

FOLKLORE STUDIES MINOR

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM:

The study of folklore/folklife involves the examination of traditional culture (including oral, customary, and material) in every society. Folklore is a vital part of life. It is manifested in a culture's customs, traditions, and beliefs. In higher education, folklife is the study of human expression handed down from one generation to the next, often through the oral tradition. It is related to the study of literature, art, and music, and since folklore is created and perpetuated by humankind, it has close affiliations with anthropology, psychology, sociology, history, language, and education.

FOLKLORE STUDIES MINOR

The folklore studies minor is housed in the Department of Humanities as part of the College of Liberal Arts at Fairmont State University. The courses are taught at the Frank and Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center, which serves as a laboratory for students and scholars. Folklorists work in libraries, museums, archives, publishing houses, historical societies and parks, and government agencies. Knowledge of folklore is useful to anyone who works with the public, including teachers, medical professionals, social workers, and small business owners. The minor in folklore studies pairs nicely with degrees in history, communication, nursing, foreign languages, criminal justice, or the arts.

FAIRMONTSTATE.EDU/folklife



FAIRMONT STATE
UNIVERSITY™

College of Liberal Arts



FOLKLORE STUDIES MINOR

TOPICS IN DIRECTED STUDY

- APPALACHIAN AFRICAN-AMERICAN LORE
- APPALACHIAN (REGIONAL/WRITTEN) LITERATURE AND FILM
- ARTHURIAN LEGEND: COMPARATIVE FOLK LITERATURE STUDY
- CHILDRENS FOLKLORE
- CULTURE AS EDUCATION
- ETHNOGRAPHY AND PROCESS AND STORYTELLING
- FOLK ARTS
- FOLK DANCE
- RURAL EDUCATION
- TRADITIONAL FOLK MUSIC, VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL
- URBAN AND POPULAR CULTURE
- VINTAGE CLOTHING PRESERVATION
- WEST VIRGINIA LITERATURE
- WORLD TALE

* NOTE: IF AN EXISTING COURSE IS AVAILABLE ON CAMPUS REFLECTING ANY OF THESE TOPICS, A STUDENT MAY OPT TO TAKE IT, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE FOLKLORE STUDIES DIRECTOR.

OPPORTUNITIES

- INTERNSHIPS IN FOLKLORE/FOLKLIFE PUBLICATIONS, SUCH AS TRADITIONS AND HILLCHILD
- GALLERY EXHIBITIONS, ARTISAN DEMONSTRATIONS, FIELD TRIPS TO STORYTELLING FESTIVALS AND MUSEUMS
- SUMMER INSTITUTES, CONFERENCES, CHILDREN'S CLASSES AND CAMPS
- THE APPALACHIAN TEACHING PROJECT
- TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDING CONFERENCES, STUDY ABROAD, AND REGIONAL "ROAD TRIP"

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR

19-22 CREDIT HOURS

REQUIRED

FOLK 2200 Introduction to Folklore	3
FOLK 3300 Folk Literature	3
FOLK 3301 Material Culture	3
OR	
FOLK 2150 Folk Arts	3
FOLK 3302 Regional Cultural Geography and History	3
FOLK 4400* Directed Folklore Study	3
FOLK 4401 Folklore Capstone	3

ELECTIVES IN FOLKLORE

Select one course from below:

ENGL 3364 Appalachian Literature	3
ENGL 3385 The Arthurian Tradition	3
ENGL 3395 Journeys in Comparative Mythology	3
FOLK 3320 The Art of Storytelling in Theory and Practice	3
FOLK 3350 Roads to Appalachia Study Abroad	3
FOLK 3361 Introduction to Folk Music	3
FOLK 3375 Preservation of Appalachian Culture	3
FOLK 4998 Undergraduate Research	1-6
MUSM 1100 Introduction to Museums	3

*ONLY 3 HOURS ARE REQUIRED IN DIRECTED FOLKLORE STUDY (FOLK 4400). SEE LEFT FOR TOPICS IN DIRECTED STUDY.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

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