

Istanbul Technical University – Faculty of Science and Letters

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Humanities and social Sciences courses offered by ITB department first of all aim at enhancing knowledge and learning capacities of engineering students enrolled at ITU departments. ITB courses try to:

- provide prospective engineers with means of new way of critical thinking and inquiry;
- raise consciousness among the engineering students towards subjects concerned with ethics/engineering ethics, jurisprudence, social justice, environmental issues, human and animal rights, gender equality and technology for peace and health;
- enhance workplace discourses and raise the social standing of the engineering profession;
- expand cultural references and enhances the understanding of human condition in the context of development of ideas;
- help engineering students understand, analyze, interpret and communicate technical/material issues from a broader point of view
- provide a multi-disciplinary framework enriching the world of engineering students;
- help to create a more civil public discourse, a more adaptable and creative workforce, and a more secure nation;
- provide the engineering student with communication skills, civic vigor, cultural understanding, individual fulfillment and professional satisfaction.

All ITB courses are offered as social science and humanities electives for ITU undergraduate students. There is no department restriction and students from all ITU departments are free to choose any ITB course they prefer. The number of ITB courses that students should take varies according to graduation scheme of each department.

Including different sections of the same course, the department offers more than sixty courses in a single semester. In a single semester, approximately

1600 ITU students register for ITB courses. This number reaches to 3000 students for a single academic year. All ITB courses are offered both in English and Turkish. While the quota of courses opened by core members of the department is around 35-45 students, it does not exceed 30 students for guest and visiting scholars.