BROAD IMPACT

UH's College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences explores the full range of human experiences – from ancient history to the science of space exploration.

- UH’s largest college, CLASS is a vibrant academic community dedicated to the study of the humanities, social sciences, and the creative and performing arts.
- CLASS faculty shape the learning experience of every UH undergraduate student.
- Students connect the diverse disciplines of CLASS as they develop the tools to pursue their intellectual passions and career choices: critical thinking, in-depth analysis, effective problem-solving and powerful expression.
- Chancellor and President Renu Khator and Provost John Antel hold academic appointments in CLASS; Dr. Khator in political science and Dr. Antel in economics.

“In CLASS, students are challenged to explore the human condition and gain skills that will serve them well in the ‘knowledge economy’ of the 21st century.”

–John W. Roberts, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
CUTTING-EDGE ARTS

• CLASS arts units – School of Art, Blaffer Art Museum, Creative Writing Program, Moores School of Music and the School of Theatre & Dance – form the membership of the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center for the Arts. The Center sponsors collaborative work through curricula, artist residencies, commissioned productions and graduate fellowships.

• The College’s expertise in the fine arts ranges from one of the largest opera production programs in the United States to one of the top 5 creative writing Ph.D. programs in the nation. Internationally acclaimed faculty members include composer David Ashley White, playwright Edward Albee, novelist Chitra Divakaruni, memoirist Nick Flynn, poet Tony Hoagland and graphic novelist Mat Johnson.

• Three periodicals call CLASS home – Houston History, a magazine published tri-annually by the Center for Public History; Glass Mountain, a literary journal operated by undergraduate students to feature undergraduates’ work; and Gulf Coast: A Journal of Literature and Fine Arts, managed by graduate students in the Creative Writing Program and distributed nationally.

POWERFUL RESEARCH

• CLASS faculty and students research social systems, culture, language, history and other aspects of life that bind and separate people and express their creativity in music, art, dance and words.

• Psychology, one of the nationally recognized departments in CLASS, empowers students to find solutions for scientific, social and business problems by teaching how to interpret individual behavior and to understand group dynamics.

• Our departments of Comparative Cultural Studies and Hispanic Studies and programs in African American Studies; Mexican American Studies; Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies and other interdisciplinary studies deepen our understanding of the diverse society we share.

• Arte Público Press, the nation’s largest publisher of literature by U.S. Hispanic authors, resides in the College. The press sponsors the national “Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project,” which locates, preserves and disseminates writings from colonial times until 1960.