



University of Central Florida

HUM 2230H Honors Humanistic Traditions II

Instructor: Bruce Janz	Term: Spring 2007
Time: T Th 12-1:15	Room: BHC 129
Phone: 407-823-2273	Credits: 3
Course Website & Resource Website: http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~janzb/courses/	Section: 0201 Number: 12941
Office Hours: Announced early in the course & on the website	Office: Colbourn Hall 411E – Moving in February to new Psychology Bldg.
Prerequisites: Honors standing	Email: janzb@mail.ucf.edu
The Fine Print: For up-to-date rules and procedures for the course, see the website.	

This course will be an interdisciplinary, multicultural, historical survey of central ideas and questions raised by human thought and representation (art, architecture, literature, music, philosophy, religion) from about 1500 to the present. Students will be required both to recognize ideas and examples of cultural and intellectual production, and understand their meaning and significance. Students will also be encouraged to apply these ideas to larger questions of the nature of human existence. The course will have honors content.

Course Objectives:

- Students should be able to identify and analyze key questions in the humanities that allow them to connect cultural ideas and representations from the past with the present, and from one culture to another.
- Students will be able to recognize and understand ideas and examples of cultural production from human cultures and civilizations in the modern era. The student will be able to think critically and philosophically about them, as well as learning to reflect on one's own cultural and historical position (assumptions and values) in relation to them.
- Students should be able to analyze meanings of artworks, performances, and texts in diverse historical and cultural contexts.
- Students should demonstrate knowledge of the chronology and significance of major events and movements in western civilization, U.S. history or world civilization.

Required Texts:

- Fiero, Gloria. *The Humanistic Tradition, 5th Edition*. Vols. 4-6. McGraw-Hill, 2005.
- Web-based Resources, available on the course web page

Requirements:

1. Identifying Important Questions: (2% x 5 = 10%, due at the latest at the beginning of the week in which the chapter is assigned.) Over the term, you will develop 5 central questions in the humanities that arise from the texts. These questions should be ones which address some issue of human concern connected with the cultural and historical material in the chapters (ideas, images, writings, historical events), and may connect the past with the present, and one culture with another. Each discussion should state the question, connect it to the course material, and analyze it to determine its meaning. The discussion might also connect the question to contemporary issues, as well as suggest disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to addressing the question. I am not asking you to give a definitive answer to the question, but rather give it context as well as a research program. There will be more discussion of this in class. Each of these should be between 200 and 300 words long (please include a word count on your paper). These are due at the beginning of the week in which the chapter is assigned in class (or before, if you wish). If two chapters are listed for a given week, both questions would be due at the beginning of that week.

I will allow you to do 2 papers over the limit of 5. If you do better on those papers, I will substitute the higher grade for the lowest grade you received on a previous paper.

2. Developing Important Questions: (10%, due April 5) Take two of the questions you have written about in the earlier assignment. In 750-1000 words for each question (please include a word count), expand the research on those questions. Do some background reading to determine what has been written about the questions. The purpose of this assignment is to do more background research on some of the questions raised, to set forth a plan of writing that will answer the question.

3. Writing Important Questions (Final Paper): (20%, due April 19) Take one of the questions you developed, and write a 2000-2500 word paper (please include a word count) in which you answer the question. This paper should use at least four scholarly sources.

4. Comparison Assignment: (15%, due Feb. 27) Take two (or more) examples of culture that occur at least 100 years apart (e.g., paintings, music, architecture, philosophical or religious ideas, film, fashion, dance, landscape arrangement – you can work across textual forms, looking at, for instance, the relationship between earlier paintings and later film). In 1000-1500 words (please include a word count), identify a theme, idea, or image that ties the two together. It can be something that they share, or a contrast between them, but the important thing is to show how we can better understand one of these using the other one. The most successful papers will examine not only similarities and differences, but the ways in which adaptations and changes occur over time. At most one of the examples that you use can be from the Fiero text, and the Fiero text description or analysis cannot be used as a source for this paper. It will be absolutely crucial to use library and scholarly sources to succeed in this paper, and it will be graded on your use of sources, along with the quality of the argument and the writing.

5. Midterm Tests: (10% each) There will be two midterm tests: Feb. 8 and March 8. They will be based on the readings, the web resources, and the class discussions.

6. Final Exam: (25% of final grade, Thursday April 26 10-12:50 p.m., in the classroom).

Grade Distribution: I will record the assignment grades based on the percentage of the course grade during the term. The letter grade will be calculated only at the end of the course, based on full course grade. The distribution will be as follows:

A: 93-100	B: 83-86	C: 73-76	D: 63-66
A-: 90-92	B-: 80-82	C-: 70-72	D-: 60-62
B+: 87-89	C+: 77-79	D+: 67-69	F: 0-59

Reading & Assignment Schedule:

Readings must be done for the first class of the week in which they are assigned. All readings are from Fiero, *The Humanistic Tradition, 5th Edition* unless otherwise indicated.

Week 1: Jan. 9, 11 Reading: Ch. 20	Week 2: Jan 16, 18 Reading: Ch. 21	Week 3: Jan. 23, 25 Reading: Ch. 22-23
Week 4: Jan. 30, Feb. 1 Reading: Ch. 24-25	Week 5: Feb. 6, 8 Reading: Ch. 26 Midterm 1: Feb. 8	Week 6: Feb. 13, 15 Reading: Ch. 27-28
Week 7: Feb. 20, 22 Reading: Ch. 29	Week 8: Feb. 27, March 1 Reading: Ch. 30, 31 Comparison Assign. Feb. 27	Week 9: Mar. 6, 8 Reading: Ch. 32 Midterm 2: March 8
Week 10: Mar. 20, 22 Reading: Ch. 33-34	Week 11: Mar. 27, 29 Reading: Ch. 35	Week 12: April 3, 5 Reading: Ch. 36 Developing Important Questions Due April 5
Week 13: Apr. 10, 12 Reading: Ch. 37	Week 14: Apr. 17, 19 Reading: Ch. 38 Writing Important Questions Due April 19	Final Exam: Thursday April 26, 10 a.m.-12:50 p.m.