

Humanities

& Western Civilization Newsletter

October 29, 2012

University of
Kansas



A Word From...

Sandra Zimdars-Swartz, Professor and Director

In 1997, our Program became home to the B. A. in Humanities. An interdisciplinary major, the B. A. in Humanities allows students to examine key issues relating to human experiences and the human condition from a variety of perspectives, including philosophy, history, religion, literature, art and language. Comprised now of three tracks – Civilization in a Global Context, World Literatures, and Peace and Conflict Studies – the Humanities Major provides a foundation in the liberal arts that prepares students to take part in the world around them. Like recent graduate Amie Schaefer, our majors have found that their work in the humanities has provided a foundation for success in many fields, including business, medicine, law, marketing, sales, and social services.

Where are they now?



In August 2011, **Amie Schaefer** graduated from the University of Kansas with a **B. A. in Humanities** and a minor in Latin American Area Studies. As part of her senior seminar in Spring 2011, she wrote her undergraduate thesis on Our Lady of Guadalupe as a tool for revolutionary change, a topic that focused her international interests. Then, to complete her minor in Latin American Area Studies, Amie spent six weeks of the summer in Nicaragua, investigating the language and culture of the Miskitu people. These two experiences helped shape Amie's post-graduation plans. Amie took a job in South Korea teaching English as a Second Language to students who range in age from youngsters to adults. About her experience as a Humanities major, Amie says, "My study of Humanities has been invaluable for my current work, Teaching English as a Second Language, as well as my career objectives. Fueling my interest in other cultures, my Humanities background has enhanced my experiences studying and working abroad. As a result of my international adventures, I have been inspired to obtain a Master's Degree in Higher Education Administration, pursue a career as a Study Abroad Coordinator and provide students with the opportunity to discover the world."

Fourth Annual Mid-American Humanities Conference

Journeys: Transforming Inner and Outer Landscapes and Spaces

March 1-2, 2013

Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Treuer, "Writing Native America: Journeys on the Rez"

Journey, voyage, cruise, outing, travel, trip, trek, tour; migration, immigration, deportation, relocation; exploration, expedition, excursion; pilgrimage, exodus, odyssey, mission, crusade; time travel, space travel, other-world journeys, dream journeys. The Mid-America Humanities Conference is an interdisciplinary forum for undergraduate and graduate student research. For the Fourth Mid-America Humanities Conference, we are seeking research on the ways in which human movement through time and space transforms inner and outer landscapes and spaces. Papers are sought from all disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Paper proposals should be sent to Dr. Sandra Zimdars-Swartz (szimdars@ku.edu). Submission deadline, December 7, 2012.

Upcoming Event:

Celebrating the 25th Seaver Lecture, November 1, 2012, Spencer Museum of Art :

6:00 PM Arias from the School of Music

7:00 PM Lecture: Prof. Sally Cornelison, "Finding Leonardo or Losing Vasari? The Search for the Battle of Anghiari in Florence's Palazzo Vecchio"

8:00 PM Reception and viewing of the exhibition "Giorgio Vasari & Court Culture in Late Renaissance Italy" by guest curator Prof. Sally Cornelison