

**Program Rationale**  
**Humanities**  
**1440-2**

As a Humanities major, I intend to take an educational path that will give me a wide range of exposure to different cultures. Additionally, as an aspiring medical school student, it is necessary for me to take a number of required and elective science courses in Biology and Chemistry.

Beginning my college career as a pre-Physical Therapy major, I knew that I wanted to enter a health related field. Therefore, I have taken a number of required and elected science/health related courses. I am also a member of the University Honors Program which has given me a strong base in the Humanities.

Since recently changing educational paths from physical therapy to pre-medicine, I have realized the importance of the humanities. Entering the medical field in an increasingly diverse America necessitates a strong understanding of different cultures and religions. Because soio-cultural issues are strong determinants of physical and mental wellness, becoming familiar with these issues by taking relevant courses is ideal. Relevant courses will be those that pertain to specific cultures (HIST 346 Afro-American History), religion (REL 315 Islam) and or religious philosophy (PHIL 333 Philosophy of Religion, and social conditions (PSY 314 Physiological Psychology; SOC 365 Medicine and Disease: A Cross-Cultural Study).

Additionally, the medical field deals greatly with the field of ethics. As such, I will complete both ethics classes offered as a well as a Departmental Honors project in medical ethics (PHIL 425 Ethics and the Professions; HUM 499 Biomedical Ethics).

Becoming familiar with the issues I will likely be confronted with in the future will give me a stronger base from which to work.

My goal as a Humanities major is to familiarize myself with and gain an understanding for the different cultures and issues I will work with in the future. I believe that my educational path will assist me in becoming a great physician.