

Florida Institute of Technology– Career Management Services

Career Profile: Humanities

In a world where successful communication of ideas is a must, the knowledge and application of exchanging information across cultural, philosophical, and technological boundaries is a valued commodity. Students who study humanities receive a broad-based education that prepares them for a variety of career field requiring individuals who can write and speak well, learn new information quickly and work well with others on a team.



The interdisciplinary study of the humanities allows a student to explore the intricate web known as human experience with rigor and depth, while the field of communication works to explain the invaluable importance of reaching others through ideas, meanings and language through diverse media. Many students with a degree in humanities may find a career that relates more to their personal career interests, skills, and values rather than any specific academic major. Students in humanities programs develop a strong background in the liberal arts and get hands-on experience in scholarly research and writing. These students use their undergraduate training in humanities as a basis for further specialized training at the graduate level.

Some potential careers include Advertising Copywriter, Teacher, Communication Manager, Interpreter/Translator, Curator, Librarian, Lawyer, Client Services Specialist, Military Officer, Public Relations Specialist, Multimedia Specialist or a Conference Coordinator.

Graduates with humanities degrees may pursue careers in education either in teaching or administration, in government service, law, business, communication and any other field of interest that does not require specific academic training in a technical field. Employment prospects are highest for those graduates who supplement their Liberal arts education with additional technical classes in computer science and technology. Emerging careers available in conjunction with the Internet including web site design and development, E-Commerce, and electronic publishing provide exciting opportunities for those humanities majors with strong technical skills. Supplementing your liberal arts degree with specific experience such as internships, co-ops etc. will also assist you in taking your humanities degree out into the workforce or going into higher education of your choice.

Entry level positions in most career fields require a bachelor's degree although careers such as law and higher education require advanced or professional degrees. The average salary offer for Humanities/General Liberal Arts majors is: \$38,600. Those graduates who pursue advanced degrees in other fields such as history, philosophy, writing, law or business will receive much higher starting salaries and those graduates who enhance their degree with technical or computer classes will also have increased earning power.

For more information on a career in Humanities contact the Career Management Services Office or your academic advisor.

Sources: Occupational Outlook Handbook, Bureau of Labor Statistics www.bls.gov/oco
National Association of Colleges and Employers Salary Survey: Winter 2011



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