MASTER OF LIBERAL ARTS (MLA)

MLA 100E. MLA Natural Science Elective. 1-2 Unit.

MLA 101A. Foundations I. 4 Units.
Required of and limited to first-year MLA students. First of three quarter foundation course. Introduction to the main political, philosophical, literary, and artistic trends that inform the liberal arts vision of the world and that underlie the MLA curriculum.

MLA 101B. Foundations II: the Middle Ages and Renaissance. 4 Units.
Required of and limited to first-year MLA students. Second of three quarter foundation course. Introduction to the main political, philosophical, literary, and artistic trends that inform the liberal arts vision of the world and that underlie the MLA curriculum.

MLA 101C. Foundations III: the Enlightenment through Modernism. 4 Units.
Required of and limited to first-year MLA students. First of three quarter foundation course. Introduction to the main political, philosophical, literary, and artistic trends that inform the liberal arts vision of the world and that underlie the MLA curriculum.

MLA 102. An Introduction to Interdisciplinary Graduate Study. 4 Units.
Limited to and required of second-year MLA students. Historical, literary, artistic, medical, and theological issues are covered. Focus is on skills and information needed to pursue MLA graduate work at Stanford: writing a critical, argumentative graduate paper; conducting library research; expectations of seminar participation. Readings include Homer, Thucydides, Camus, Mann, Kushner, and sacred, scientific, and historical writings.

MLA 262. The Economics of Life and Death. 4 Units.

MLA 268. Fin-de-Siecle Vienna. 4 Units.
The cultural and political life of fin-de-siecle Vienna with particular attention to revolutionary ideas that came to expression in its art, architecture, music, and political ideologies.

MLA 269. The Meaning of Life: Moral and Spiritual Inquiry through Literature. 4 Units.

MLA 274. From Slavery to Obama. 4 Units.

MLA 275. Shakespeare in Performance. 4 Units.

MLA 278. James Joyce’s Ulysses. 4 Units.

MLA 279. When Worlds Collide: The Trial of Galileo. 4 Units.

MLA 280. British and American Fiction in the 19th and early 20th Century. 4 Units.

MLA 281. The Arts as History: Britain 1900-1956. 4 Units.

MLA 282. Indigenous Peoples and Environmental Problems. 4 Units.

MLA 283. Three 20th-century Minds: Eliot, Pound, and Yeats. 4 Units.
This course considers three revolutionary thinkers as they each came to terms with what they saw as the encroaching chaos of the early 20th century.

MLA 284. Problems in American Foreign Policy. 4 Units.
This seminar examines in depth the problems facing American diplomacy. These include the several crises in the Middle East and relations with the Muslim World; the recent world economic recession; nuclear proliferation; problems and prospects in the relationship(s) with America’s allies; persistent difficulties with and the possible promise of relations with China and Russia.

MLA 285. The Age of Enlightenment. 4 Units.

MLA 286. Evolutionary Theories of Music. 4 Units.

MLA 287. Ancients vs Moderns. 4 Units.

MLA 288. Who Was Shakespeare?. 4 Units.

MLA 289. Conservation and Development Dilemmas in Latin America: Microcosm of the Galapagos. 4 Units.

MLA 290. The Politics of International Humanitarian Action. 4 Units.

MLA 291. The Bloomsbury Group. 4 Units.

MLA 292. Darwin, Marx, and Freud. 4 Units.

MLA 294. Text and Context: Art, Music, Poetry. 4 Units.

MLA 295. The American Enlightenment. 4 Units.

MLA 296. Reflections on the American Condition. 4 Units.

MLA 297. Islands as Model Systems: Geology, Evolution, Ecology, and Human Societies. 4 Units.

MLA 298. Heretics, Prostitutes, and Merchants: The Venetian Empire. 4 Units.

MLA 299. Evolution and Conservation in Galapagos. 4 Units.

MLA 300. Oxford Summer Programme. 2-4 Units.

MLA 301. Mary Magdalene: The Feminine Principle in Scripture, Literature, and Legend. 4 Units.

MLA 302. Paris: Capital of the Modern World. 4 Units.

MLA 303. CULTURES OF COLLECTING. 4 Units.

MLA 304. The Colorado River: A Case Study of the History and Future of Western Water. 4 Units.

MLA 305. Russia Encounters the Enlightenment: The Art, Culture, and Politics. 4 Units.

MLA 306. The Young Romantics: Mythmaking, Monstrosity, and Representation. 4 Units.

MLA 307. What Do We Mean When We Speak of Evil?. 4 Units.
MLA 308. Martin Luther King, Jr.: The Man, the Movement, and the Legacy. 4 Units.
- MLA 309. Fairy Tales: Culture's Underground Rivers. 4 Units.
- MLA 310. Modern Chinese History, Part I: Master Class in History and Historiography. 4 Units.
- MLA 311. Paleography: Study of Medieval and Early Modern Manuscripts. 4 Units.
- MLA 312. The Visual and Literary Culture of the American Civil War. 4 Units.
- MLA 313. The Responsibility of Intellectuals. 4 Units.
- MLA 314. Social and Environmental Sustainability: The Costa Rican Case. 4 Units.
- MLA 315. Vital Issues in American Foreign Policy. 4 Units.
- MLA 316. Latin@ Literatures. 4 Units.
- MLA 317. James Joyce: The Early Years. 4 Units.
- MLA 318. Early English Literature: Manuscripts and Texts. 4 Units.
- MLA 319. Modern Chinese History through Literature and Film. 4 Units.
- MLA 320. Racial Identity in the American Imagination. 4 Units.
- MLA 321. Great Ideas in Computer Science. 4 Units.
- MLA 322. Coffee, Sugar, and Chocolate: Commodities and Consumption in World History. 120-1800. 4 Units.
- MLA 323. What can Literature Tell Us About Human Rights?. 4 Units.
- MLA 324. What is a Map?. 4 Units.
- MLA 325. From Manuscript to Printed Edition: Early Works of Great English Authors. 4 Units.
- MLA 326. Nature through Photography. 4 Units.
- MLA 327. Modern and Contemporary Poetry. 4 Units.
- MLA 328. The Scientific Revolution. 4 Units.
- MLA 329. International Women's Health. 4 Units.
- MLA 330. History of the African American Experience. 4 Units.
- MLA 331. Monterey. 4 Units.
- MLA 332. London: 101 Years in Fiction. 4 Units.
- MLA 333. Brexit and the Rise of Nationalist Politics. 4 Units.
- MLA 334. The Material Book: Ancient and Modern. 4 Units.
- MLA 335. A Tale of Three Rivers. 4 Units.
- MLA 336. Love as a force for Social Justice. 4 Units.
- MLA 337. Science and Law in History. 4 Units.
- MLA 339. The Human Predicament in Three Masterpieces. 4 Units.
- MLA 340. Dante and the Sacred Feminine. 4 Units.
- MLA 341. Aesthetics of Dissent in Contemporary Iran. 4 Units.
- MLA 342. The Human Story in the Archives. 4 Units.
- MLA 343. The Short Fiction of James Joyce and Flannery O'Connor. 4 Units.
- MLA 344. Making and Unmaking Apartheid: Topics in South African History. 4 Units.
- MLA 345. William Faulkner and Eudora Welty. 4 Units.
- MLA 346. Into the Woods with Thoreau. 4 Units.
- MLA 333. MLA Thesis in Progress. 0 Units.
Group meetings provide peer critiques, motivations, and advice under the direction of the Associate Dean.
- MLA 399. MLA Thesis Final Quarter. 6 Units.
Students write a 75-100 page thesis that evolves out of work they pursued during their MLA studies.
- MLA 9. European Thought and Culture in the 19th Century. 4 Units.
Major European thinkers and writers and their intellectual significance from the Enlightenment to modernism. Works by Voltaire, Austen, Wordsworth, Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud.