

WESTERN INTELLECTUAL TRADITION

Director: [Karánn Durland](#)

The Great Books and great works of art are the foundation of a traditional liberal arts education. The Western intellectual tradition minor explores these materials through coordinated study in such fields as history, philosophy, literature, art history, music history, religious studies, and political theory. Major works by authors and artists from ancient times through the eighteenth century are emphasized.

A minor in Western intellectual tradition consists of:

Foundation Courses (2 courses)

_____ HIST 133 Europe and the World to 1500 (or an approved substitute)

_____ PHIL 220 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy or PHIL 225 Early Modern Philosophy

Electives* (3 courses; at least one of which is neither in history nor philosophy)

_____ ARTH 231 Western Art: Ancient to Medieval

_____ ARTH 232 Western Art: Renaissance to Modern

_____ ARTH 345 Italian Renaissance Painting and Sculpture

_____ ARTH 347 Baroque Painting and Sculpture

_____ CLAS 106 Classical Mythology

_____ CLAS 110 Greek Literature in Translation

_____ CLAS 306 Advanced Study in Classical Mythology

_____ ENG 331 Studies in Medieval British Literature

_____ ENG 332 Studies in 16th-Century British Literature

_____ ENG 341 Studies in 17th-Century British Literature

_____ ENG 342 Studies in 18th-Century British Literature

_____ FR 353 French Literature to the French Revolution

_____ GER 354 Studies in Literature and Society through the 18th Century

- _____ HIST 333 Enlightenment and Revolutions
- _____ LAT 406 Latin Prose Authors
- _____ LAT 410 Roman Drama
- _____ LAT 412 Roman Epic
- _____ LAT 414 Studies in Medieval Latin
- _____ LAT 416 Roman Philosophers
- _____ LAT 404 Latin Lyric and Elegiac Poetry
- _____ MUS 240 Music History Through 1700
- _____ PHIL 220 Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (if not already taken)
- _____ PHIL 225 Early Modern Philosophy (if not already taken)
- _____ PSCI 420 Political Theory
- _____ PSCI 425 Political Philosophy and Religion
- _____ PSCI 428 The Origins of Modern Liberalism
- _____ REL 135 The Biblical Heritage
- _____ REL 235 Images of Jesus and Early Christian Identity
- _____ REL 270 Development of Catholic and Protestant Thought
- _____ REL 435 Early Christian Texts
- _____ THEA 142 Development of Dramatic Art I
- _____ WIT 250 Intermediate Topics in the Western Intellectual Tradition
- _____ WIT 260 Intermediate Directed Study in the Western Intellectual Tradition
- _____ WIT 360 Advanced Topics in the Western Intellectual Tradition
- _____ WIT 460 Advanced Directed Study in the Western Intellectual Tradition
- _____ WIT 490 Independent Study in the Western Intellectual Tradition

*This list of courses is not exhaustive, so search for relevant courses on WebHopper by selecting “WIT” as a search criterion.

Other Considerations When Planning for the Minor:

- Competence in a European language other than English is highly recommended, but not required.
- A January term, semester, or year abroad in Europe also is highly recommended, but not required.
- January term courses may not be used to satisfy the requirements for the minor.
- Other courses may be appropriate and relevant to students’ specific interest and may be included with director’s approval.

Total Credits Requirement = 5 course credits

COURSES

WIT 250 Intermediate Topics in Western Intellectual Tradition

A study of selected topics for beginning students based on faculty and student interests. Offered on an occasional basis. Course may be repeated when topic varies. 1 course credit.

WIT 260 Intermediate Directed Study in Western Intellectual Tradition

Student investigation of topic of interest working in collaboration with a faculty member resulting in significant oral and written work. See On-Campus Learning Opportunities for more information. PREQ: Freshman January term or Sophomore standing. Special permission required. Offered in variable course credit from 0.25-1.00.

WIT 350 Advanced Topics in Western Intellectual Tradition

An investigation of selected topics for more advanced students based on faculty and student interests. Offered on an occasional basis. Course may be repeated when topic varies. Prerequisites vary. 1 course credit.

WIT 460 Advanced Directed Study in Western Intellectual Tradition

Student investigation of topic of interest related to the major or minor working in collaboration with a faculty member resulting in significant oral and written work. See On-Campus Learning Opportunities for more information. PREQ: Junior or Senior standing. Special permission required. Offered for variable course credit from 0.25-1.00.

WIT 490 Independent Study in the Western Intellectual Tradition

Student-driven independent work to produce a high quality body of work such as paper, report, art project, etc. See On-Campus Learning Opportunities for more information. PREQ: Junior or Senior standing. Special permission required. Offered in variable course credit from 0.25-1.00.