**Humanities 1301 70228**

Spring 2011 Second Start

M W 1-3, Gay Hall 113 and 117

**Instructor: Bonnie Vegiard**

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**Office Hours**

M/W before class. I will generally be in the Faculty area of the administration offices before class. It would be best if you could make an appointment so that I can be watching for you.

**Textbook**:

*Adventures in the Human Spirit 6th ed.* Philip E. Bishop

**Course description**: HUMA 1301 provides an introduction to the arts and humanities. The course investigates the relationship between individual human lives and works of imagination and thought.

**Course prerequisites**: Must be placed into college-level reading (or take GUST 0342 as a co-requisite) and be placed into college-level writing (or take ENGL 0310/0349 as a co-requisite).

Course goal: To expand the student’s knowledge and understanding of how human culture has expressed itself via mythology, drama, poetry, philosophy, visual art, music, film, and various related modes.

**Topics**:

Art

Literature

Philosophy

Religion

Theater

Music

Architecture

Folk traditions

**Class Schedule**

*(Please Note: This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion. What appears below is essentially a draft and will be modified as the course goes along. You are responsible for making sure you are updated on the changes and keeping track of course expectations.)*

Feb. 14 M: Introduction

Feb. 16 W: *Adventures in the Human Spirit (AHS)* ch. 1 “The Humanities: An Introduction to the Adventure”

* Bring in a one-page description of a topic within one of the above general topics that describes a topic within the humanities you may be interested in researching further. For example, choose one of the above topics, then choose either a major figure, work of art, philosophical idea, or any sub-topic of that topic. Your one page may include a picture, but you should have about half a page of text on your topic. Include the general time of your figure, artwork, or idea. Then say something about why you find that particular topic of interest.
* In class slide presentation: Why Study Art? <http://helenrindsberg.myiglou.com/WesternArt/WhyStudyArt/whystudyart1.htm>

Feb. 21 M: President’s Day, no class

Feb. 23 W: *AHS* ch. 2 “The Ancient World”

* Bring in a picture of some art object—a painting, sculpture, or ancient artifict—that you like. The art object should be from an era prior to around 1600CE, if possible. Be prepared to talk about the object in terms of the **values** and **beliefs** from its original culture that you see reflected in the art.
* Also think about your art in terms of what appeals to your heart, your eye, and your mind.

Feb. 28 M: *AHS* Ch. 3 “Ancient Greece: The Classical Spirit”

* Current ideas, classical roots
* Aesop’s fables: tortoise and hare, ants and grasshoppers
* Modern moral tale

March 2 W: *AHS* ch. 4. “Ancient Rome: The Spirit of Empire”

March 7 M: *AHS* . 5. “The Spirit of Monotheism: Judaism, Christianity, Islam”

March 9 W: First experience paper due.

March 14 M: Spring Break

March 16 W: Spring Break

March 21 M: Review for Mid-term

March 23 W: Mid-Term

March 28 M: *AHS* ch 6. “The Early Middle Ages: The Feudal Spirit”

March 30 W: *AHS* ch. 7: “The Late Middle Ages: The Gothic Awakening” part 1

Ap. 4 M: *AHS* ch. 7: “The Late Middle Ages: The Gothic Awakening” part 2

Ap. 6 W:

Ap. 11 M: *AHS* ch. 8 “The Renaissance Spirit in Italy”

Ap. 13 W: Shakespeare

Ap. 18 M: Presentations

Ap. 20 W: Presentations

Ap. 25 M: *AHS* ch. 9. “Reformation and Late Renaissance”

Ap. 27 W: Second experience paper due

May 2 M: Ch. 11 The Spirit of Enlightenment

* Presentation paper due

May 4 W:

May \_: Final Exam

**Oral Presentation**

You have two choices for your oral presentations. You may either choose a longer presentation and a shorter paper, or a shorter presentation and a longer paper. The presentation and paper will be a research project on a topic of your choice within the course outlines. The presentation and paper should have at least three sources that are not encyclopedias, general internet, or Wikipedia. Please get your topics and your sources approved by me before you get too far with your presentation planning.

**Longer presentation and shorter paper:** an in-depth oral presentation of about 15 minutes. More extensive use of visuals will be expected. The paper will essentially be a write-up of your notes with the sources, 500-600 words.

**Longer paper and shorter presentation:** a clearly researched oral presentation of between 5 and 10 minutes, with at least some use of visuals. The paper will then be a fully developed information paper that also describes your personal interest in the topic, with sources listed, 1,000-1,250 wrds.

Chapters we will not cover; these might give you good ideas for your oral presentation and paper:

Ch. 10 The Spirit of Baroque

Ch 12: Revolution and Romanticism

Ch. 13: The Industrial Age: the Spirit of Materialism

Ch. 14: The Spirit of Modernism

Ch. 15: The Contemporary Spirit

**Cultural Events**: You will be asked to write two reflection papers on a cultural event you have experienced. This event may be an art exhibition, a theatrical play or dance production, a classical concert, or a lecture. Experience papers should be 250-400 words, describing the event and your personal response to it. Give explanations for your response. Please check with me if you have any questions about whether your chosen events will fit the requirements of the course.

**Experience of cultural events papers**

You must attend two designated or recommended cultural events outside class. You must submit a written critique--at least 300-500 words, double-spaced pages in length--for each event, that

* Identifies the event (the who, what, where, when, why, and how)
* Describes the event (a narrative of what you saw, heard, and learned)
* -Evaluates the event (a specific assessment of the good and bad parts of the presentation)

Below are a few suggestions of events you may consider.

Impressionists Opening:  
[Museum of Fine Arts Houston](http://www.mfah.org/news/pressrelease/mfah-hosts-presentation-impressionist-and-post-impressionist-masterpieces-national-gallery-art-washington-dc-beginning-february-)  
Impressionist and Post-Impressionist Masterpieces from the National Gallery of Art  
February 20-May 23, 2011

**Free concert:**  
Winter Concert  
Friday, February 25, 8 pm  
Free and open to the public  
featuring full orchestra and chorus performing  
[Christ Evangelical Presbyterian Church](http://www.cepc.org)  
8300 Katy Freeway  
713-526-1188 begin\_of\_the\_skype\_highlighting              713-526-1188

**Concert**

Title: Annual African American Music Gala

Date: Sunday February 27, 2011

Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Location: Christ Church Cathedral

**Gallery opening:**  
Saturday April 16th at 5 pm attend the [Poetry Pottery opening](http://www.foelberpottery.com/poetrypottery.html) at [Foelber Pottery Gallery.](http://www.foelberpottery.com/index.html)  
This is poetry written by HCC students about pottery created at Foelber Pottery Gallery. You can get your work done and support your fellow students.

**Grades**

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 0-59

20% = attendance, participation

10%=quizzes

20% = Experience papers (2)

20%=Oral presentation and paper

15% = mid-term exam

15% = Final exam

**Student Responsibilities**

You are responsible for learning what you missed if you miss a class. I reserve the right to modify the syllabus as needed, and there may be changes at any time. Please do not email me to ask what you missed. Find another student you may contact to catch up. If you miss an in-class quiz, you may not make it up. I will drop the lowest quiz grade.

**Student learning outcomes**: The student will be able to (1) describe representative themes and developments in the humanities; (2) interpret representative terms, works, figures and artists in philosophy, literature, and the visual and performing arts; (3) compare and contrast representative terms, works, figures and artists in philosophy, literature, and the visual and performing arts; and (4) evaluate cultural creations in the humanities.

HUMA 1301 is a Core Curriculum course.

Even though it is an introductory course, this class is READING INTENSIVE.

It is a survey course.

We will be reading a lot.

**POLICIES**:

**Course Withdrawal**

If you wish to drop a course, you must do so by the withdrawal date. After this date the course cannot be dropped, professors can no longer give a grade of “W” at the end of the semester. Instead, students must be given the grade earned, which is usually an “F” if the student stopped coming to class.

**Attendance**

Texas State law requires 87.5% minimum attendance for college courses. You will be dropped if you miss more than 12.5% of instruction (a total of six hours). This can be combined absences or tardies.

Students who are sleeping, talking, or texting during class will be marked absent. Students who leave class repeatedly, come in late and leave early, or are doing other work/reading during the class will be marked absent.

I expect respectful behavior toward myself and all other students at all times. Students behaving with disrespect will be asked to leave and marked absent for the entire class. Thus, repeated behavioral problems will result in your being withdrawn from the class and possibly a failing grade.

**Scholastic Dishonesty**

According to the Student Handbook for the Houston Community College System (27-28), “scholastic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.