Mission

The College serves the University by engaging students in distinctive, diverse programs in social and behavioral sciences and the humanities. Emerging from a vibrant liberal arts core, our collaborative learning environment inspires individual, social, cultural, creative and scientific exploration. Students devise and apply innovative solutions, embrace divergent worldviews, consider the ethical implications of their actions and communicate effectively in their professional, public and personal lives. Together, students, faculty and staff generate knowledge, pursue research and foster lifelong learning to contribute to the well-being of communities from local to global.

Vision

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences strives to be a premier public liberal arts and sciences college, supporting lifelong learning in a diverse and global society.

Values

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences is dedicated to the mission and values of Western Washington University. We are a student-focused college that understands our mission is to serve students across the university as well as majors within our various departments and programs.

We believe in the intrinsic value of a liberal arts and sciences education and are dedicated to providing a strong foundation and opportunities for all students in the liberal arts and sciences. We embrace these values:

- **Community:** We build a strong community and create positive relationships with our students, our colleagues, and other partners in the region, state, country and world.
- **Collaboration:** We provide structural connections for our students – both undergraduate and graduate – as well as our colleagues to work together.
- **Exploration:** We encourage exploration of ideas and practices among students and faculty.
- **Innovation:** We look for new ideas and ways to help our students and faculty now and in the future.
Lifelong Learning: We want our students, faculty and staff to engage in learning beyond Western.

Diversity: We want our students, faculty and staff to support and respect difference and plurality.

Ethics: We help our students consider the ethical implications of their actions.

Objectives

The College provides undergraduate and graduate students with education-in-breadth through general education courses, education-in-depth in disciplinary or interdisciplinary majors and elective courses to promote lifelong learning in a global and diverse society.

Consistent with our values, the College contributes to the breadth and depth of the learning experience for Western Washington University students and supports the University mission by:

1. Hiring and supporting faculty and staff who are committed to excellence and innovation in teaching, research, and activities that serve their profession and communities from local to global.

2. Developing and maintaining collaborative relationships with other colleges at Western Washington University.

3. Supporting academic disciplines in the humanities and social and behavioral sciences that explore the human condition through the use of the scientific method, critical thinking and creative expression.

4. Promoting technological enhancement of the learning experience by providing support for laboratories, technology-based applications and external grant opportunities.

5. Fostering participation in academic experiences such as internships, service-learning, and study abroad programs that promote an ongoing, proactive and self-motivated pursuit of knowledge.

6. Promoting student and faculty engagement in activities addressing the social, cultural, environmental, physiological and political challenges facing the world.

7. Creating positive learning environments that support diverse opinions and cultures and foster respect and ethical conduct.