

SYLLABUS

Academic Discipline

Humanities

Course Title

Introduction to Humanities

Course Rubric and Number

HUMA 1301 – CRN 32338

Location and Meeting Days and Times

Spring Branch Campus, Room 604

Tuesdays: 6 pm to 9 pm

Course Semester Credit Hours (SCH)

3 SCH – Regular Term

Contact Hours

48 Contact Hours

Course Length

16 weeks

Type of Instruction

Lecture and Web-Enhanced

Instructor Contact Information

Vaishali Khandekar, PhD, Instructor

Department of Philosophy

E-Mail: vaishali.khandekar@hccs.edu

Instructor Office Location and Hours

Campus: Spring Branch

Office Hours: By appointment.

Course Description

An interdisciplinary, multi-perspective assessment of cultural, political, philosophical, and aesthetic factors critical to the formulation of values and the historical development of the individual and of society. (Texas ACGM – Approval Number: 24.0103.51 12)

This course investigates connections between individual human lives and a broad range of culture, aesthetics, and philosophy. (HCCS Catalog) Fulfills HCCS CORE Multicultural Studies requirement; Workforce requirement for the Humanities; and HCC Elective. Global Studies Certificate course.

CORE Requirements, Certificates, AA-Degree Plan, and Transfer Information

HCCS CORE Multicultural Studies requirement; workforce requirement for the Humanities; and HCC Elective. Global Studies Certificate course.

DISCIPLINE NOTICE: Students who are pursuing an HCC AA degree plan are advised that except as noted, this course may not be used to satisfy any other HCC CORE requirement, though it may satisfy certain transfer institution college major requirements. Students who are in doubt about their enrollment in this course should immediately see an HCC academic counselor who can review his or her AA-degree plan.

Prerequisites

Must qualify to take college-level reading (or take GUST 0342 as a co-requisite) and qualify to take college level writing (or take 0310*/0349* as a co-requisite).

Course Goals

This course investigates connections between individual human lives and a broad range of culture, aesthetics, and philosophy. (HCCS Catalog) As presented, its focus is contemporary and proceeds from readings of primary sources and survey of the 20th and 21st centuries; on-site visits to museums; architectural tours; artistic performances; and presentations. Special attention is given to community and global trends, particularly the relations of social and political well-being to human inter-subjectivity and creativity.

Expected Course Learning Outcomes

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
4. Evaluate cultural creations in the humanities
5. Justify a sound philosophical position on a topic, or topics of contemporary human interest in the areas of human creativity and aesthetics, or aesthetic criticism that Integrates and Logically Demonstrates a Synthesis in thought.

Course Learning Objectives

- 1.1 Define/Identify representative themes and developments in the humanities
- 1.2 Identify representative themes and developments in the humanities
- 2.1 Discuss representative terms, works, artists and figures in philosophy, literature and the visual and performing
- 2.2 Review representative terms, artists, works, figures, and artists in philosophy,

literature and the visual and performing arts

3.1 Analyze representative terms, works, artists and figures in philosophy, literature

and the visual and performing arts

3.2 Relate representative terms, artists, works, and figures in philosophy, literature

and the visual and performing arts

4.1 Assess cultural creations (works) in the humanities

4.2 Critique cultural creations (works) in the humanities

5.1 Create and cultivate alternative philosophical positions on presented course

content.

5.2 Develop coherent arguments for chosen positions, bringing to bear the rules

of logic, written expression and disciplined thinking.

5.3 Critique chosen positions and adequately Defend against possible objections,

both theoretical and applied.

CORE Curriculum Competencies

This course stresses the HCC CORE Competencies of reading, writing, speaking, listening, critical thinking, and computer literacy.

Course Calendar

See *Eagle Online* Course Calendar for Updates - Check online course calendar regularly for updates and revisions. The calendar that follows is intended to be a guide, not a straight-jacket.

Depending on class learning progress, your instructor reserves the right to either accelerate, or slow the completion dates of course curriculum *per the* Calendar tool. Calendar includes all reading assignments, homework assignments, availability and due dates for required discussions, examination dates, and no class days (HCC

Spring Break and Holidays)

Course Calendar

Date	Topic	Reading assignment	Assignments/Notes/ Quizzes
Jan-17	Introduction, Reading Ch 1, Sayre	Martin Buber Ch1	Posting of JE 1
Jan-24	Discussion "What is Man"	Sayre Ch 34	Journal Entry 1, due
Jan-31	Ch 34 and Ch 35- Great War	Ch 35	quiz 1
Feb-07	MUSEUM VISIT	Ch 35	Museum of Printing History
Feb-14	Discussion of the impacts of the WWI	Chapter 36	Journal Entry 2, due
Feb-21	Discussion- Harlem Renaissance	Continuity and Change,p.1205	quiz 2
Feb-28	The Rise of Fascism	Chapter 37	
Mar-07	WWII, Mexican Revolution	Chapter 38	
Mar-14	NO CLASS		No Class- Spring Break
Mar-21	Existentialism	Chapter 38	Mid Term essay due
Mar-28	Pop Art	Chapter 39	
Apr-04	Black Identity	Chapter 39	quiz 3, Journal Entry 3 due
Apr-11	Feminism	Chapter 40	
Apr-18	Post Modernism	Chapter 40	Journal Entry 4, due
Apr-25	Globalisation		quiz 4
May-02	Review		
May-09	FINAL EXAM		

Please Note: Date for **Museum of Fine Arts** tour will be announced shortly.

Instructional Methods and Internet Component

This is a *web-enhanced* lecture course that uses *Eagle Online*.

The HCC *Eagle Online* logon page is:

<https://hccs1.mrooms3.net/login/index.php>

Your *Eagle Online* ID is now the same as your HCC User ID which is used for Online Registration. [For example: W0034567] If you don't know your HCC User ID, there is a link on the logon page that you can click on to retrieve it. Your default *Eagle Online* password at the beginning of the term is: "distance". You will be asked to change it the first time you logon. PLEASE SELECT A NEW PASSWORD YOU WILL REMEMBER!!! This password is independent of your Online Registration password. It is your responsibility to change your password. Once logged on, you will come to a page that shows this course and all other courses in which you are enrolled that have online sections, including those designated as either hybrid, or DE. To enter this course, simply click on the course name and you will be taken to the course homepage.

Text Information:

Required Texts:

Sayre, Henry M.//*The Humanities: Culture, Continuity and Change – Book 6*
1st Edition, Pearson-Prentice Hall, 2008//ISBN: 13-978-0-13-086269-3

Recommended Outside Resources:

Buber, Martin // *I and Thou* // W. Kaufmann and R.G. Smith, trsls.

Simon and Schuster//New Translation, 1976// ISBN: 0684717255

Audi, Robert, ed.//*The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*//Cambridge University Press//2nd Edition, 1999//ISBN 0-521637-22-8

Weston, Anthony//*A Rule Book for Arguments*

Hackett Publishing, 4th Edition, 2010

ISBN: 978-0-87220-954-1

Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty is authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office, and to do so in a reasonable manner.

To visit the ADA Web site, log on to www.hccs.edu, click Future Students, then scroll down the page and click on the words Disability Information.

For questions, please contact Donna Price at 713.718.5165 or the Disability Counselor at your college.

District ADA Coordinator - Donna Price - 713.718.5165

Northwest ADA Counselor - Mahnaz Kolaini - 713.718.5422

Academic Honesty

The pressure to earn high grades and belief that *a good end can justify any means whatsoever* leads many students to try cutting corners by resorting to less than honest methods. Do yourself a favor by avoiding that trap. The HCC *Student Handbook* lists cheating, plagiarism, and collusion as scholastic dishonesty. It defines *plagiarism* as "the appropriation of another's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own written work offered for credit." It defines *collusion* as "the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work for credit." Work submitted for this course that is determined to be the result of either cheating, plagiarism, or collusion will earn a "0" for that assignment, and may cause the student to receive either an "F", or "I" in the course depending on your professor's stated requirements for the assignment and the weight it carries in determining your course grade. Students receiving an "I" for a course are ineligible for graduation until the "I" has been removed from a student's transcript. Probation or dismissal from HCC and ALL its several colleges may also result. *See Student Handbook.*

Attendance and Withdrawal Policies

HCC Students are expected to attend class regularly. A daily record of absences will be maintained throughout the semester.

NOTE: IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO DROP, OR OFFICIALLY WITHDRAW FROM THIS COURSE IF, FOR ANY REASON, THAT STUDENT IS NO LONGER ATTENDING. NEW

Attendance and Withdrawal Policies (Continued)

RULES ARE IN EFFECT THAT GREATLY CHANGE HOW AND WHEN THAT CAN BE DONE. YOU WILL NOT BE WITHDRAWN FROM THIS COURSE BY YOUR PROFESSOR. FURTHERMORE, THERE ARE POSSIBLE PENALTIES OTHER THAN LOSING ONE'S PAID TUITION THAT EVERY STUDENT MUST CONSIDER CAREFULLY BEFORE WITHDRAWING. THESE INCLUDE:

- (1) Students who repeat a course for a third, or more times, may face a significant tuition/fee increase at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities.
- (2) The Texas Legislature passed a law limiting new students

(those starting college in Fall 2007) to no more than six total course withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree. There may be future penalties imposed.

(3) No student may withdraw from a course following the set "last date to withdraw", which for Spring is Thursday, April 1, 2013 at 4:30 pm. After that date and time, a student can only be given a grade earned, or an "I" for incomplete. Incompletes must be made up by the end of the following long semester, after which they will automatically change to a grade of "F". Your instructor will not withdraw you for non-attendance and will withdraw a student if and only if provided a written request from that student.

HCC Student Services Information

NORTHWEST COLLEGE STUDENT SERVICES provides master's and doctoral-level counseling for high-quality support services for the Northwest College student body. Counselors are available at each campus to assist students in creating class schedules, evaluating transcripts and completing degree/certificate plans.

STUDENT SERVICES LOCATIONS AND HOURS:

Katy Campus, Suite 104

(713) 718-5751

8:30am–6:30pm Monday thru Thursday

9:00am–1:00pm Friday

HCC Student Services Information (Continued)

Spring Branch Campus

(713) 718-5669

9:00am–7:00pm Monday thru Thursday

9:00am–1:00pm Friday

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

<http://northwest.hccs.edu/northwest/campus-services>

EARLY ALERT: HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your professor will "alert" you through counselors of concerns that you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance.

ALL STUDENTS ARE ADVISED: Contact your professor/counselor about opportunities for private tutoring and other assistance prior to considering withdrawal, or if you are not receiving passing grades. There are many opportunities available to assure your success!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: Receiving either a “W”, or “I” in a course may affect the status of your student Visa. Once a W is given for the course (after you have formally submitted a withdrawal form), it will not be changed to an F because of the visa consideration. An “I” does convert to an “F”, but only after six months have passed from the end of the term it was received. Please contact the International Student Office at 713-718-8520, if you have any questions about your visa status and other transfer issues.

Grading Components and Weights

□ Quizzes- 20%

There will be a 50 point quiz at the end of every three weeks, comprising of Multiple choice and short answer questions on the concepts studied during that period.

$$50 \times 4 = 200$$

- Discussion Forum Participation – **10% (100 points)** – Four **Eagle Online** discussion topics adhering to a two-phase format of threaded discussions and complying to announced minimum length and entry requirements for each phase. Each topic will require an initial reply to the topic question, plus **three** subsequent replies to fellow student posts. All Points will be awarded for completed topics. No points are awarded for missing, or partial entries. Each completed topic will earn **25** points, or **2.5 %** of your total semester grade. Topics will be over **Sayre** text and museum tours. (SLO # 2)

- Journal/Blog – **20 % (200 points)** Four Chapter critical assessments (NOT summaries) of Sayre text reading assignments of at least two pages, typed, double-spaced (Chapters 34, 35, 36, and 37). All Points will be awarded for summaries completed in a timely manner. Each summary is worth 50 points, or 5 % of your total semester grade. (SLO # 1 and SLO # 4)

- Midterm Essay - **25 % (250 points)** This assignment is an answer to a comprehensive question is to be completed at home. It is a graded assignment, e.g. A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, and F. (SLO # 3)

- Major Essay – **25% (250 points)** This assignment is an answer to a

comprehensive question is to be completed at home. It will be due on the scheduled Final Exam Date. This is a graded assignment, e.g. A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, and F. (SLO # 5)

** Essays – will be completed out of class and submitted at the time specified on the course calendar. Please note, these examinations are essays in answer to a specific question that seeks your understanding of the course content. These essays are not to be construed as being research papers and all questions are to be addressed as asked. The grading of exams follows established standards of critical thinking and philosophical argumentation. All references to texts and other copyrighted sources are to follow MLA, APS, or APA style guides, including a “Works Cited” page if and only if they are not included on the list of required texts for this course. Links to these online style-guides can be found in the “Student Resources” folder on your Eagle Online Homepage. Plagiarism on either essay will result in a “0” for the assignment; plagiarized assignments MUST be rewritten to the satisfaction of the instructor and will then be eligible to be awarded 50% credit. Plagiarism on the Final Essay will result in an “I” being awarded for the course until either the deficit is made up, or the “I” turns into an “F” at the end of the established six months following the term’s end.*

- Point Recovery – Students who are disappointed in their performance on the Midterm Essay may “recover” up to one-half the points missed by completing a strictly formatted rewrite. This opportunity applies only to the Midterm Essay. It is an “all or nothing” proposition, meaning that students must follow the instructions as stated.

Minimum Writing Requirement for Graded Materials

1,500 words to be met in Assigned Essay Exams.

Grading Policy

All grades will be figured according to a percentage of *total points*. The total number of points for this term is 1000. The term grade legend and analysis are as follows:

A = 90% to 100% (900 to 1000 point)

B = 80% to 89.9% (800 to 899 points)

C = 70% to 79.9% (700 to 799 points)

D = 60% to 69.9% (600 to 699 points)

F = 0% to 59.9% (000 to 599 points)

Make-up policy

Students are responsible for materials covered in-class and online during their absences, and it is the student's responsibility to contact and consult with the instructor for make-up assignments

(AFTER CHECKING THE ONLINE COURSE CALENDAR). In addition, any student who is absent on posted exam dates should be prepared to schedule the make-up of missed examinations on the first day of returning to class. Make-up examinations are taken by appointment at the campus Testing Center. This scheduling cannot occur during classtime. Any other assignments not turned in on time (due to absences) must also be either turned in, or scheduled for late submission on the first day of returning to class. Finally, there will be no extension of due dates and/or make-ups for Online Requirements. Except for a medical excuse or documented family or personal emergency, there is no exemption from these rules.

Course Content

This is a course about the origins, formation, and preservation of human communities through creativity in the fine and performing arts, writing, architecture, spirituality, and philosophy. And, in a broader sense, it is a course about our understanding of what it means to be human as that meaning finds expression in acts that lead to a genuine sense of dialogue between individuals in our everyday lives, and how dialogue leads to the formation of a genuine sense of community. Thus, while we will survey the cultural products of our built-environment, which are part of that expression, we will also be considering the thinking that precedes their production and how that thinking can either enhance, or prevent moments of encounter with one another that allow us to connect as distinctively human in nature. As part of our inquiry, we will be visiting Houston's Museum of Fine Arts **and** Museum of Printing.

This is also a course about the origins and impact of philosophical discourse on the history of contemporary ideas, including its relation to logic and sound argument; and their relation to our concept of knowledge and learning, particularly as that concept impacts on aesthetics and our judgments of taste as they apply to our sense of community. The standards of thinking and expression found in philosophy embrace every principle and method found in core critical thinking competencies. Readings are taken from select primary sources and a survey of contemporary cultural developments in the arts and humanities. Students must write at least 1,500 words of graded material (e.g. A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, and F) during this course. As noted, this number is achieved in assigned essay exams. The evaluation of written work adheres to the professional teaching standards of philosophy for content and correct grammar. Students are advised that computer knowledge,

word processing skills, and data base learning and research skills are necessary to complete this course. Help is available for students who lack these skills.

Tutoring Information

Limited face-to-face tutoring is available from the course instructor during office hours, or by appointment. In addition, all Humanities students are encouraged to use HCC's online tutoring system for help with any philosophy class. Questions submitted to the ASK queue will be answered within 24 hours – and usually much before that. Tutors are on duty 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Online tutors will not do homework for you, but they will guide you in the right direction. To maximize the effectiveness of the system, be specific when you ask questions, and let the tutor know what class you are taking. If requested (advisable), you will receive two responses – one from an English tutor and if requested, one from a philosophy tutor.

Registering for online tutoring is easy. Go to www.hccs.askonline.net. Select a user name and password that you will remember. Use any e-mail address, and add your student ID number (W number). It will probably take five minutes to set up your [Askonline](http://www.hccs.askonline.net) account. After that, you can submit questions in seconds. Tutor responses are not e-mailed to you. To see the answers, log back in to the system and click the bright yellow NEW button. Online tutoring is available for papers in all subject areas and programs.

EGLS3 – Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System

At Houston Community College, professors believe that thoughtful student feedback is necessary to improve teaching and learning. During a designated time near the end of the semester, you will be asked to answer a short online survey of research-based questions related to instruction. The anonymous results of the survey will be made available to your professors and division chairs for continual improvement of instruction after semester grades have been posted. Look for the survey as part of the Houston Community College Student System online near the end of the term.