

PUBLIC HUMANITIES AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

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For further questions about the program, please contact the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities.

Credential: Graduate Certificate

Field of Study: Public Humanities and Civic Engagement

Program Overview

The Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities offers a graduate certificate program in Public Humanities & Civic Engagement for matriculated graduate students in the College of Arts and Sciences. Broadly defined, Public Humanities works to engage diverse publics in the creation of knowledge by making topics like art history, history, literary history, philosophy, film, and theater, accessible, understandable, and relevant to lived experience in the world. Public Humanities projects are civically engaged enterprises that work with community-partner organizations to solve social inequities and to create community-based change.

Faculty who teach courses for the certificate in Public Humanities & Civic Engagement work with Cleveland area community-partner organizations as part of their curricular mission. In these classes, faculty pair in-class content and learning goals with engaged civic practice. This approach emphasizes the value of learning by doing, as well as learning by serving. Service learning courses work to bridge the classroom and community environments through work done with community partner organizations. Classroom, book, and instructor-driven knowledge is brought to life by its application in the world. The Graduate Certificate in Public Humanities & Civic Engagement integrates the humanistic disciplines into the public sphere with projects that create, document, catalogue, or preserve content, or create lifelong opportunities to share in Humanistic content. Research indicates that the study of texts, music, and art can teach fundamental skills like compassion and empathy, creative thinking, problem solving, and skills of critical debate. Bringing the Humanities into public life (free and accessible to all) is therefore essential to civic life.

The courses taught in the certificate program train students to:

- participate in contemporary debates
- amplify community voices & histories
- help individuals and communities navigate difficult experiences
- expand educational access
- preserve culture in times of crisis & change

Courses in the certificate are taught by faculty across all CWRU departments and are cross-listed with that faculty member's department. All currently matriculated graduate students who are in good academic standing are eligible to add the certificate to their course of study without incurring additional expense.

Graduate Policies

For graduate policies and procedures, please review the School of Graduate Studies section of the General Bulletin.

Program Requirements

The Public Humanities & Civic Engagement Certificate is comprised of one introductory theory and methods course (3cr), three elective courses (3cr each), and one practicum course (3cr) for a total of 15 credits. Each course in this sequence is designated HUMN, but the elective courses are also cross-listed with the instructor's home departmental field. Elective courses taught at the 300/400 level may also count toward the completion of graduate work in the student's primary degree area (thus fulfilling *both* the requirement of the certificate *and* the requirement of the primary degree field program).

Code	Title	Hours
One (1)	Introductory Theory and Methods Course *	3
Three (3)	Elective Courses *	9
One (1)	Practicum Course **	3
Total Hours		15

* Must be a 300 or 400 level HUMN course.

** Must be a 400 level HUMN course.