CAL POLY HUMBOLDT
University Senate
Resolution to Recommend Approval of the Digital Humanities Certificate of Study
13-25/26-ICC – December 9, 2025 – Curriculum Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Cal Poly Humboldt recommends to the Provost that the Digital Humanities Certificate of Study (9 units), detailed in proposal 24-2970, be approved.

RATIONALE: The Digital Humanities (DH) Certificate of Study introduces an applied, interdisciplinary academic pathway that bridges the humanities and technology, equipping students with both analytical and technical skills increasingly required in contemporary research and professional environments.

Digital Humanities is defined by the convergence of disciplines such as history, literature, philosophy, art, and culture with emerging technologies including data analytics, digital archiving, interactive design, and artificial intelligence. The certificate prepares students to operate effectively at this intersection, providing a competitive advantage for careers in academia, museums, libraries, publishing, communications, and technology industries.

The program offers a hands-on learning experience that showcases Cal Poly Humboldt's faculty expertise in the humanities and applied digital media. It emphasizes technical literacy, ethical reflection, and cross-disciplinary collaboration, aligning with the university's commitment to experiential learning and interdisciplinary education.

As part of Humboldt's broader evolution as a polytechnic and applied learning institution, this certificate advances the university's goal of integrating technology and creative inquiry across disciplines. It supports students from diverse academic backgrounds in developing critical, technical, and collaborative skills necessary for work in digital scholarship, research, and professional practice.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES: Graduates of the Digital Humanities Certificate of Study will be able to:
- Integrate digital tools with humanistic inquiry across disciplines.
- Evaluate the ethical, cultural, and historical dimensions of digital scholarship.
- Create hands-on digital projects that communicate humanities research.
- Collaborate across fields to apply digital methods to real-world challenges.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:
Total Units: 9
Admission Prerequisites: None
Department: English and Critical Race, Gender & Sexuality Studies (interdisciplinary collaboration)

Overview of 9 units required to complete the certificate of study, including:
- 3 unit core course for undergraduates (CRGS 401) OR
- 4 unit core course for graduate students (ENGL 615); AND
- Up to 3 units of Internship (CRGS 482 or ENGL 482)
- 3 to 4 units of elective focused on digital humanities courses across the university

Required Curriculum (5–6 units minimum):
- CRGS 401 – Digital Justice, Digital Divides (3 units) – Undergraduate option
  or
- ENGL 615 – Digital Humanities (4 units) – Graduate and Professional option
- **Internship (up to 3 units):** CRGS 482 – Internship **or** ENGL 482 – Internship

Elective Courses (3–4 units): Students select one course from the following list of Digital Humanities-related offerings across the university:

ART 105E – Digital Media Foundations
ART 251 – Photography I
ART 279 – Digital Media: Animation I
ART 372 – Digital Media: Studio Topics
ART 372B – Radical Graphics: Activism and Climate
ART 395 – Art and Place
CS 309 – Computers and Social Change
ENGL 319 – Podcasts, Social Media, and Web-Based Writing
ES 210 – Courageous Cuentos Production
ES 301 – Media and the Politics of Representation
FILM 210 – Writing for Film
FILM 315 – Filmmaking I
FILM 362 – Documentary Production
FILM 375 – Filmmaking II
FILM 378 – Film/Digital Production Workshop
FILM 478 – Advanced Film/Digital Production Workshop
GEOG 100 – Critical Thinking: Technology and the Digital World
GSP 101 – Geospatial Concepts
GSP 426 – Mapping and Data Visualization
MUS 361 – Music Production: Recording and Live Sound
NAS 392 – Indigenous Film, Media, and Digital Sovereignty
SP 210 – Minding the Gaps: Interdisciplinary Communication

Graduate and Professional Students may elect to complete Independent Study (EC 699 or ENGL 699) with a project proposal submitted for review prior to enrollment.

PROGRAM RATIONALE AND BENEFITS: The Digital Humanities Certificate of Study responds to rapid technological advancement and the growing need for digitally fluent scholars and professionals capable of merging humanistic inquiry with computational tools. The program

reflects national and global trends emphasizing data literacy, ethical digital practice, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Key benefits include:
- Affirming Humboldt's Applied Learning Mission: The certificate demonstrates the institution's continued growth in applied, technology-integrated education while maintaining a strong grounding in humanistic inquiry.
- Workforce and Academic Relevance: Students gain skills relevant to careers in digital archiving, communication, museum studies, creative media, and information design.
- Hands-on Learning: The program ensures that students engage in at least one experiential learning opportunity—such as a digital humanities internship or applied project—that strengthens their real-world competencies.
- Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Designed for accessibility across majors, the certificate encourages participation from students in the humanities, social sciences, computer science, and the arts.

By offering a flexible, applied program that bridges digital innovation with ethical and cultural understanding, the Digital Humanities Certificate of Study enhances Cal Poly Humboldt's curricular portfolio and meets student demand for technology-integrated learning in the arts and humanities.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: This certificate utilizes existing faculty expertise, courses, and infrastructure. No new funding or resources are required for implementation. The program draws on current strengths across departments such as English, Critical Race, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Art, Geography, and Computer Science. Existing faculty will coordinate interdisciplinary offerings and supervise internship projects using established facilities, including digital media labs, the library's Digital Scholarship Unit, and campus technology resources.

Note on Document Preparation: *Portions of this resolution were developed with the support of artificial intelligence tools to enhance consistency, formatting, and clarity. All content originates from the official proposal documents and aligns with Chancellor's Office documentation standards. Each resolution is reviewed and finalized collaboratively by the Integrated Curriculum Committee Chair, committee members, and the proposal authors, with opportunities for revision prior to submission for Senate consideration.*