



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Great TEXTS Certificate Program Student Application

Washburn University's Great TEXTS certificate program is an interdisciplinary program that engages students in reading transformative texts to explore big, timely, and timeless problems and questions of humankind. The program is open to students in all majors and degree programs, especially those who want to enhance their reading, writing, speaking, and critical-thinking skills. Each Great TEXTS course is team-taught by a pair of faculty members through an approach inspired by humanist traditions. Each course also includes unique opportunities to pursue knowledge outside of the traditional classroom, including travel to historic and cultural sites and engagement with the community. Additional benefits of the TEXTS program include smaller, discussion-based classes. Great TEXTS courses help students to see connections between the topics they study and contemporary debates that they will confront as business, science, political, and industry leaders and as citizens in a multicultural democracy. Great TEXTS courses are **Transformative, EXperiential, and Team-Taught Studies**.

Full Scholarships Provided to Every Selected Student

Through generous funding from a private donor, every student selected to participate in the Great TEXTS program will receive scholarships to cover the cost of **each** required TEXTS course. The required books for each Great TEXTS course will also be provided to **students at no cost**.

Eligibility

The program is open to students in all majors and degree programs, especially those who want to enhance their reading, writing, speaking, and critical-thinking skills. Students need to have at least 5 semesters left before they graduate in order to fit in the courses required for the certificate.

Requirements

The certificate program requires a total of 15 credit hours of Great TEXTS courses, including:

TX 100: Critical Thinking, Communication, and Transformative Texts: Antiquity to Modernity
This first-year gateway course introduces students to the great questions and problems of humankind through discussion-based exploration of transformative texts from a variety of disciplines and genres. These texts will be examined in the context in which they were written and explored for what they mean today. The course helps students practice the critical thinking and communication skills they will need for success in college and in life. Throughout the course, students' understanding and enjoyment of the selected texts will be supplemented by

extracurricular activities and presentations, such as visits to historic and cultural sites, plays, musical performances, films, galleries, poetry readings, public lectures, and community engagement.

Required Seminars:

TX 200: Enduring Questions and Transformative Texts

TX 300: Complex Problems and Transformative Texts

TX 301: Inspiring Visions and Transformative Texts

These seminars will approach an important and timely problem or question from the perspective of the humanities. Topics will vary by semester.

Capstone

TX 400: Capstone

With faculty consultation, students will complete a project based in transformational texts that applies to their lives, major, and interests. The project may be based in research, creative work, or community engagement.

Application Instructions

To be considered for the Great TEXTS program, students should complete the following application and email it to Dr. Kelly Erby at kelly.erby@washburn.edu.

Student name:
Student pronouns (optional):
Student email:
Student WIN:
Major (if known):
High school GPA:

Are you a first-generation student (check one): yes no

(You are a first-generation college student if neither of your parents/legal guardians completed a bachelor’s degree, regardless of siblings and other relatives. This website provides information to help first-generation students find university resources and navigate college expectations.)