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**Catalog description:**

**HUM 5XX: Advanced Humanities Research: Method, Theory and the Disciplines**

This course focuses on advanced research methodologies and theoretical frameworks in the humanities. Learners will be introduced to strategies for integrating research involving more than one discipline and to major debates concerning the uses of evidence and application of theories and methods across disciplinary boundaries. Methods of critical analysis will be examined in the study of texts in Philosophy, Politics, Ethics, Intellectual History, and Literature. Other topics will include qualitative research in medicine, law, anthropology, and sociology, and quantitative methods in psychology, environmental studies and health care.

**Further information:**

This course focuses on the application of advanced research methodologies and theoretical frameworks in the humanities. In support of the interdisciplinary focus of both the Humanities MA and PhD programs learners will be introduced to strategies for integrating research involving more than one discipline and to major debates concerning the uses of evidence and application of theories and methods across disciplinary boundaries. The term methodology is interpreted in its broadest sense and will include the development of traditional historical-critical approaches to textual analysis, qualitative investigative techniques, and any quantitative or experimental methods that might be integrated within a humanities perspective.

Although the course assumes an understanding of basic critical and empirical research methods, there will be an introductory review of pure vs. applied research, and the distinguishing characteristics that define quantitative and qualitative approaches. The focus will then move to applications of critical analysis and the study of documents and texts in the areas of Philosophy, Politics, Ethics, Intellectual History, and Literature. Examples of qualitative methods such as the case study approach, ethnography and phenomenology will be drawn from medicine, law, anthropology, and sociology. Quantitative research methods will be addressed specifically as a component of interdisciplinary problem focused projects in areas such as psychology, the environment and health care.

**Suggested texts:**

Julie Thompson Klein *Interdisciplinarity: History, Theory, and Practice*

David Bordwell and Noel Carroll, eds., *Post-Theory*.

Edward W. Said, *Culture and Imperialism*

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*.

Thomas S. Kuhn, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*.

J. W. Cresswell, *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design*

A. Hearn, A. and L. Salter, *Outside the lines. Issues in interdisciplinary research*