

## General Studies Request Form

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Please see the [General Studies Request Overview and FAQ](#) for information and quick answers.

New permanent numbered courses must be submitted to the workflow in [Kuali CM](#) before a General Studies request is submitted here. The General Studies Council will not review requests ahead of a new course proposal being reviewed by the Senate.

### Proposal Contact Information

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Submitter Name	Submitter Email	Submitter Phone Number
Emi Ahn & James Baskind	annapurna.ganesh@mesacc.edu	480-461-7305

College/School	Department/School
Community College	Maricopa County Community College District

### Submission Information

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Type of submission:

New Request (Course or topic does not currently hold this designation)

Requested Effective Date

Summer 2023

Community College Request

Eligibility: Courses must have a current Course Equivalency Guide (CEG) evaluation. Courses evaluated as NT (non-transferable) are not eligible for General Studies.

Courses approved for General Studies require mandatory review every five years.

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Subject	Number	Units/Credit Hours CC
JPH	245	3

Course Title

Traditional and Modern Japanese Culture

Course Description

Survey of traditional and modern Japanese culture in context. Intellectual, spiritual, and artistic traditions of Japan will be examined with an eye on their popular-culture manifestations. The course, conducted in English, will consist of lectures, discussions, as well as oral and written reports.

Is this a crosslisted course?

No

This course currently transfers to ASU as:	Enter the subject/prefix:
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Department Elective (DEC)

JPN

Is this a multi-section course?

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Yes

Is it governed by a common syllabus?

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Yes

General Studies

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Requested Designation

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HU - Humanities, Arts and Design

HU: Humanities, Arts and Design

### **Rationale and Objectives**

The humanities disciplines are concerned with questions of human existence and meaning, the nature of thinking and knowing, with moral and aesthetic experience. The humanities develop values of all kinds by making the human mind more supple, critical, and expansive. They are concerned with the study of the textual and artistic traditions of diverse cultures, including traditions in literature, philosophy, religion, ethics, history, and aesthetics. In sum, these disciplines explore the range of human thought and its application to the past and present human environment. They deepen awareness of the diversity of the human heritage and its traditions and histories, and they may also promote the application of this knowledge to contemporary societies.

The study of the arts and design, like the humanities, deepens the student's awareness of the diversity of human societies and cultures. The arts have as their primary purpose the creation and study of objects, installations, performances, and other means of expressing or conveying aesthetic concepts and ideas. Design study concerns itself with material objects, images and spaces, their historical development, and their significance in society and culture. Disciplines in the arts and design employ modes of thought and communication that are often nonverbal, which means that courses in these areas tend to focus on objects, images, and structures and/or on the practical techniques and historical development of artistic and design traditions. The past and present accomplishments of artists and designers help form the student's ability to perceive aesthetic qualities of artwork and design.

The Humanities, Arts and Design are an important part of the General Studies program, for they provide an opportunity for students to study intellectual and imaginative traditions and to observe and/or learn the production of artwork and design. The knowledge acquired in courses fulfilling the Humanities, Arts and Design requirement may encourage students to investigate their own personal philosophies or beliefs and to understand better their own social experience. In sum, the Humanities, Arts and Design core area enables students to broaden and deepen their consideration of the variety of human experience.

[Revised March 2021]

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Note: The following types of courses are **excluded** from the "HU" designation, even though they might give some consideration to the humanities, arts and design:

1. Courses devoted primarily to developing skill in the use of a language.
2. Courses devoted primarily to the acquisition of quantitative or experimental methods.
3. Courses devoted primarily to teaching skills.

"HU" courses must meet *either* 1, 2, or 3 *and* at least one of the criteria under 4 in such a way as to make the satisfaction of these criteria **a central and substantial portion** of the course content.

Select which "HU" criteria this course meets.

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1. Emphasizes the study of values; the development of philosophies, religions, ethics or belief systems; and/or aesthetic experience.

3. Concerns the interpretation, critical analysis, or engagement with aesthetic practices; and/or the critical analysis (not summary or memorization) of historical development of artistic or design traditions.

"HU" Criteria 1

Emphasizes the study of values; the development of philosophies, religions, ethics or belief systems; and/or aesthetic experience.

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

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Syllabus p. 2,3, 7

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

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This course analyzes religion in Japan, including Shinto, Buddhism, Confucianism, Folk traditions, and new religions

Please provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

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Students investigate Japanese culture from a doctrinal, historical, ethical, and cultural perspective. Students then examine these very categories/discourses in regard to religion as understood in the West and how it is actually practiced in Japan. In the case of Zen, students also examine its contributions to aesthetic/artistic experience as it came to be understood in the modern period. In addition to the readings that touch on this, students discuss the content of each class.

"HU" Criteria 3

Concerns the interpretation, critical analysis, or engagement with aesthetic practices; and/or the **critical analysis (not summary or memorization)** of historical development of artistic or design traditions.

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

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Syllabus p. 2,3, 7

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

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This course includes the interpretation and analysis of the historical society, traditional music, traditional theater, and traditional culinary arts of Japan.

Please provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

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A study of Japanese thought, inclusive of Zen Buddhism, is intimately connected with aesthetic practices/artistic traditions as they are understood today. In this course, students read in depth about and investigate the tea ceremony, a nexus of Japanese artistic culture. The students then investigate how the salient features of

Japanese artistic/aesthetic values function in other artistic genres. Critical reaction papers assigned during the semester test the students' understanding and creativity.

#### "HU" Criteria 4

In addition, an "HU" course must meet one or more of the following requirements. Select all that apply.

- a. Concerns the development of human thought, with emphasis on demonstrable critical analysis of philosophical and/or religious systems of thought.
- c. Emphasizes aesthetic experience and creative process in literature, arts, and design.
- d. Concerns the demonstrable critical analysis of literature and the development of literary traditions.

#### "HU" Criteria 4A Information

Concerns the development of human thought, with emphasis on **demonstrable critical analysis** of philosophical and/or religious systems of thought.

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

Syllabus p. 2,3, 7

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

This course analyzes human thoughts with the emphasis on Japanese religions, such as Shinto, Buddhism, and Confucianism.

Please provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

The course section on "religion and thought" includes all the major traditions in Japan, as well as how they were perceived and interpreted by Western visitors such as the Jesuits. Students discuss how the historical development does not always faithfully reflect the modern discourse, yet these two facets show how traditions are living entities that are always evolving in the present. Students show their understanding through class discussion, critical reaction papers, and the final term paper.

#### "HU" Criteria 4C Information

Emphasizes aesthetic experience and creative process in literature, arts, and design.

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

Syllabus p. 2,3, 7

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

The students will learn the process

of creative culture with the knowledge of Japanese modern cultures such as popular music, manga and anime, and modern cinema.

Please provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

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In the lectures, students will consider the aesthetic experience and creative processes in Japanese literature, arts, and design as the course moves from artistic origins in premodern history to the modern and widely-consumed cultural forms of manga, anime, cinema, and music. Discussions will flesh out the salient characteristics across the genres, and in the critical reaction papers and term paper students will showcase their understanding of these creative processes.

"HU" Criteria 4D Information

Concerns the **demonstrable critical analysis** of literature and the development of literary traditions.

Identify the submitted documentation that provides evidence.

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Syllabus p. 2,3, 7

How does this course meet the spirit of this criteria?

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Students will read and analyze Japanese traditional myths, poetry, and tales.

Please provide detailed evidence of how this course meets this criteria (i.e. where in the syllabus or other course materials).

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Students examine founding myths of Japan, Japanese courtly tales as well as military histories, travel lit, haiku, as well as modern literature, all the while examining salient features of these genres and how they reflect contemporaneous movements and needs in society. Discussions will flesh out the salient characteristics across the genres, and in the critical reaction papers and term paper students will showcase their understanding of these creative processes

Attach a sample syllabus for this course or topic, including the list of any required readings.

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[Syllabus\\_JPH245.pdf](#)

Attach the table of contents from any required textbook(s).

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[Readings for JPH 245.docx.pdf](#)

Attach any other materials that would be relevant or helpful in the review of this request.

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[JPH245\\_Compencies.pdf](#)

## Form Submission - Proposer

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

Annapurna Ganesh - November 17, 2022 at 8:05 AM (America/Phoenix)

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### Department Approval

Approved

Annapurna Ganesh - November 17, 2022 at 8:08 AM (America/Phoenix)

Effective Term Spring 2023

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### Provost's Office Review

Approved

April Randall - November 17, 2022 at 3:13 PM (America/Phoenix)

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### Humanities, Arts and Design Committee Review

Acknowledgement Requested

Bertha Manninen - November 21, 2022 at 10:05 AM (America/Phoenix)

We recommend a revise and resubmit. The course was designed with the HU requirements in mind. All of the information provided looks completely appropriate. Our concern is that we do not see any information about the actual assignments that students are expected to complete. Without information about the assignments, it's hard to know if students are expected to engage in critical analysis. We suggest that the professor revise and resubmit with a focus on the nature of the assignments for the course, highlighting how the students engage in critical analysis and critical thinking.

Michelle Saint

Mina Suk

Peter Schmidt

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### General Studies Council Meeting

Waiting for Approval

April Randall

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### Proposer Notification

Notification

Annapurna Ganesh

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### CC Notification

## Notification

Tanaya Dempsey

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