



Habib University
shaping futures

MINORS



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OPENING NOTE

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Deciding an academic major while entering a college is tricky. Many students express interest and have the ability to excel in more than one area of study. In certain cases, students require depth in an additional field of study to get closer to their goals and ambitions. In situations similar to these, students opt for a secondary area of depth, normally termed as a minor degree. These experiences are extremely valuable as they not only contribute to the development of a well-rounded personality but also add key strengths to a student's profile enabling them to expand their future options both in academic and non-academic endeavors.

At Habib University, there is a range of academic minors catering to the needs of students from all backgrounds and disciplines. ”

Dr. Anzar Khaliq
Assistant Dean, Dhanani School of Science and Engineering;
Director, playground;
Director of Integrated Sciences and Mathematics (iSciM);
Assistant Professor, Physics



THE LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

In today's increasingly technology-dependent world, humanities and design students are required to have a level of proficiency in science and technology and a comprehensive understanding of the role they play in society. At the same time, rapid development means that engineers and scientists are required to have a deep understanding and awareness of their society, its culture, and their surroundings.

The essence of a Liberal Arts education is its interdisciplinary nature; a Liberal Arts and Sciences education is based on the fact that the modern world is constantly evolving to adapt to technological and social changes.

The significance of integrating HU's curriculum with the Liberal Arts and Sciences is to help students venture beyond a focused field of study, step out of their comfort zones, and gain exposure to a broad and inclusive range of subjects while developing their cognitive skills.



Habib University is focused on ensuring that all students have a grounding in the local cultural context. This duality of both looking to the past and the future is embodied by the two-headed Roman mythology figure, Janus, who represented doorways and beginnings. Habib University symbolizes the beginning of a change in higher education in Pakistan as we shift towards an interdisciplinary educational model, while looking towards the past and preparing for the future simultaneously.



WHAT IS A MINOR?

Modern education is primarily centered on training individuals to succeed in focused fields of specialization, but in a world with constantly changing and intertwining dynamics, it is no longer realistic to confine yourself to an isolated field of specialization. With this constantly changing environment comes a responsibility to equip the next generation with the skills necessary to adapt to an increasingly globalized world in constant flux.

Minors are a way for students to graduate with more than one area of specialization, and due to the interdisciplinary nature of HU's major and minor programs, skills learned in both types of specializations can be used interchangeably.

This unique academic experience will help students develop a critical understanding of the world they live in by giving them the opportunity to engage with, think critically about, and be able to solve the complex problems of today.

Minors are an integral part of the Liberal Arts and Sciences educational experience at HU as they allow students to explore their interests, personalize, and diversify their undergraduate programs.

THE BENEFITS OF TAKING A MINOR

All HU students, regardless of major, can expand their fields of specialization by taking an optional minor program to supplement their major program. Minors help in honing a variety of skills including the capacity to engage in intellectual and scientific inquiry. The advantages are varied as each individual specialty will give you a unique perspective in the way you perceive and exist in the world today.

Graduating with a minor has many advantages, including:

- A chance to pursue a wide range of post-graduate degree programs, dependent on your major-minor combination
- The ability to qualify for an expansive range of career options due to a uniquely specialized degree program
- The development, and utilization, of a variety of interdisciplinary skill-sets that will help students in their future entrepreneurial and academic endeavors

Minors expand students' future possibilities and allow them to graduate with a honed interdisciplinary focus. An interdisciplinary approach towards society's complex social, political and scientific problems will allow students to solve modern day problems using innovative and transformative methods.

“It is important for everyone to take on subjects and areas that terrify them at first. When you pick up something that is difficult to tackle, that is when you grow the most... Studying a diversity of subjects allows us to be better human beings.”

Dr. Maria Klawe
President, Harvey Mudd College





MINORS AT HABIB UNIVERSITY

THE SCHOOL OF ARTS HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Communication and Design Minor

The Communication and Design (C&D) program prepares students to meet tomorrow's social, environmental, and business challenges through innovative design solutions. The C&D minor will help students engage with their own communities in a respectful and socially-conscious manner by inculcating a spirit of collaboration, ownership, and mutual respect. Students will emerge with a thoughtfully cultivated understanding of their course-work and its application to address real-world problems.

Students pursuing a C&D minor will sharpen their critical thinking skills and develop design thinking methodologies, enhancing their understanding and application of visual and other communicative media across disciplines.

Students completing a C&D minor will be better equipped to offer unique solutions to contemporary issues facing Pakistan by being able to address professional and intellectual challenges from a design point of view and to communicate strategies that are easier to implement.

APPLYING FOR A MINOR

A minor consists of a smaller set of classes within a well-defined area which students can choose to take as a secondary specialization. Available minors are determined either by the awarding program or in consultation with the student's academic advisor and relevant school Dean.

Students interested in completing a minor must declare their choice no later than two semesters before graduation by filling out a 'Declaration of Minor Form' and submitting it to the Office of the Registrar.

Minor Requirements

To graduate with a minor, students must take a combination of required core courses and elective upper-level courses.

For further information about the requirements for each minor please see our Course Catalog.



Key Learning Areas

- Understand how various media operate to shape our understanding of and interaction with the world around us
- Apply design thinking to solve critical issues facing Pakistan and the world

Sample Courses

Shaping Modernity, Forms of Inquiry, Communication and Culture



Social Development and Policy Minor

The Social Development and Policy (SDP) minor employs an interdisciplinary approach to the study of social issues and integrates perspectives and skills drawn from a wide range of disciplines, including anthropology, history, economics, sociology, political sciences, religious studies, philosophy, literature, and environmental studies.

Students will explore how major developmental concerns such as poverty, gender inequality, urbanization, and human rights are shaped by historical forces and processes of political power.

Students will also examine the role of states, developmental institutions, markets, and civil society in relation to human well-being. This program will equip students with critical thinking and analytical skills that will allow them to understand and tackle a range of problems and challenges in their academic and professional careers.

Key Learning Areas

- Gain a nuanced contextual understanding of factors driving the most pressing socio-economic challenges faced by Pakistan today
- Develop the skills and perspective needed to conceive effective and innovative solutions to these challenges

Sample Courses

Development and Social Change, Qualitative/Quantitative Research Methods, Public Policy



I've taken Communication and Design as my major and SDP as my minor. I have chosen SDP for my minor so I could expand on my previous knowledge of social sciences while also pursuing my passion in media-oriented studies. Taking a minor at HU has been a challenge as the mixture between my major and minor requires me to think like different people at different situations. If at one point I have to think about shooting a film then as a filmmaker I would focus more on how it's shot; thinking about cinematography, lighting, directing, sound etc.

While at the same time, thinking with a sociological lens, I would focus more on how it impacts certain types of audiences, what's being appropriated, what's socially wrong with the content that could contribute in the long run to certain discriminatory behavior etc. Keeping different mindsets helps in understanding my project in a wider array of lenses, which helps me see through it in an all new light.



Haisum Raza

BA (Honors) Communication and Design,
Class of 2020



ARZU PROGRAM OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

English and Comparative Literature Minor

The English and Comparative Literature (ECL) minor program gives students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with established areas of literary studies and with new perspectives emerging from postcolonial and non-western sites of knowledge. The ECL curriculum will foreground key topics and themes that inform the study of literature in the contemporary moment with an awareness of our regional and cultural context.

The minor focuses on how literary representation intersects with theoretical interpretation, imaginative practice, and socio-historical knowledge. Students will apply these insights, perspectives, and skills acquired through literary studies to read political narratives and social texts, and to participate in responsible citizenship.

Students will be able to utilize complex rhetorical skills to write clearly and reason persuasively while learning how to research the interdisciplinary themes and ideas they encounter through ECL.

Students will explore different forms of creative writing and different genres of writing while undertaking interdisciplinary research. ECL will not only reinforce their writing and critical thinking abilities, but will also teach students to understand how literary concerns are connected with social, historical, and political issues.

Key Learning Areas

- Undertake the study of literature through a historical and cultural perspective
- Develop strong writing, analytical, and research skills
- Effectively interpret social and political commentaries and in doing so, provide contemporary solutions to societal challenges

Sample Courses

Reading, Writing and Thinking Literature, Reading and Writing Short Stories, Creative Writing



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The Arzu Program offers courses that are intense and rewarding, and they've revolutionized my academic approach to all my work. Literature lovers are particularly fortunate in the variety of opportunities found at Habib University. From frequent guest lectures by some of the greatest literary minds in Pakistan to creative writing classes taught by published authors - Habib University continues to build upon the literary traditions that permeate our society.

I intend to pursue a graduate degree in English Literature and I hope that the ECL minor, alongside my degree in Communication and Design, will further accentuate my long love for literature.

I can confidently say that the literature courses I've taken under the guidance of my phenomenal professors have given me the confidence and skills to further develop and pursue my interest in literature. I would greatly encourage students to consider taking at least one literature course during their time at Habib University. The rewards they reap are far beyond their expectations.

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Saadia Asad Pathan, Valedictorian

BA (Honors) Communication and Design,
Class of 2018



COMPARATIVE LIBERAL STUDIES

History Minor

At Habib University, History is regarded as an essential component of a liberal arts education and a broadly historical approach is shared by all of the faculty. The minor will teach students to identify, understand, and critically analyze historical change and difference, as well as the legacies, conscious or unconscious, that each generation inherits from its past, and the many perspectives and relations one can have regarding those legacies.

The aim of the History minor is to awaken students' curiosity about the plurality of pasts that shape our present and to nurture the critical thinking, research, and writing skills that are essential for historical study.

The cognitive qualities of complexity, rigor, ability to recognize contingency and imagine alternatives, as well as sensitivity to change and transformation in the midst of continuity – all of which are characteristic of the historical approach – make historical study attractive both for graduate schools across the human and social sciences, as well as for employers across a range of sectors of the economy.

Key Learning Areas

- Appreciate the interconnectedness of histories of various parts of the world
- Demonstrate an understanding of how individuals, societies, and events outside Europe have contributed to world history
- Demonstrate an understanding of the historical roots of contemporary world affairs
- Conduct historical research and craft arguments that resonate with diverse audiences

Sample Courses

The Making of Modern World Religions, An Intellectual and Cultural History of Muslim Spain, Xias (Kung-Fu Fighters), their Western Counterparts



Philosophy Minor

The range of crises encountered by the human sciences over the past half century have demanded an engagement with philosophy for the purposes of reflective conceptual innovation and invention across the disciplines. The study and practice of Philosophy is concerned with the reorganization of existing patterns of thought and the generation of new thought and concepts, directed towards the transformation of humans and their worlds. Formal training in Philosophy can thus be quite empowering and liberating.

The minor gives students philosophical training that enables them to explore continuities between Philosophy and other aspects of their ongoing curricular, professional, and personal experiences.

Students completing the minor will have sufficient capacity to think and write about universal philosophical themes pertaining to ontology, epistemology, aesthetics, ethics, and politics. The cognitive qualities of analytical, critical, and synthetic power, as well as the power of conceptual innovation, that are all associated with the practice of philosophy make philosophical study attractive, both for graduate studies, as well as for employers across a range of sectors of the economy.

Key Learning Areas

Through extensive reading, writing, and presentation activities in Philosophy courses, students enrich their capacities for the clarification and production of ideas. More specifically, the minor aims to:

- Develop the capacity to engage in intellectual inquiry in the realm of human existence through a philosophical lens
- Gain a thorough understanding of ethics and ethical implications of political thought
- Understand and analyze the role of mathematical thought in Philosophy
- Develop the capacity for production and critique of axiomatics – of knowledge production and practice – in the various fields and disciplines of the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, and STEM

Sample Courses

What is Philosophy?,
Hikma 1: History of Islamic Thought, Comparative Concepts of Truth and Power



Religious Studies Minor

The Religious Studies program challenges students to consider how religious texts, beliefs, and practices have shaped our contemporary world. This minor specifically looks at the shaping of the Abrahamic faiths and the religions of South and Central Asia, especially the myriad of Islamic traditions.

Students will explore the ways in which South Asian religions have interfaced with modernity, and the ways in which the forces of modernity have played a part in the construction of religion, and vice versa.

The aim of the minor is to introduce students to multiple ways of approaching the world's religious traditions, and the ways in which these traditions have been shaped by historical, political, and social realities. Students will appreciate the plurality and richness of religious expression throughout history, and the modes in which religious traditions continuously interact. The exploration of these dynamics ultimately allows for a more nuanced understanding of intersections existing between religion, politics, economy, and gender.

Courses will cover a range of topics, including notions of religious reform and revival, the impact of colonial governmental technologies, and the fluidity of religious encounters. These facets make Religious Studies compelling for graduate schools across the human and social sciences, as well as for employers across a range of sectors of the economy.

Key Learning Areas

The minor will feature a range of courses in comparative religion, theory and methods in the study of religion, textual analysis, and specialized topics in religious studies. The Religious Studies minor aims to:

- Question notions of mainstream religion, and the immutability of religious traditions and their underlying moral frameworks
- Understand the ways in which the world's religious traditions have influenced and shaped each other
- Understand the heightened role of religion in identity formation in the modern period
- Explore the role and transformation of religious institutions throughout History, Sciences, and STEM
- Critically reflect on the historical roots of contemporary conflicts that are popularly seen to be rooted in religious difference

Sample Courses

The Making of Modern World Religions, Hikma 2: Islamic Philosophy, Introduction to Aesthetic Traditions of Islam



Introductory Note from Dr. Nauman Naqvi

A global first, Habib University's program in Comparative Liberal Studies (CLS) in the School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, seeks to respond to the critical need for transdisciplinary and vital knowledge in the humanities. The CLS program offers cutting-edge combinations of humanistic knowledge and methods of inquiry – across History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies – critical to the present, with a view to producing intellectually advanced and dynamic young scholars, citizens and future professionals.

With this vision, the CLS program offers exciting minors in History, Philosophy and Religious Studies that allow students across the majors to deepen their humanistic knowledge and skills in critical areas of the human sciences. CLS Minors thus deepen the Habib difference: the eloquence, analytical and critical ability, and aliveness to history associated with the best of the humanities.

Our powerful and critical program in the humanities will open up possibilities for students across a range of careers in the highly diverse economy of today.

*Dr. Nauman Naqvi, Director,
Comparative Liberal Studies*



DHANANI SCHOOL OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Computer Science Minor

The study of Computer Science (CS) requires thinking in both abstract and concrete terms. CS is deeply rooted in logic and mathematics. Theoretical Computer Scientists are constantly pushing the frontiers of computability by inventing new computational approaches. Practical Computer Scientists are problem solvers who apply the theory of CS to different application areas like science, finance, medicine, entertainment, education, and communication.

Computer Scientists invent the future by developing infrastructure and techniques for more advanced computing, and by developing the applications that operate within those frameworks.

The CS minor program prepares students to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving field with a broader understanding of the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Graduates will have an unparalleled understanding of our society and the role of technology in it. Graduates from the CS program at HU will not only be technically proficient, but will also be able to make impactful contributions to society.

Key Learning Areas

- Understand the role of technology in the context of liberal arts and its applicability across multiple sectors
- Develop an ability to use Computer Science for the betterment of society
- Acquire the skills to contribute towards the advancement and applicability of computer science technology

Sample Courses

Programming Fundamentals,
Data Structures and Algorithms,
Discrete Mathematics



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I am an Electrical Engineer with a minor in Computer Science. When I first stepped into the campus, I never thought I would want to go for anything other than Engineering. However, it only took a semester for me to realize that I was more inclined towards Computer Science. I decided to pursue a minor in the said program, and I must say I have never regretted my decision, despite my increased hours of study. I believe if an opportunity comes knocking at your door, you must make the most of it.

I thoroughly enjoyed my minor. Two additional courses helped develop my program development skills and encouraged me to develop an object-oriented game. It broadened the spectrum of the technical domain for me that now includes program development - thus opening up opportunities for me in the software market as well.

Rabeea Saleem

BS Electrical Engineering, Class of 2018



INTEGRATED SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Physics Minor

Physics and technology go hand in hand, with Physics providing the foundation for a broad range of technical fields. This minor expands the understanding of Physics beyond the introductory level, deepening the understanding of fundamental principles of Physics, developing analytical skills, and enhancing the ability to keep abreast of an ever-changing technological world.

This minor is a perfect fit for students who are interested in science with an appreciation for Mathematics, but don't want to major in the same discipline.

A minor in Physics enhances career opportunities in other areas such as chemistry, biology, social sciences, computational sciences, humanities, business, data analytics etc.

Key Learning Areas

Students will typically engage with courses like:

- Modern Physics
- Classical Mechanics
- Quantum Mechanics
- Advanced Quantum Mechanics
- Mathematical Methods for Physics
- Statistical Mechanics
- Solid State Physics
- Cosmology
- Introduction to Nanotechnology

Lab Experience in the following areas:

- Mechanics
- Thermodynamics
- Electricity and Magnetism
- Modern Physics
- Solid State Physics
- Optics

Sample Courses

Mechanics and Thermodynamics, Mechanics Lab, Modern Physics





I chose a minor in Physics because I was interested in how the world works. I wanted to explore my interest and contribute to the universe of knowledge. The mathematical tools I have learned in Physics give me the theoretical knowledge for statistical and functional analysis for any forms of data. I plan on using this knowledge to understand and create models of neuroscience in my future research career.

My plans for the future are to pursue a Masters and then a PhD in Computational Neurosciences. Computational Neurosciences borrow heavily from statistical physics and statistical analysis, and my minor in Physics has helped me advance my experience in applying statistical techniques to vast mathematical models and in populating those models with data.”

Anas Masood

BS Computer Science, Class of 2018



Mathematics Minor

The Mathematics minor at Habib University offers an opportunity to students from all disciplines with a significant interest in Mathematics to deepen their understanding of the subject. This optional field of study is designed to provide a foundation in Calculus, Linear Algebra, and basic modelling techniques using differential equations.

Convergent thinking is also developed through the analysis of quantitative problems directed towards the right procedure for the right outcomes.

The choice of courses available within the minor allows the students to either take a Pure Mathematics track, an Applied Mathematics track, or a mix of the two.

Key Learning Areas

- a strong understanding of Mathematical Reasoning
- Critical Thinking
- Analytical Skills
- Problem Solving Skills
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Logical Arguments
- Philosophical Thinking
- Historical Thinking

Sample Courses

Engineering Mathematics, Linear Algebra, Probability and Statistics



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The BSc (Honors) Social Development & Policy degree offered at Habib University gave me the freedom to find myself academically.

I could study Design, Anthropology, Economics, Politics, Computation and Mathematics. It was by far the most liberating experience that I had. Eventually, I docked on the shores of mathematical inquiry, and decided to pursue a 'Mathematics' minor. This minor gave me analytical abilities that perfectly complemented my Political Economy concentration within my major. The experience of taking courses within the Dhanani School of Science & Engineering (DSSE) has been phenomenal in itself.

I couldn't have reached where I am without the constant help and patience of the professors from DSSE. Now, this minor has put me at an advantage of applying to any economics graduate degree without worrying about requirements. It has been one of the best decisions I have made.”

Saad Sohail Khan

BSc (Honors) Social Development & Policy,
Class of 2019

