



Humanities & Arts Signature Program

What is it?

This is a four-year program of study designed for students who are passionate about some aspect of the humanities and/or arts, which include everything from literature, languages, history, psychology, politics, theatre, music, and visual arts. The H&A Program combines with the challenge of the [AP Capstone Program](#), to produce students who are ready for the rigors of a university education.

Students choose a humanities or arts focus during their freshman year and select the rest of their high school coursework to reflect that focus (see the course requirements below).

Who can enroll in this program?

Anyone! The program gives students space in their schedule to study what they are passionate about and we welcome everyone who wants to do so. Students generally enroll in the winter of Grade 8 to participate in the program, but students may also enroll in Grade 9 or 10.

Course Requirements ♦

Humanities Focus	Arts Focus
• English (4) (at least one AP in 11th or 12th grade) • Social Studies (3)(at least one AP in any Social Studies course) • World Languages (3 credits in HS) • Fine Arts (1 credit) • Additional electives* in humanities and/or arts courses (2) • AP Seminar (either as 10th grade English OR as an 11th grade elective) • AP Research (either 11th or 12th)	• English (4) (at least one AP in 11th or 12th grade) • Social Studies (3) (at least one AP) • World Languages (at least 2 credits in HS) • Fine Arts** (4 credits) (one credit must be at the highest level offered in a particular arts area) • AP Seminar (either as 10th grade English OR as 11th grade elective) • AP Research (either 11th or 12th; the project will reflect the student's art focus)

Notes:

◆ Listed course requirements only include English, Social Studies, World Languages, and Art; requirements for math, science, technology, health, and PE are not reflected here.

*The term “additional electives” means any course taken that is not required for graduation in English, Social Studies, World Languages, and Art. Examples might include AP Psychology, AP African American Studies, Sociology, Journalism, Film, Law, etc.

**Fine Arts includes both visual and performing arts. Typically students would focus on a particular area such as Ceramics, Photography, Painting, Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Theater, etc.

Independent Experience

At some point in high school (starting with the first day of 9th grade), each H&A student must complete ONE of the following options. Each experience has its own guidelines for completion.

- Internship
- Study Abroad
- University Program
- Private music/voice lessons (arts focus only)
- Other options as approved by the coordinator

Enrichment Experiences

Each semester, H&A students must complete **one** of the listed activities each semester they are enrolled in the program. Each activity has its own guidelines for completion.

- Attend a Wootton musical, play, concert, Festival of the Arts programs
- Attend (in-person or virtually) a humanities or arts-based lecture
- Visit a museum, historical site, or other
- Attend an H&A- or Arts-sponsored field trip (does not include trips for competitions)
- Watch an educational humanities-or-arts related documentary

AP Capstone

All students in MCPS signature programs must complete a capstone experience, and at Wootton, this takes the form of the AP Capstone program. Students must take AP Seminar and AP Research in order to graduate from the H&A Signature Program. Students may choose to, but are not required to, complete the AP Capstone Diploma program.