

SHSS Major Requirements

General Requirements for the BA Degree

The table below shows the general requirements that all students must fulfill in order to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in any field within the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. For more information about specific major and minor programs, see below. Note also:

- Students are required to adhere to the degree requirements that were official at the time of declaring a major.
- Math requirements differ according to the major field of study.
- In addition to the requirements for SHSS major/minors, students must fulfill a Kazakh language requirement.

Major Requirements	Credits	Explanation
Credits in Degree Program	74	The specific requirements in this category will vary with the students chosen field of study. See Degree Description
Major Requirements	Credits	Explanation
Humanities	30	History Course History of Kazakhstan Philosophy or Religious Studies Rhetoric and Composition Humanities electives
Social Sciences	30	Social Science electives
Natural Sciences/ Mathematics*	24	12 credits Natural Sciences 12 credits Mathematics OR 6 credits Mathematics & 6 credits Computer Science
Electives	82+	Any courses from SHSS, SST or SEng
TOTAL Degree Credits	240	

BA in Anthropology

Anthropology is the holistic study of humanity. Sociocultural Anthropologists study the cultures of living people around the world. Archaeological Anthropologists study past cultures and the material parts of life such as technology and architecture. Biological Anthropologists study the human as a biological organism including genetics, human evolution, our primate relatives, and

human physiology. Linguistic Anthropologists study how language works as part of larger cultural systems. At NU, we combine all of these perspectives to gain the fullest possible

understanding of what makes us human.

Anthropology provides a wide array of skills and information to students. We train students to think critically about the ways that people differ and to seek creative solutions to problems in the world around them. We also work to provide a broad perspective and a familiarity with the diversity of humanity. Whether as a major, a minor, or simply as an elective course, anthropology can enhance any educational experience.

Course Requirements for an Anthropology Major

Anthropology Courses	Credits	Explanation
Elementary Courses	18	Students may select any three 100-level ANT courses.
Intermediate/Advanced Courses	30	6 credits Language and Culture (ANT 275) 6 credits Anthropological Theory 18 credits at the advanced or intermediate level in at least two separate subfields (Cultural, Biological, and Archaeological Anthropology)
Anthropology Electives	18	No more than one course may be at the 100-level.
Senior Capstone	8	
Distribution Requirements		
Humanities	30	6 credits History Course 6 credits History of Kazakhstan 6 credits Philosophy/Religion 6 credits Rhetoric and Composition 6 credits Humanities Electives
Other Social Sciences	30	6 credits Social Science Research Methods 24 credits Social Science electives
Natural Sciences and Math	24	12 credits Natural Sciences 12 credits Mathematics OR 6 credits Mathematics & 6 credits Computer Science (6 credits in Quantitative Methods may be counted toward the Mathematics)
Electives	82	Any courses from SHSS, SST or SEng
Total Degree Credits	240	

BA in Economics

Economics is a social science that is concerned with the study of choices made by individuals and societies. It consists of two core fields: Microeconomics that studies behavior and interaction of individuals and firms, and Macroeconomics that studies behavior of economy as a whole.

The Economics program at Nazarbayev University is one of the fastest growing programs in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at NU. It is aimed at providing excellent training in the core economic theory and different fields within Microeconomics and Macroeconomics.

The program is designed to provide students with theoretical knowledge and practical skills for successful careers in business and the government sector, as well as graduate studies in Economics, Business Administration, International Relations, Law and many others.

Economics students may choose to pursue a standard Economics major or a math-intensive version of the same major. The math-intensive version provides additional training in sophisticated methods that are useful in modeling and forecasting of complex market behavior.

Course Requirements for an Economics Major

Economics Courses	Credits	Description
Elementary Courses	18	6 credits Introduction to Microeconomics 6 credits Introduction to Macroeconomics 6 credits Economic Statistics
Intermediate Courses	18	6 credits Intermediate Microeconomics, 6 credits Intermediate Macroeconomics 6 credits Econometrics I
General Economics Electives (300 level economics electives)	24	
Advanced Economics Electives (400 and higher level economics electives)	18	
Distribution Requirements		
Other Social Sciences	30	Social Science electives
Humanities	30	6 credits History Course 6 credits History of Kazakhstan 6 credits Philosophy/Religion 6 credits Rhetoric and Composition 6 credits Humanities Electives
Natural Sciences and Math	26	12 credits Natural Sciences 6 credits Calculus I 6 credits Mathematics or Computer Science

Electives	76	Any courses from SHSS, SST or Seng Additional strongly recommended courses: Calculus II and Calculus III
Total Degree Credits	240	

Course Requirements for a Math-Intensive Economics Major

Economics Courses	Credits	Description
Elementary Courses	18	6 credits Introduction to Microeconomics 6 credits Introduction to Macroeconomics 6 credits Economics Statistics
Intermediate Courses	18	6 credits Intermediate Microeconomics, 6 credits Intermediate Macroeconomics 6 credits Econometrics I
General Economics Electives (300 level economics electives)	24	
Advanced Economics Electives (400 and higher level economics electives)	18	6 credits Econometrics II 12 credits Advanced Economics Electives
Distribution Requirements		
Other Social Sciences	30	Social Science electives
Humanities	30	6 credits History Course 6 credits History of Kazakhstan 6 credits Philosophy/Religion 6 credits Rhetoric and Composition 6 credits Humanities Electives
Natural Sciences	12	12 credits Natural Sciences
Mathematics	32	24 credits Calculus I-III 8 credits Linear Algebra
Electives	58	Any courses from SHSS, SST or Seng Additional strongly recommended courses: Probability, Introduction to Differential Equations, and Real Analysis
Total Degree Credits	240	

History is the study of the past. Studying History does not merely consist in the acquisition and reproduction of a standard knowledge of past events: it is about their continual discovery and critical appraisal.

Different sub-fields of History are defined on the basis of the time span covered (Ancient, Medieval, Early Modern, Modern, and Contemporary History), of the geographic area concerned, or of the specific approach or viewpoint they involve. Therefore we talk about cultural history, intellectual history, diplomatic history, economic history, and so on. In many cases, the research and teaching interests of one historian encompass more than one sub-field.

In our History classes, you will learn more about the past, discussing the existing historiography (secondary sources), and you will learn how to ask relevant questions of the documents (primary sources) provided by your teachers. Most of your coursework will consist in reading, assessing, and rigorously using sources to infer your own conclusions. At intermediate level, you will become able to discuss previous historiography more systematically, first with your instructor's guidance and then autonomously. You will become able to identify your own sources and use them to answer broader questions.

At all levels, you will have excellent opportunities to refine your critical thinking skills, to strengthen your ability to skim, select, and organize information, and to make your writing sharper and more effective. These skills will be useful in other disciplines and in your future career.

Course Requirements for a History Degree Major

History Courses	Credits	Description
Elementary Courses *	12	Any two courses at the 100 level
General History Electives	18	These can be from any level
Intermediate/Advanced	36**	No more than 12 credits at level 200, at
Senior Capstone	8***	
Distribution Requirements		
Other Humanities	30	6 credits History of Kazakhstan 6 credits Philosophy/Religion 6 credits Rhetoric and Composition
Social Sciences	30	Social Science electives
Natural Sciences and Math	24	12 credits Natural Sciences 12 credits Mathematics OR 6 credits Mathematics & 6 credits Computer Science (6 credits in Quantitative Methods may be counted toward
Electives	82	Any courses from SHSS, SST or SEng

Total Degree Credits	240	
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- * Including History of Kazakhstan
- ** One of these classes is HST 498 (Directed Readings)
- *** HST 498 is the prerequisite for the Capstone

BA in Political Science & International Relations

The degree program in Political Science and International Relations offers a flexible and applied degree that is designed to train the next generation of political scientists as well as provide a solid generalist degree to prepare students in a variety of professions. It also provides excellent training for future graduate study.

Course Requirements for a Political Science & International Relations Degree Major

Political Science and International Relations Courses	Credits	Description
Introductory Courses	18	Introduction to Comparative Politics Introduction to International Relations, Introduction to Political Theory
Methods Courses	12	Quantitative Methods for Political Science, Social Science Research Methods
PSIR Electives	48	Credits in non-intro PSIR courses. At least 18 credits need to be 300 level or above.
Distribution Requirements		
Other Humanities	30	6 credits History 6 credits History of Kazakhstan 6 credits Philosophy/Religion 6 credits Rhetoric and Composition 6 credits Humanities electives
Social Sciences	30	30 credits Social science electives

Natural Sciences and Math	24	12 credits Natural Sciences 12 credits Mathematics OR 6 credits Mathematics and 6 credits Computer Science
Electives	78	Any courses from SHSS, SST, or SEng
Total Degree Credits	240	

BA in Sociology

Sociology is the study of human society. Rather than investigating the motivations and behavior of individuals – which is what the field of psychology does – sociology focuses on group patterns in a wide range of contexts, from interactions at the "micro" level, to systemic processes at the "macro" or global level, and everything in between. Sociologists try to make the familiar strange, that is, they look beyond superficial explanations in an attempt to understand the complexities of social phenomena. To do so, sociologists use a wide variety of research methods, including surveys and questionnaires, statistical analysis, informal and in-depth interviews, participant observation and ethnography, and content and textual analysis. Sociology is also a very broad field, with subfields focused on the main social institutions (family, work and economy, religion, education, politics, and media), the social divisions (including race/ethnicity, gender, and social class), and a variety of other areas, from culture, the environment, and migration to organizations, sport, and social psychology.

A B.A. in sociology from NU will provide you with a solid foundation for graduate study in the social sciences, and can prepare you for careers in such fields as social services, social research and data analysis, non-profit and charity organizations, government and human resources.

Course Requirements for a Sociology Degree Major

Sociology Courses	Credit	Description
Elementary Course	6	Introduction to Sociology
Intermediate/Advanced Courses	42	Classical Sociological Theory Quantitative Methods
Sociology Electives	18	(any level)
Senior Capstone	8	Senior seminar and a senior research fieldwork project or internship
Distribution Requirements		
Humanities	30	6 credits History Course 6 credits History of Kazakhstan 6 credits Philosophy/Religion 6 credits Rhetoric and Composition 6 credits Humanities Electives
Other Social Sciences	30	6 credits in Social Science Research Methods 24 credits Social Science electives
Natural Sciences and Math	24	12 credits Natural Sciences 12 credits Mathematics OR 6 credits Mathematics & 6 credits Computer

		Science
Electives	82	Any courses from SHSS, SST or Seng
Total Degree Credits	240	

BA in Languages, Linguistics and Literatures

The degree program in Languages, Linguistics and Literatures offers a flexible and applied degree that is designed to train the next generation of specialists in linguistics, languages and literature, as well as provide a solid generalist degree to prepare students in a variety of professions. This major program provides students with a focused familiarity with one of four languages, cultures, and history of the world: Mandarin Chinese, French, Spanish and German, and thus offers excellent training for future graduate study and employment in the government or business sectors and non-government organization particularly in fields with a strong language / communication / literature excellence requirements, positions including translation, museum work, library, arts or academy. Students in LLL program can study everything from the history of the Theatre, to the literature of Japan, to the way language is produced and processed in the human brain, varies and changes through time and space. By studying the programs offered by LLL department, students will gain a nuanced understanding of the intricacies of language, culture, poetry and literature, and will become critical and creative writers, and effective communicators.

Students completing a degree in Languages, Linguistics and Literatures are required to choose one of the three tracks - particular areas of specialization, including: World Literature, Language Acquisition, and Linguistics. The tracks are mutually complementary and many of the LLL courses comprise common course requirement for all three concentrations.

World Literatures Track Goals:

1. Demonstrate a broad knowledge in the field of comparative literature, which includes an understanding of literary, theatrical, and film history and their related genres.
2. Demonstrate an appreciation of how cultural artifacts are affected by local and global culture, and, in turn, how local and global culture are affected by cultural artifacts.
3. Demonstrate advanced analytical reading and writing fluency in English.
4. Demonstrate an ability to undertake creative, independent work.

Language Acquisition Track Goals:

1. Acknowledgement of the elements that constitute the system of language and ability to contribute effectively to usual communicative situations within the framework of social interaction.
2. Ability to recognize the defining aspects of the new culture that is accessed through the learned language and to establish connections between the student's culture of origin and that of those countries where the new culture manifests itself.
3. Integrate and develop in a balanced manner the four skills of the second language- oral expression, written expression, listening comprehension, and reading comprehension-, in order to facilitate fluent and efficient communication in any context.
4. Gaining access through the foreign language, to the representative literary and cultural productions of the countries where the target language is spoken, opening up an interdisciplinary dialogue amongst different fields within the humanities.

Linguistics Track Goals:

The new track in Linguistics complements other focal scholarly areas of the department. Better understanding of how languages evolve and function will also help

students to appreciate and better perform in culture, literature, theatre and other types of cultural production. The track has the goals to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the complexity of language within cognitive, psychological and social domains
2. Demonstrate ability to collect and analyze linguistic data by using qualitative and quantitative methods, experimentally test and contextualize them in core theories or concepts of linguistics
3. Demonstrate sound knowledge of the key disciplinary subfields: phonetics/phonology, morphology/syntax, semantics/pragmatics
4. Demonstrate ability to apply knowledge of linguistic theories and methods in independent research projects

Course Requirements for a Major in Languages, Linguistics and Literatures

Track World Literature

WLL COURSES	Credits	Explanation
Elementary	6	WLL 110 Introduction to Literary Studies or WLL 121 Introduction to Cultural Studies
Intermediate Courses	24	WLL 201 World Literature I WLL 211 World Literature II: From the 18 th to the 20 th Century at least TWO additional 200 level WLL courses
Advanced Classes	12	At least TWO 300/400 level WLL courses
Senior Capstone	8	WLL 498 and WLL 499 Languages and Literature Capstone I and II
WLLC Electives	24	Any additional WLL courses, including language and linguistics courses
TOTAL for MAJOR	74	

Track Linguistics

Linguistics Courses	Credits	Description
Elementary Linguistics Courses	6	Introduction to Linguistics
Intermediate Linguistics Courses	24	at least four 200-level Linguistics Courses: Research Methods in Linguistics Language Diversity and Universals Sounds of World's Languages Language and Society Language and the Mind Language Contact in Central Asia Introduction to Turkic Historical-Comparative Linguistics
Advanced Linguistics	12	at least two 300-/400-level WLL courses,

courses		such as: Multilingualism and Language Contact
Foreign Language courses	16	Completion of at least a 202-level Foreign Language course (any language)
Senior WLL Capstone (Linguistics)	8	WLL 498 and WLL 499 Languages and Literature Capstone I and II Senior research project (fieldwork, experimental)
General WLL Electives	12	advanced 200-level WLL electives and/or advanced 300-/400-level WLL electives
TOTAL for MAJOR	76	

Track Language Acquisition

WLL COURSES	Credits	Explanation
Elementary Foreign Language Courses	16	Elementary FL courses (CHN101/102, FRE101/102, GER101/102, SPA101/102)
Intermediate Foreign Language Courses	16	Intermediate FL courses (CHN201/202, FRE201/202, GER201/202, SPA201/202)
Advanced WLL courses with foreign language content	12	at least two 300-level courses taught in a foreign language (Advanced Grammar and Composition; Advanced content course)
Intermediate WLL Electives	12	at least two 200-level WLL courses, including linguistics and literature courses
Advanced WLL Electives	12	at least two 300-/400-level WLL courses, including linguistics and literature courses
Senior Capstone	8	WLL 498 and WLL 499 Languages and Literature Capstone I and II
TOTAL for MAJOR	76	

The Distribution requirements 166 credits are the following for all 3 tracks:

Distribution Requirements		
Humanities	30	6 credits History Course 6 credits History of Kazakhstan 6 credits Philosophy/Religion 6 credits Rhetoric and Composition 6 credits Humanities Electives

Social Sciences	30	30 Social Science electives
Natural Sciences & Math	24	12 credits Natural Sciences 12 credits Mathematics OR 6 Mathematics & 6 Computer Science (6 credits in Quantitative Methods may be counted toward the Mathematics requirement)
Electives	82	Any courses from SHSS, SST and Seng
Total Distribution Requirements Credits	166	
Total Degree Credits	240	