Background

Each University of California (UC) campus offers interdisciplinary and collaborative research, scholarship and event opportunities in the humanities, many funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). These initiatives also directly impact children in K-12 schools, museums, libraries and other learning centers in our communities. Below are select examples:

UCI The UC Irvine School of Humanities is where future leaders, communicators, scholars, CEOs, storytellers, creatives, directors, writers and entrepreneurs come to get their start by studying with faculty whose distinctions include some of the world’s most coveted awards, including the Pulitzer Prize, Guggenheim Fellowships, National Humanities Medal, National Book Critics Circle awards and more. In the humanities, we study human culture and accomplishments throughout time and across the world. A humanities education imparts deep knowledge of history, languages, literature, philosophy, media and the visual arts, and an understanding of the contributions of influential thinkers, writers and artists. At UCI, the humanistic perspective doesn’t end with the disciplines under the umbrella of our school; we apply humanistic perspectives to illuminate the human dimensions of all disciplines, including technology, science and medicine. At UCI, we believe that the study of the humanities enriches our understanding of the human world by introducing us to, and sparking in us, ideas that matter.

UCLA’s Division of Humanities comprises eleven academic departments, several interdisciplinary programs, and seven major research centers designed to promote teaching and research on the legacy of human culture, particularly as it is relevant to the surrounding Los Angeles community. The Humanities equips students with the skills to respond with versatility to the challenges of our times and lead a culturally rich life as informed and humane citizens, and prepares them to pursue careers anywhere across the globe. Within each student we cultivate a deep awareness of cultural resources and an ability to exercise judgment critically, independently, and creatively. Through our intense focus on innovation and inclusivity in the art of teaching, and through the several interdisciplinary research centers that connect the campus with the city’s own diverse cultural communities, the Humanities at UCLA seeks to promote engaged research across a broad range of disciplines, including languages, literature, philosophy, and the arts. The Division also strives to go beyond the traditional disciplines by conducting research in new areas within the humanities such as digital, urban, health and environmental humanities.

UCR The College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS) is the largest college at the University of California, Riverside (UCR). Our strength is our interdisciplinary power. More than 10,000 students select from 60+ majors and study alongside faculty who prepare our students to be at home in the world. UC Riverside is home to the largest undergraduate and graduate degree programs in Native American Studies in the U.S. With access to groundbreaking research centers, art galleries and performance spaces, CHASS students can create, innovate and inspire locally and globally. Through NEH grants and partnerships, UCR contributes to preserving history’s that impact the National current and future economies and influence innovation by recalling the past.

The Humanities Division at UC Santa Cruz recognizes the power of humanistic knowledge to transform lives and society for the better, and we believe that public support for the humanities is essential for the future of democracy. Our degree programs foster courses of study dedicated to the examination of race, gender, sexuality and social mobility in global and transnational contexts. Our scholarship, curriculum and public-facing projects address critical issues of our time, in our study of world cultures, histories, languages and literatures and in our advocacy for racial, sexual and gendered justice. Our highlights include one of the oldest Feminist Studies departments in the country, one of the nation’s top Linguistics programs, and the internationally acclaimed interdisciplinary History of Consciousness graduate program. The Humanities Institute (THI), is a nationally recognized center of excellence and global hub for academic research, cross-discipline collaboration, and public engagement.