

MALS 601, 602, 603 GATEWAY COURSE

Incoming students are required to take this course. Students in this course will come to class every week from 6-9 as if it were a regular three-credit course, but it is in fact structured as three back-to-back one-credit courses of four weeks each.

MALS601 *Graduate Research and Writing* (1 credit) Students will learn the conventions and expectations of graduate-level writing and research, including the formulation and development of independent research projects and the use of online databases.

MALS602 *Topics In Liberal Studies I* (1 credit) Students will explore a liberal-studies topic typical of those taught in other MALS courses. The content will be interdisciplinary and/or intercultural, and the course methodology will include discussion, independent research, and varied forms of academic writing.

MALS603 *Topics In Liberal Studies II* (1 credit) Students will explore a liberal-studies topic typical of those taught in other MALS courses. The content will be interdisciplinary and/or intercultural, and the course methodology will include discussion, independent research, and varied forms of academic writing.

MALS CORE COURSES

A student is required to take two core courses.

MALS600 *Nature and Human Nature* (3 credits) Addresses the development, status, and understanding of humanity within a larger context: e.g., how writers in various disciplines have defined humanity, nature, and the relationship between the two; or the interaction between humans and our environment.

MALS610 *Force, Conflict and Change* (3 credits) From antiquity to the present, the use of force and the resolution of conflict have been among humanity's enduring preoccupations. Examines ideas about these issues, and associated questions such as the meaning of "heroism" and "just war."

MALS619 *The Scientist in Society* (3 credits) Scientific research is directly influenced by the society in which it is conducted. In addition to financial limitations, constraints are imposed by societal norms of what are acceptable topics and procedures for research. Focus on the philosophical basis of science as well as consequences to society of the scientific revolution.

MALS622 *Interpreting The Past* (3 credits) Applies a variety of interdisciplinary perspectives, e.g., archaeology, anthropology, history, literature, philosophy, and religion to explain how and what we learn about the past.

MALS624 *Writing in Liberal Studies* (3 credits) Provides instruction and practice in the various kinds of writing students may wish to do in the course of the MALS program and beyond. Focuses on one or more specific genres, such as the writing of poetry, fiction, memoirs, or research papers.

MALS625 *Film and Society* (3 credits) Explores the ways in which films produced within one or more cultures or time periods both reflect and help to shape their social and historical backgrounds. May include the making of films that include this social/historical perspective.

MALS626 *Studies In Contemporary Culture* (3 credits) Addresses contemporary problems and movements from a multidisciplinary perspective. Examples include artistic, literary, or sociological movements; religious or ethical questions; and political or global issues.

MALS660 *On Becoming Human* (3 credits) Examines the biological and cultural evolution of humans, focusing on similarities and differences between humans and our closest primate relatives.

MALS ELECTIVE COURSES

MALS611 *Documentary* (3 credits) Explores nonfiction narratives using print, film, and/or online models. Includes social reporting, analogies between literary and cinematic techniques, and analyses of the ways in which documentary both reflects and helps to shape its ambient culture. May include documentary-making.

MALS617 *The Arts in Context* (3 credits) Explores the ways in which the arts – e.g., music, dance, art, architecture, performance, and/or decorative arts – both reflect and help to shape their social and historical backgrounds.

MALS620 *The Use of Science in Public Discourse* (3 credits) examines important questions of general interest to both individuals and to governmental bodies that depend heavily on scientific information.

MALS621 *When Cultures Meet* (3 credits) Seeks an understanding of the dynamics that occur when one culture comes into contact with another. Examples include the arrival of a new group in a previously homogeneous culture, immigration, racial or ethnic profiling, and cultural assimilation.

MALS627 *Studies in Material Culture* (3 credits) Examines the use and development of artifacts and their impact on culture and society. Examples include the history and importance of such objects as cuisine and textiles; and the use of artifacts to understand the past, the belief systems of different cultures, and social evolution.

MALS628 *Text in Time and Context* (3 credits) A multidisciplinary interpretation of print and/or non-print texts within the cultures of specific periods – e.g., the Renaissance, the Jazz Age, or the 1960s. Texts may reflect historical, literary, philosophical, religious, political, sociological, scientific, or other perspectives.

MALS630 *Human Rights and Liberties* (3 credits) Explores such topics as intellectual freedom, free speech, freedom of religion, criminal justice, political systems, and philosophical or religious interpretations of inherent human rights.