

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES

Undergraduate Study

Bachelor of Science in Humanities (Course 21)

The interdisciplinary Bachelor of Science in Humanities (<https://catalog.mit.edu/degree-charts/humanities-course-21>) degree provides an option for students who wish to pursue their humanistic studies extensively and at an advanced level. All options in this major are by special arrangement, requiring approval by the dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. Some options are as follows:

- African and African Diaspora Studies
- American Studies
- Ancient and Medieval Studies
- Asian and Asian Diaspora Studies
- Latin American and Latino/a Studies
- Russian and Eurasian Studies
- Women's and Gender Studies

Humanities and Engineering / Science

Bachelor of Science in Humanities and Engineering (Course 21E) / Bachelor of Science in Humanities and Science (Course 21S)

These joint degree programs combine humanities with scientific/engineering studies. Groups of subjects from the humanistic and technical areas are conjoined to yield a basic command of each mode of inquiry. One part is a selection from the undergraduate degree curriculum of a science or engineering department approved by a faculty member in the field. The other part consists of subjects in a humanities field, chosen by the student in consultation with an advisor from the appropriate humanities faculty. In most cases, a senior thesis or sequence of advanced seminars is also required.

This arrangement yields a humanities program of considerable depth while allowing for continued serious commitment to a scientific or engineering interest. Available humanities fields include:

- African and African Diaspora Studies
- American Studies
- Ancient and Medieval Studies
- Anthropology
- Asian and Asian Diaspora Studies
- Comparative Media Studies
- Global Languages (in French, German, or Spanish)
- History
- Latin American and Latino/a Studies
- Literature

- Music
- Russian and Eurasian Studies
- Science, Technology, and Society
- Theater Arts
- Women's and Gender Studies
- Writing

Faculty advisors in each discipline help students to arrange programs suited to both their interests and professional objectives. Any one of these fields may be joined with any science or engineering field to form a major. Some combinations naturally lend themselves not only to an understanding of each field but also to an integrative and comparative view of the relationship between the two. The approval process requires students to design their curriculum in their two proposed programs of study and have their selections approved by a faculty member in each field at the time they submit their proposal for review.

Students may take Course 21E (<https://catalog.mit.edu/degree-charts/humanities-engineering-course-21e>) or Course 21S (<https://catalog.mit.edu/degree-charts/humanities-science-course-21s>) as part of the double major program outlined in the section on Undergraduate Education. However, because 21E and 21S are composite degrees, a second major is not allowed in either field of a student's chosen program. For example, if a student pursues a 21S degree with the Science portion in Course 8, the student would not be permitted to apply for a second major in Course 8. Similarly, if the Humanities portion of the 21S degree were in Course 21L, the student could not apply for a second major in Course 21L.