CONTEMPLATIVE STUDIES
AND WELL-BEING OPTION

Overview
Contemplative Studies is the theoretical and applied exploration of contemplative traditions and practices. As an interdisciplinary field, it unites the Humanities, Social Sciences and Health Sciences in the study of the full range of human contemplative experiences. It employs first-person experiential modes of inquiry (including meditation) combined with traditional methods of analysis in the study of states of mind. The program seeks to foster empathy, altruism, and creativity with the goal of advancing human flourishing.

The Contemplative Studies program offers students the unique opportunity to discover the potential, and richness, of the human mind. This will be gained through the practice of meditation (in its different forms) and mindfulness practices, through the mindful use technology and information acquisition, and through the psychological study of positive mental states and human wellbeing. In addition, students will become acquainted with different contemplative and spiritual traditions of the West and Asia through a comparative historical and philosophical overview.

What is a Transdisciplinary option?
Transdisciplinary options are microcredentials that allow you to tailor your degree and develop competencies outside of your Honours BA, Major or Minor. These thematic microcredentials range from 9 to 18 course units and can be taken from your electives. Options can be added to most of the B.A. and B.Sc. programs at the Faculty of Arts and the name of the option will appear on your transcript. Adding one or several options to your degree allows you to be the architect of your degree and develop additional competencies beyond your fields of study.

Program requirements
The table below includes only the option-specific courses. Please refer to the Academic Regulations (https://www.uottawa.ca/administration-and-governance/academic-regulation-3-program-of-studies/) for information on the possible combinations available within the Faculty of Arts.

Compulsory courses:
- AHL 2150 Introduction to Contemplative Studies and Well-being (3 Units)
- AHL 3156 Meditation: Theory and Practice (3 Units)
- SRS 3354 Mysticism and Spiritual Experience (3 Units)
- AHL 4150 Mindful Tech (3 Units)

3 optional course units from:
- AHL 2155 Special topics in Contemplative Studies and Well-being I (3 Units)
- AHL 3155 Special topics in Contemplative Studies and Well-being II
- AHL 4150 Mindful Tech
- EAS 3103 Indigenous Spiritualities in the Americas
- ENG 3318 Romantic Literature
- LSR 2110 Leisure: Concepts and Values
- PHI 2122 Ancient Wisdom
- PHI 2190 Philosophy of Religion

Total: 15 Units