Introduction to the Humanities II

HUMA-1302-51003

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T/R 9:30-10:50 AM

Current Catalog Course Description:

This is a Texas Common Course Number. This is a DCCCD Core Curriculum Course.

Course Description:

This course is an interdisciplinary survey of cultures focusing on the philosophical and aesthetic factors in human values with an emphasis on the historical development of the individual and society and the need to create Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 24.0103.5112. This section of Introduction of Humanities is a co-requisite course; students are also enrolled in Integrated Reading and Writing, DIRW-0315-51015.

Statement of Purpose:

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

Core Objectives:

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will prepare for contemporary challenges by developing and demonstrating the following core objectives: (A) Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, and the evaluation and synthesis of information; (B) Communication Skills: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication; (C) Personal Responsibility: to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making; (D) Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students completing all sections of this course will be able to:

❖ Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.

❖ Articulate how these works express the values of the individual and society within an historical and social context.

❖ Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works in the arts and humanities.
Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the influence of literature, philosophy, and the arts on cultural experiences.

Demonstrate an awareness of the creative process and why humans create.

Students do not need to purchase a text for this class. Course materials will be available through face-to-face class meetings, items placed on reserve in the Learning Center and postings in the online class shell.

There will be two museum trips during class time; other required field trips may be announced.

Outline of Topics:
The following areas are all worthy of an entire semester of study. Yet as this is a survey class, each of the following will be introduced and explored, but not covered in complete detail.

Introduction - What is Humanities Study?
Encounters - Ways to Observe, Analyze, Respond and Write about the Humanities
African Humanities Expressions
Australian and Oceanic Humanities Expressions
Middle Eastern Humanities Expressions
Indian Subcontinent and Southeast Asian Humanities Expressions
Chinese and Far East Asian Humanities Expressions
South and Central American Humanities Expressions
European Humanities Expressions
North American Humanities Expressions

How Can Humanities Study Help Us Here and Now?
The instructor may amend the topics covered in the interest of time.

Assignments and Evaluation:
Final grade for the class will be determined by the following formula:

Class participation and informal writing submissions 30%
Topic “Compare and Contrast” Papers 8 @ 5% = 40%
Group Midterm Project 1 @ 15% = 15%
Individual Final Presentation 1 @ 15% = 15%
Total 100%

Class participation and informal writing submissions are the foundation of this class. All eyes together see more, and all minds collaborating think more deeply. To this end, student attendance, active participation and commitment to the group will enhance EVERYONE’S
learning experience. Peer editing and collaborative analysis will be an essential part of this class. Students should bring writing materials and a highlighter to each class meeting. In the case of student absence, the student may email the instructor a copy or photo of the informal writing submission on the day of the class missed, but participation activities and credit cannot be made up. In keeping with commitment to the group learning community, students should arrive on time to class; 3 tardies will equal 1 absence.

The topic “compare and contrast” papers will be comparative analyses of two humanities works covered in the reserve readings, uploaded in the course shell or presented during class meetings. Students will use their “toolkit” for analyses and will also craft their own personal evaluative statements about the works. MSW doc papers will be submitted online in Blackboard and will be written using 12 point Times New Roman font, double-line spacing and should be 2-3 pages in length, adhering to MLA style guidelines and citation format.

Group midterm projects will focus on vital and vibrant humanities expressions that are being generated today in the geographic areas previously covered in class. Students will introduce others to these works through PPT presentations, and explain how these expressions connect to historic cultures and values of the regions, as well as earlier expressions.

The individual final presentation will be a curated multi-media presentation organized around a pressing contemporary social concern of the student’s choosing. Using humanities expressions from different times and places, the student will present how other cultures and places addressed this concern, and offer possible solutions that other cultures or peoples have discovered.

A limited choice of extra credit optional assignments may be offered.

Grading Scale:

90-100% A
80-89% B
70-79% C
60-69% D
<60% F.

ACADEMIC WITHDRAWAL POLICY:

If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade of an “F.” If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a “W” (Withdraw) in each class dropped. STOP BEFORE YOU DROP! For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Coed 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W.” Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges.
**Additional Policies and Protocols**

To maintain an optimal learning environment, students’ phones should be silenced and kept out of site except for class activities in which phones are used. If a home or personal situation arises that requires monitoring, students should speak to the instructor before class. Late assignment submission of papers will be accepted up to one week from the due date, with deductions. The final solo presentation may not be submitted late. If a student is absent for the group midterm presentation, the student will be assigned a portion of the overall group grade that reflects her/his contributions to the group preparation.

Plagiarism—the act of copying someone else’s words or ideas and passing them off as your own—is a serious academic offense. Please see district policy on plagiarism. A significant deduction will be assigned to an assignment that shows evidence of plagiarism. Multiple instances of plagiarism could result in a failing class grade for the semester.

If you have special needs or a disability, you will want to follow district guidelines for accommodations. Please inform your instructor in writing within the first seven days of the semester of your status and needs per district guidelines.

If you will not be in class due to religious/cultural celebration in accordance with district guidelines, please inform instructor within the first seven days of class. Institutional Policies relating to this course and the above matters can be accessed from the following link www.elcentrocollege.edu/syllabipolicies.