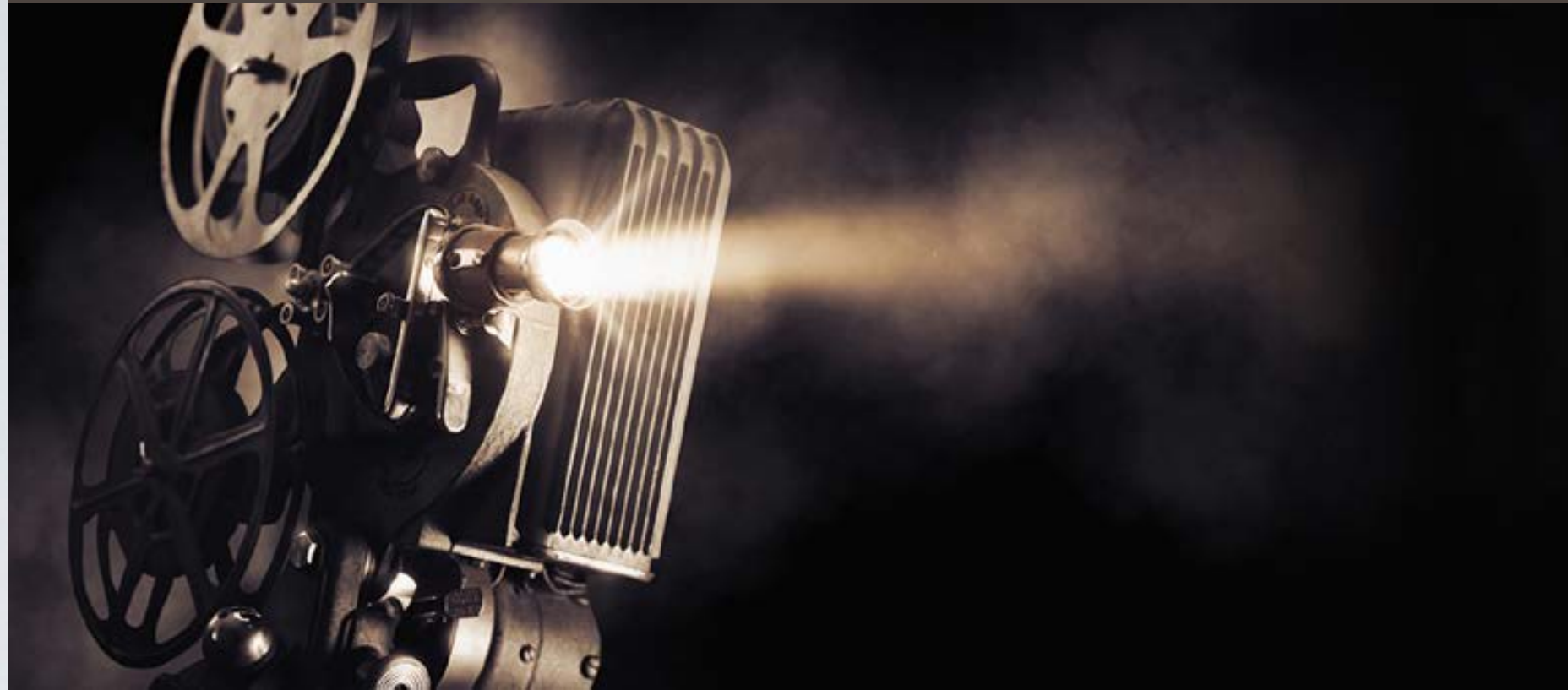
RICE HUMANITIES

Program in Ancient  
Mediterranean Civilizations

[amc.rice.edu](http://amc.rice.edu)



## PROGRAM IN CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES



The Cinema and Media Studies Program offers the opportunity to study film and media from diverse historical periods around the globe. Drawing on different disciplines across the university — including faculty and resources from art history, visual and dramatic arts, classical and European studies, Spanish and Portuguese, Latin American studies, English and religion — cinema and media studies aims to develop the critical tools for viewing and analyzing the moving image in all its manifold forms.

In addition to the history and theory of cinema, courses concentrate on more recent forms of media such as television, advertising, the internet, video art, medical imaging and expanded cinema. Students are presented with a wide array of theoretical, historical, political and formal approaches to the moving image in an effort not only to better understand different cultural, mainstream and artistic approaches to cinema, but also our media-saturated world at large.

Learn more about the Minor in Cinema and Media Studies:  
[arthistory.rice.edu](http://arthistory.rice.edu)

## PROGRAM IN CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES



RICE HUMANITIES

Program in Cinema  
and Media Studies

[arthistory.rice.edu](http://arthistory.rice.edu)



## PROGRAM IN JEWISH STUDIES

The minor in Jewish Studies invites students of all backgrounds on an interdisciplinary journey of discovery through the exploration of the religious practices, literature, history and philosophy of the Jewish people. The study of Jewish cultures and communities around the world, a topic spanning more than 3,000 years of history, enriches our understanding of the human experience.

To fulfill the requirements of the minor, students must complete at least six courses in Jewish Studies in a wide range of subject areas. The Program in Jewish Studies also offers several semesterlong courses that include a travel component during spring break. These classes augment traditional classroom learning with an experiential component designed to deepen students' engagement with the material. In these courses, students may have the opportunity to visit New York, Jerusalem or other cities.



[jewishstudies.rice.edu](http://jewishstudies.rice.edu)

## PROGRAM IN JEWISH STUDIES

Beyond the classroom, Jewish Studies minors can partake in many special opportunities on and off campus.

The Jewish Studies Student Association organizes lunch talks, film screenings, field trips and other events. Additionally, the Houston Jewish History Archive in the Woodson Research Center at Fondren Library offers paid internships to students who gain hands-on experience with archival processing and digitization and a broader understanding of the Jewish experience in Houston and South Texas.



RICE HUMANITIES

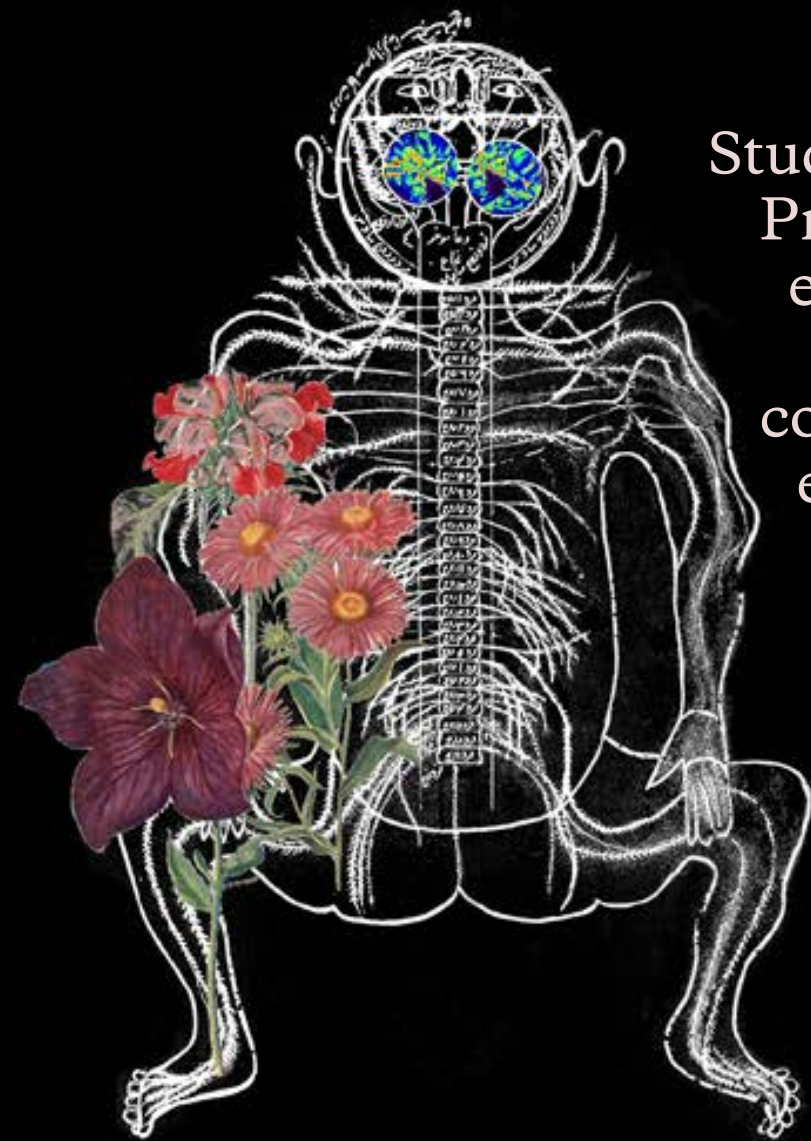
Program in Jewish Studies

[jewishstudies.rice.edu](http://jewishstudies.rice.edu)



## PROGRAM IN MEDICAL HUMANITIES

Image created in "The Body in Global Histories of Medicine," a course taught by Lan Li, assistant professor of history and medical humanities. Original image is from Mansur's Anatomy, 14th century.  
artist: Ginger Hooper '19



Students in the Medical Humanities Program study the social, cultural, ethical and historical dimensions of how physicians, patients and communities understand the lived experience of health and disease.

At Rice, our researchers and students examine how religion shapes people's understanding of illness, how people think about death and how they think about what kinds of care they would want at the end of their lives.

We explore aspects of history and race and how the legacy of harm to underrepresented groups results in continued health disparities today.

We look at the ways that social media, technologies like artificial intelligence, and big data analytics are changing how physicians and patients relate to and communicate with one another. We look at how this influences not just physician-patient communication, but also how people think about where health care happens, what it looks like and the role that human beings play in it.

Students in medical humanities have many opportunities to conduct research practica in the Texas Medical Center.

[medicalhumanities.rice.edu](http://medicalhumanities.rice.edu)

## MEDICAL HUMANITIES MINOR

The School of Humanities launched its medical humanities minor in 2016. With support from the Humanities Research Center, the Medical Humanities program has grown rapidly, bringing together researchers, scholars, artists and students from all parts of Rice to explore the human dimensions of health and illness.

Courses explore complex issues such as how we define the meaning of a "good life" in the face of illness, how data visualization shapes the ways that doctors see health and disease, or how ideas about contagion become imbued with complex social and cultural connotations and biases. We examine these questions through history, art, literature, anthropology and more, to gain a holistic understanding of the human dimensions of health and disease.

Students who minor in the medical humanities are prepared to navigate and lead in the development of a more humane, equitable and just health care system that provides benefits to all through ethical, culturally informed practices.

[medicalhumanities.rice.edu/minor](http://medicalhumanities.rice.edu/minor)



RICE HUMANITIES

Program in Medical Humanities



## PROGRAM IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES



The Medieval and Early Modern Studies Program offers a major and a minor, which enable students to study medieval and early modern cultures in the period between the fourth and 18th centuries. Our global and interdisciplinary program draws on a broad range of critical approaches and 15 disciplines — anthropology, art history, Asian studies, classical studies, English, European studies, French studies, German studies, History, Latin American studies, medieval and early modern studies, music, philosophy, religion, and Spanish and Portuguese. Students have the opportunity to experience medieval materials firsthand by examining the illuminated manuscripts and medieval art at Rice University and in the libraries and museums of Houston.

[medieval.rice.edu](http://medieval.rice.edu)



GO MEDIEVAL  
AT RICE UNIVERSITY

## PROGRAM IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES

The MDEM interdisciplinary major enables students to study medieval and early modern cultures in the period between 500 and 1800 C.E.

The MDEM minor is ideal for students who want to enrich their major studies at Rice with an interest in interdisciplinary studies in the medieval and early modern period, and to explore how this body of knowledge might apply to their own specific academic or professional goals.

The fields of emphasis for both the major and minor include medieval and early modern art history, anthropology, classics, history, literature (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Latin and Spanish), music history, philosophy and religion.



RICE HUMANITIES

Program in Medieval and  
Early Modern Studies

[medieval.rice.edu](http://medieval.rice.edu)



## PROGRAM IN MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE



Have you ever wanted to know what goes on behind the scenes at museums? Why do people destroy and loot cultural heritage sites and why does that affect the public so much? How and why do we preserve heritage sites like historical buildings and towns? Why are debates over the provenance and even existence of historical artifacts so heated and sometimes violent?

The Museums and Cultural Heritage Program draws from an array of disciplines and departments, from Anthropology and Art History to Religion, Architecture and Cultural Studies to study the identification, preservation, and (re-)presentation of heritage materials. Such materials often serve as the evidentiary basis for humanistic, architectural and social science disciplines. Students will learn about the preservation and use of tangible and intangible cultural heritage for study, archival purposes, and public display through the study of a wide range of museums and cultural heritage institutions, new digital analysis tools and media, and methods of display, preservation, analysis and public engagement.

Learn more about the Minor in Museums and Cultural Heritage at  
**[arthistory.rice.edu](http://arthistory.rice.edu)**

## PROGRAM IN MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE



RICE HUMANITIES

Program in Museums  
and Cultural Heritage

**[arthistory.rice.edu](http://arthistory.rice.edu)**





Politics, Law and Social Thought (PLST) is a joint program of the School of Humanities and School of Social Sciences that enables Rice students to successfully engage with the big political, legal and social questions relevant to contemporary society in a global setting. We aim to bring students from across the university into conversation about modern democracies and autocracies, their social foundations and their relationship to law.

Our core courses focus on leading works of political, legal and social thought, from the ancients to Machiavelli and Hobbes to Arendt and Dworkin, from Adam Smith to Karl Marx to Franz Fanon, from the defenders of natural law like Wollstonecraft to the advocates of representative democracy like Madison to anarchists like Bakunin.

Our elective courses are spread across the university, making it easier for students to fit a PLST minor into an existing major like English, history, political science or sociology. We also administer a judicial and legal practicum program, which gives students the ability to observe and interact with attorneys and judges at work.

[politics.rice.edu](http://politics.rice.edu)



Why democracy? What is law? What is political liberty? What is political citizenship? Are states necessary? Is there a philosophical justification for human rights? Is political justice possible? Do we always need to hear the other side? What is free speech? What are the sources of inequality? What is power? Does international law lead to global justice or to new forms of imperialism? Is there a right to have rights?



RICE UNIVERSITY

Program in Politics, Law and Social Thought

*School of Humanities • School of Social Sciences*

[politics.rice.edu](http://politics.rice.edu)



## PROGRAM IN POVERTY, JUSTICE AND HUMAN CAPABILITIES



The Poverty, Justice and Human Capabilities (PJHC) Program provides students with a multifaceted understanding of human wellbeing both within the United States and internationally.

This interdisciplinary program emphasizes a “capabilities approach,” which considers what people are able to do and be — for example, live to old age and engage in economic and political activities — rather than strictly what material goods they possess. The program also acknowledges the central importance of a variety of additional influences on wellbeing beyond income, such as gender, racial and ethnic disparities, health status, education, human rights, political freedoms, and material necessities like food and shelter.

[cswgs.rice.edu/pjhc-minor](https://cswgs.rice.edu/pjhc-minor)

## PROGRAM IN POVERTY, JUSTICE AND HUMAN CAPABILITIES

A key goal of the program is to enrich students’ understanding of poverty and inequality so that, regardless of their choice of occupation, they will maintain a longstanding commitment to enhancing the wellbeing of all people. More generally, the program trains students to be leaders in solving global problems.



Learn more about the Minor in  
Poverty, Justice and Human Capabilities:  
[cswgs.rice.edu/pjhc-minor](https://cswgs.rice.edu/pjhc-minor)



RICE HUMANITIES

Program in Poverty, Justice  
and Human Capabilities



# WHAT DO HUMANITIES GRADUATES DO AFTER RICE?

## 2020 Humanities First Destinations

- 43% working
- 33% grad school → → →
- 9% seeking employment
- 5% seeking grad school
- 2% military/volunteer/caregivers/other
- 8% did not respond

40% graduate arts or sciences  
20% Medicine  
21% Law  
12% Other  
5% Engineering  
2% Business