Introduction to the Humanities II
HUMA-1302-53002 (1189138)
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Tara Munjee, PhD., CMA
(tara.munjee@dcccd.edu)
MW 11:00-12:20 PM, A841

Current Catalog Information:
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.

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.

To enhance student learning, required class field trips may be announced.

**Outline of Topics:**

The following areas are all worthy of an entire semester of study. As this is a survey class, however, 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 Does 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 Workings:

Class participation and reflective writing based on in-class presentations, online content engagement and text reading are foundational to 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 process will enhance EVERYONE’S learning. Peer editing and collaborative analysis will be an essential part of this class.

Students should bring writing materials--including a highlighter--and some means to electronically connect to the class on Blackboard (laptop, smart phone, IPad) to each class meeting. If a student does not have access to any of these electronic devices, he or she should speak to the instructor, and accommodations will be made.

In the case of student absence, the student may email the instructor about materials covered in class, but participation activities cannot be made up. In keeping with commitment to group learning community, students should arrive on time to class; 3 tardies will equal 1 absence.

The “compare and contrast” papers will be comparative analyses of 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 evaluations of 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 adhere to MLA style guidelines.

Group midterm projects will focus on humanities expressions of student interest not covered in the class curriculum. Students will introduce others to these works through PPT presentations, and explain how these expressions connect to historic values of the respective cultures.

The individual final presentation will be a curated multi-media presentation organized around a contemporary social concern of the student’s choosing. Using humanities expressions from different times and places, the student will present how other cultures addressed this concern, and from this, offer different ways of thinking and acting on the concern.

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

**Event and Assignments Calendar:**

There is freedom in a survey class to spend more or less time on any topic area due to student needs, interests, mandated schedule changes or other circumstances. What follows is a tentative calendar.

**January 23-30**

What is humanities study? Tools needed to describe humanities expressions; course housekeeping

**February 4-11**

Humanities of Africa  
*Feb. 4 @ 11:59 PM Paper 1 due*

**February 13-18**

Humanities of Australia/Pacific Islands
Feb. 11 @ 11:59 PM Paper 2 due

February 20-27
Middle Eastern humanities
Feb. 25 @ 11:59 PM Paper 3 due

March 4-6
Midterm group presentations

March 11-15
Spring Break-no classes

March 18-20
Southeast Asia/Indian subcontinent humanities

March 25-27
China and Far East humanities
March 25 @ 11:59 Paper 4 due

April 1-3
South American humanities

April 8-10
April 8 @ 11:59 PM Paper 5 due
European humanities/Greece and Rome

April 15-17
European humanities
April 17- Last Day to Withdraw from Class

April 22-24
Indigenous and Early North American humanities
April 22 @11:59 PM Paper 6 due

April 29 - May 1
North America Now
May 1 @ 11:59 PM paper 7 due
May 3-5

Prep for Final Presentations

May 10 @ 11:59 PM Paper 8 due

Week of May 13 (in accordance with DCCCD final exam schedule)

Final Project presentation/exam

The instructor may amend the calendar as needed.

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 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. An assignment that shows evidence of plagiarism will be marked down significantly. Multiple instances of plagiarism could result in a failing class grade for the semester.

If a student has special needs or a disability, the student will want to follow district guidelines for accommodations. The student should inform the instructor in writing within the first seven days of the semester of her/his status and needs per district guidelines.

If a student will not be in class due to religious/cultural celebration in accordance with district guidelines, he or she must 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.