

# Collins-Barrett Humanities FAQs

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**Q:** What can my child expect to learn about in your courses?

**A:** An overview of our course content is available in the course expectations documents on our websites.

**Q:** What materials does my child need in your classes?

**A:** Please see our [Humanities Supply List](#).

**Q:** What is the policy for technology use in the Humanities classroom?

**A:** [Student Handbook](#)

**Q:** What support is available to my child?

**A:** We make every effort to provide accessible and appropriately scaffolded learning support for all students. If you feel that general education supports are no longer sufficient for your child (for academic or social-emotional reasons), please contact us and we will explore the following interventions with you and your child's counselor:

- Special interest clubs/peer counseling groups
- Peer Learning - free tutoring from upper-classmen students
- The Humanities Learning Center - free, structured support from a teacher in place of independent study halls for a short-term period, no special education designation required
- Counseling check-ins
- Social work check-ins
- Special education evaluation

**Note:** We may also initiate interventions if we assess that there is a need. We will notify you if that is the case.

**Q:** What challenging learning opportunities are available to my child?

**A:** We include rigor in our classrooms in a variety of ways. Please see below:

- Extension learning opportunities are built into each of our units for students looking to opt-in to more rigor. [Students will also have choices in each unit of study. There will be built-in opportunities to pursue topics and assignments of interest throughout the year.](#)
- Students complete a long-term project in both English and History, which provides ample opportunity for incorporating more challenging coursework.
  - In English, students complete the Capstone project, which allows them to select independent reading and media to be synthesized with their standard coursework over the course of the year.
  - In History, students complete the freshman research paper, or FRP, which provides an opportunity to extend their research skills in an area of interest.
- LHS offers many clubs that are extension learning opportunities. LHS generally publishes an updated list of existing clubs in early September, and we are happy to guide students towards programs that may be of interest to them.

**Q:** If I have a question or concern about your courses, whom should I contact?

**A:** **Please reach out to us directly** - we are always happy to forward your message if needed. Please see below for common types of questions that we are able to help with:

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- If you have a question about your child's grade or how they are being assessed, please contact us directly, and know that we typically include your student in the conversation.
- If you have a question or concern about the course content, please contact us directly.
- If you have a question or concern about your student's social or emotional health, please contact us directly or contact their counselor (with whom we meet regularly).
- If you have a question or concern about a social dynamic specific to our classrooms (bullying or exclusion, etc.) please reach out to us directly. We will also loop in our counselor colleagues. This is particularly important because your child is with the same group of students for English, History, and Advisory, so problematic social dynamics in these classes have an outsized impact.
- If you have a question or concern about a certain behavior/issue (e.g. "my child is anxious about writing," or "my child is struggling to finish their reading"), reach out to us directly. We will offer additional support if the problem is subject-specific, or loop in counselors if the student is struggling across classes.
- If you have questions about future learning (classes to take next year, etc.), please contact us or the counseling department directly.