Humanities and the Sunshine State:
Exploring Florida's Past, Present, and Future

A week-long summer seminar exploring today's research in the humanities
14-19 June 2015, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

The UF Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere and the Center for Precollegiate Education and Training are pleased to announce UF's first summer seminar in the humanities: "Humanities and the Sunshine State". This seminar is a week-long residential program for 24 rising high school juniors and seniors interested in a meaningful college experience in the humanities that capitalizes on the unique culture of Florida. Students will work in an academically stimulating environment to develop important research, collaboration, and professional communication skills.

Students will interact with leading faculty, librarians, and graduate students in humanities disciplines at the University of Florida and Santa Fe College such as history, English, women's studies, philosophy, archaeology, and classics. Together, they will explore contemporary issues in Florida, including diversity and our changing cultural landscape, sustainability and food justice issues tied to the health of our springs and farms, and the places and events (like football stadiums) that help us to build communities. By mixing visits to special collections – where students will handle original historical documents – with site visits to natural and human-shaped landscapes including Cedar Key, Silver Glen State Park, Cross Creek State Park, and locally-sourced restaurants, students will learn how Florida history informs our present. Students will also learn research methods in oral history and digital presentation, and carry individual iPads to collect material for final group presentations on contemporary Florida. By experiencing and doing humanities scholarship, students will see how a liberal arts education plays a vital role in Florida's culture and economy.

"Humanities and the Sunshine State" will provide students with a well-rounded introduction to college life, including two day-long field trips, research and discussion experience, recreational activities, and unstructured time to network and build long-lasting friendships.

Applications for the 2015 summer are now available from the UF Center for Precollegiate Education and Training (CPET):
209 Yon Hall Box 112010 Gainesville, FL 32611
(352) 392-2310 cpet@cpet.ufl.edu

This program is made possible with funding from the Florida Humanities Council, Rothman Endowment of the Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere, and the UF College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.