

HRS 11: Arts and Ideas of the West (Fall 2008, Section 02, Course Code 17455)

Instructor: Poxon

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Office hours: Wednesday 10:00-11:00 and Thursday 11:00-12:00 (and by appointment)

Course Description: Introduction to the literature, art, architecture, music, philosophy, and history of the West from the Renaissance to the present; fulfills 3 units of GE C3.

Course Objectives: This course is designed as an introductory survey of a vast expanse of Western cultural history. The aim of this course is to attain a clear understanding of key historical developments and their relationship to concurrent and evolving cultural, intellectual, and artistic ideas. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
identify and analyze the stylistic expression of specific ideas in art, architecture, music, literature, and philosophy, and show how they vary across national boundaries and disciplines .

- analyze major works of visual arts, music, and literature from each of the periods presented.
- evaluate and logically discuss in written and oral form key cultural and artistic concepts developed in Western culture from the Italian Renaissance to modern times.
- compare thematic similarities across a broad range of artistic media, including oral and written literature, music, theatre, visual arts, and literature.

Instructor's Expectations: I respect you as students, and in return I expect you to respect me and each other. This means, among other things, refraining from the following while in class: arriving late, leaving early, leaving and re-entering the classroom (except in the case of an emergency), eating, sleeping, reading outside materials, having private conversations, and using cell phones for any purpose, including texting. In addition, and more importantly, I expect an atmosphere of tolerance and respect for other students' opinions, and an objective and empathetic response to the material we study together. Observing these guidelines will help ensure a better learning experience for all. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you have any special needs (learning disability, etc.), please provide me with documentation as soon as possible, so I can make every reasonable effort to accommodate you.

Attendance policy: After the first two weeks of class, I will not keep a record of your attendance. However, your success in this class depends on your being here, so be on time and be prepared. Students who miss more than two class sessions during the first two weeks of class will be dropped to make room for those who want to add.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is becoming a major problem on this campus, and I will not tolerate it. You are all responsible for familiarizing yourselves with the CSUS policies regarding academic honesty, as well as with guidelines for recognizing and avoiding plagiarism. A helpful source in this regard is found at: <http://library.csus.edu/content2.asp?pageID=353>. I will return all plagiarized (unoriginal) work ungraded, and you may not be allowed to resubmit the plagiarized assignment; cases of deliberate plagiarism will be reported to the chair of the Department of Humanities and Religious Studies for appropriate action. **PLEASE, if you have any questions about what counts as plagiarism, ask me BEFORE you take a chance!**

Course Texts:

Matthews and Platt, *The Western Humanities*, Vol. II (6th edition)
Matthews and Platt, *Readings in the Western Humanities*, Vol. II (6th edition)
Douglass, *Narrative*
Chopin, *The Awakening*

Course Requirements: Students should be prepared to do the following to do well in this class:

1. Provide me with a reliable email address (SaLink or any other account).
2. Attend class and participate in class discussions. This means that you must keep up with the assigned readings.
3. Submit a short outline of each reading assignment from *The Western Humanities*. This should consist of brief notes, handwritten or typed, to show that you've done the reading; these will not be graded, but will be checked for completeness. Outlines will not be accepted any later than the week in which they are due, except in the case of extended absence due to illness.
4. Take short quizzes on assigned readings from *Readings in the Western Humanities*. Quizzes will be credit/no-credit; no make-ups will be given.
5. Write three short papers (approximately 2-3 pages each) on assigned topics, according to guidelines we will go over in class. If you have to miss class on the day a paper is due, you should email your paper to me to get it in on time, and then bring a hard copy to the next class. **NOTE:** I will not print out emailed papers; you *must* turn in a hard copy to receive a grade.
6. Take two in-class exams, each of which will consist of a combination of objective and essay questions. Exams will draw from all assigned readings, as well as all material presented in class (including any videos, slides, music, etc., so be sure to take notes on these materials). The second exam, although *not* comprehensive, will be given during the final exam period. ***There will be no opportunity for make-up exams except in the case of real and demonstrable emergency.***

Grading

The required work will be weighted as follows in calculating your final grade:

Attendance and participation: 10%
Outlines: 10% (combined for all outlines)
Quizzes: 10% (combined for all quizzes)
3 short papers: 10% each for a total of 30%
2 exams: 20% each, for a total of 40%

Your final letter grade will be determined according to a standard distribution (i.e., 90 – 100% = A, 80–89% = B, etc.). *You may ask about your status in the class at any time.*

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

NOTE: All reading should be done **by no later than** the date for which it is listed; please bring relevant books to class with you. *WH* = *The Western Humanities*; *RWH* = *Readings in the Western Humanities*.

WEEK 1	Tues 9/2	Course introduction.
	Thur 9/4	The Early Renaissance Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 11 Read <i>RWH</i> , Ch. 11, pp. 1-7 (Pico della Mirandola and Alberti)
WEEK 2	Tues 9/9	The Early Renaissance (cont'd.)

WEEK 3	Tues 9/16	The High Renaissance and Early Mannerism Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 12
	Thur 9/18	Read <i>RWH</i> , Ch. 12, pp. 11-19 (Castiglione and Machiavelli) The High Renaissance (cont'd.)
WEEK 4	Tues 9/23	Northern Renaissance and the Protestant Reformation Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 13
	Thur 9/25	Read <i>RWH</i> , Ch. 13, pp. 27-30 and 37-44 (More and Montaigne) The Northern Renaissance (cont'd.)
WEEK 5	Tues 9/30	Shakespeare's <i>Hamlet</i> Read <i>Hamlet</i> (<i>RWH</i> , pp. 44-96)
	Thur 10/2	FIRST PAPER TOPIC HANDED OUT <i>Hamlet</i> (cont'd.)
WEEK 6	Tues 10/7	The Baroque Age I: Glamour and Grandiosity Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 14
	Thur 10/9	FIRST PAPER DUE The Baroque Age I (cont'd.)
WEEK 7	Tues 10/14	The Baroque Age II: Scientific and Political Revolutions Thought Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 15
	Thur 10/16	Read <i>RWH</i> , pp. 133-41 (Hobbes and Locke) The Baroque Age II (cont'd.)
WEEK 8	Tues 10/21	MIDTERM (Bring one blue book and one #882-E scantron form.)
	Thur 10/23	The Age of Reason Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 16 Read <i>RWH</i> , Ch. 16, pp. 150-56 and 173-77 (Wollstonecraft, Diderot, and Pope)
WEEK 9	Tues 10/28	The Age of Reason (cont'd.)
	Thur 10/30	Revolutions in Industry, Politics, and the Arts Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 17 Read <i>RWH</i> , Ch. 17, pp. 178-81 and 198-200 (Jefferson, <i>Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen</i> , and Keats)
WEEK 10	Tues 11/4	Revolutions in Industry, Politics, and the Arts (cont'd.)
	Thur 11/6	The Triumph of the Bourgeoisie: The Early Nineteenth-Century Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 18
WEEK 11	Tues 11/11	NO CLASS: VETERANS' DAY
	Thur 11/13	Douglass's <i>Narrative</i> Read <i>Narrative</i> SECOND PAPER TOPIC HANDED OUT
WEEK 12	Tues 11/18	The Age of Early Modernism Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 19 Read <i>RWH</i> , Ch. 19, pp. 250-54 (Freud)

	Thur 11/20	The Age of Early Modernism (cont'd.) SECOND PAPER DUE
WEEK 13	Tues 11/25	Chopin's <i>The Awakening</i> Read <i>The Awakening</i> , Ch. I-XIX (pp. 1-89)
	Thur 11/27	NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK
WEEK 14	Tues 12/2	Read <i>The Awakening</i> Read <i>The Awakening</i> , Ch. XX-XXXIX (pp. 89-178) THIRD PAPER TOPIC HANDED OUT
	Thur 12/4	Read <i>The Awakening</i>
WEEK 15	Tues 12/9	The Age of the Masses and the Zenith of Modernism Read <i>WH</i> , Ch. 20 Read <i>RWH</i> , Ch. 20, pp. 278-85 (Yeats, Eliot, and Hughes) THIRD PAPER DUE
	Thur 12/11	The Age of the Masses (cont'd.)
FINAL	Tues 12/16, 12:45-2:45 PM	