

Letters / Humanities

At a Glance 522 Undergraduates enrolled / 224 Graduates enrolled / 109 International students enrolled / 57 Faculty members



The humanities aim to understand what is at once most familiar and enigmatic to us all — we humans. Who are we, where do we come from, where are we going, and what is our purpose? Such fundamental questions never lose their significance; if anything, they become even more important in our era of globalization and IT revolution, when radical shifts in social structures require us to identify essential issues and create new values. The Faculty of Letters and the Graduate School of Humanities tackle these old and new questions by investigating human nature and the cultures that humans have produced. The Faculty is also committed to international education, with a strong emphasis on Japanese studies and a variety of exchange programs.

Faculty of Letters

The Faculty of Letters has one department (Department of Humanities) consisting of five principal research divisions, further divided into fifteen areas. First-year undergraduate students take a wide range of introductory classes to familiarize themselves with various topics in the humanities before declaring their majors around the end of the first year. Most specialized courses are offered in small-group seminars, and the Faculty boasts an outstanding student-faculty ratio of approximately 2:1 in each academic year.

Graduate School of Humanities

The Graduate School offers 2-year Master's and 3-year Doctoral programs. The research-intensive curriculum is designed to enable students to pursue in-depth research in their specialization and prepare their master or doctoral thesis.



Message from Faculty

My current research interests focus on the concept of "Geist" in German intellectual history, especially the usage of this term by J. W. Goethe. With its long, complicated background relating to its Greek and Latin equivalents *pneuma* and *spiritus*, the word Geist cannot be easily translated into Japanese, whereas historically certain similarities with the Chinese-Japanese term *ki (chi)* has been pointed out, as I have shown in my work. At our university in Kobe, the city which has a tradition of coexistence with other cultures, you will find an ideal place to improve your sensibility of understanding 'Otherness' through studying Humanities.

HISAYAMA Yuho

Lecturer
Literature



Undergraduate Program

Department	Divisions
Humanities	Philosophy
	Literature
	History
	Cognitive Systems
	Social Culture

Doctoral Program (three years) and Master's Program (two years)

Department	Divisions
Human Cultural Studies	Philosophy
	Literature
Human Social Dynamics	History
	Cognitive Systems
	Socio-Cultural Studies

Courses Offered in English (AY2016)

	Courses
Undergraduate	Studies in American Literature
	Seminar in American Literature
	Seminar in English Literature
	Studies in English Linguistics
	Seminar in English Linguistics
	Studies in Global Humanities
	Seminar in Global Humanities
Master's Program	Seminar in Global Communication
	Advanced Studies in British and American Literature IX, X
	Seminar in British and American Literature IX, X
	Advanced Studies in English Linguistics I, II
	Advanced Studies in Global Humanities
	Seminar in Global Communication I, II
Academic Writing 2	
Introduction to Japanese Culture and Society	

Information

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<http://www.lit.kobe-u.ac.jp/english/index.html>