

## Humanities and Social Sciences Requirement (Group A1)

This document provides information and advice concerning how to fulfill the humanities and social sciences (Group A1) requirement for students in the English-based science and engineering degree program. The main points are as follows:

- You must earn at least 10 credits in Humanities and Social Sciences (Group A1) courses to earn a degree. Each course is either 1 credit or 2 credits. **Please note that most majors/departments require you to complete your 10 credit requirement no later than the end of your 3<sup>rd</sup> year (6<sup>th</sup> semester), not your 4<sup>th</sup> year (8<sup>th</sup> semester). This means you should try to take at least 1~2 credit(s) worth of courses in this group each semester (or 2~4 credits each year). Please plan accordingly!**
- Please note that not every course is held every semester/quarter/year.
- Some courses (e.g. Great Art of the West, Great Art of the East, Topics in Art and Literature, History of Pre-Modern Japan, History of Modern Japan, Topics in History and Philosophy of Science, Introduction to Macroeconomics, Introduction to Microeconomics, and Introduction to Game Theory) have a maximum student enrollment. If student demand for a course exceeds the number of available places, whether you can enroll is determined by a computerized lottery. **Therefore, it is highly recommended that students apply for Group A1 courses during the first registration period. PLEASE DO NOT COMPLAIN TO THE OFFICE, DEPARTMENT, AND/OR MAJOR IF YOU ARE NOT SELECTED IN THE LOTTERY.**
- **“History of Pre-Modern Japan” and “History of Modern Japan” are meant for students who have NOT previously studied the history of Japan. Please DO NOT register for them if you have studied the history of Japan in junior high or high school. “History of Contemporary Japan” is open to everyone because it is held at a slightly higher level.**
- Please think seriously about what courses to take. Take courses that will enable to learn knowledge and skills that you may be lacking (e.g. analyzing arguments, reading historical documents, writing essays). Do not try to find an easy way out of this requirement! Instead, use it as chance to learn! Think seriously about what a university graduate should know!
- Courses in this group are divided into five areas (*Art and Literature, Economics and Political Science, History, History and Philosophy of Science, Philosophy and Religion*). Please balance breadth and depth in your course selection. You should not take all your courses in one area or simply take one course from each area. For example, instead aim to take 5-6 credits from one area (e.g. History of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Modern and Contemporary Philosophy, Topics in Philosophy and Religion) and 4-5 credits from a second area (e.g. Great Art of the East, Great Art of the West).
- Strive to take courses in historical order (e.g. “Ancient and Medieval Philosophy” before “Modern and Contemporary Philosophy”, “History of Pre-Modern Japan” before “History of Modern Japan”). If you cannot do so, please consult the instructor(s) beforehand.