HUM 101 Instructor name

Term / Year Instructor email

**Introduction to Humanities**

**Text and Materials:**

There is no standard printed textbook for this course. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the Humanities, we will explore readings (articles, e-books, etc.) on a variety of topics and from multiple sources. Each week, your learning module will contain the links to the assigned readings. All of these readings are free to you, the student, and many are “open source” materials.

**Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is to explore the foundations of the Humanities and to increase our understanding of the relationship between history and philosophy and how these relate to the issues concerning the human condition. During this course we will learn about some of the many traditions in the humanities, including the foundations of artistic expression. One of my main goals for this course is to demonstrate that every aspect of the humanities (art, history, philosophy, science, etc.) are all inherently related, and that we cannot accurately study one component of society or humanity without having a working understanding of the related components.

**Grading:**

This course will be primarily lecture format, and I encourage thoughtful questions and feedback. Participation in course discussions will be a component of your grade.

Module Reflections: 20 points each (200 points total)

Midterm: 50 points

Final: 100 points

Discussions : 10 points each (180 points total)

\*\*\*Instructors: In a face-to-face course,

substitute one discussion for each “challenge activity”

Total: 530 points

**Attendance:**

Since this is an online course, “attendance” means, primarily, participating in the discussion forums in a timely and engaging manner. Your discussion posts (and subsequent responses to peers) should be thoughtful and thorough.

**Make-Up Work:**

Be sure to have your assignments into the dropboxes on time. I will not re-open a dropbox for anyone except in a documented emergency. Be mindful of discussion forum due dates; forums will lock after the due date and you will be unable to provide late posts. This policy applies to ALL work in the course. Unless you have a documented emergency, NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.

**ADA Statement:**

If you require special assistance, please notify Student Services prior to the beginning of class so that arrangements may be made.

**Academic Integrity:**

Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will not be tolerated and is grounds for receiving a failing grade and/or further disciplinary review from the college. Sharing thoughts and ideas within the classroom is encouraged. However, you must write your own answers on papers and tests and give proper credit for ideas which are borrowed.

**MIDTERM EXAM:**

This will be online during the course in approximately week 6. I will post more information closer to the release date of the exam. NO LATE EXAMS WILL BE SCHEDULED, YOU MUST COMPLETE YOUR EXAM BEFORE THE DROPBOX CLOSES, NO EXCEPTIONS.

**Assignments:**

Readings— In order to maintain the integrity of our class discussions, it is essential that you read the chapter before class begins so that your contribution may offer additional perspective within the context of the week’s lecture. All of our materials for the course are openly licensed and available online. It is expected that you read all of the posted linked materials each week.

Module Reflections—Each week you will complete a brief reflection in response to a question I will post about the week’s materials. Typically, you will be asked to connect the readings in some meaningful way, often integrating your own perspectives and experiences. Your answers to these questions must be thoughtful and thorough, and representative of college-level writing. All papers must be typed in 12-point font.

Final Capstone—Instead of a traditional final exam, each student will compile a culminating project to highlight one area of research and interest. For ONLINE classes: this project must be in either powerpoint format, or submitted as a link to a youtube (or similar) video. I will provide a rubric for this project later in the term. NOTE: YOU are responsible for making sure I am able to open/view the format of your project. If you are working on a Mac or using Open Office, I STRONGLY encourage you to double-check your file formats to make sure I can open your work. For FACE-TO-FACE classes: You will either submit a powerpoint/video or a creative presentation (at instructor’s discretion). Here are some VERY IMPORTANT things about the final project:

* It is YOUR responsibility to check and make sure that your file uploaded correctly.
* I WILL NOT GRADE projects that are in the wrong file format. If you upload the incorrect file format, you will not be allowed to re-submit after the due date.
* DON’T wait until 11:58 to upload your work. Seriously. This project is a significant portion of your grade. If you wait until the last minute to upload and Moodle “times out”, your work will be late. The dropbox will be open for AT LEAST one week prior to the due date. Therefore, if you wait until the very last minute and something goes horribly wrong, your work will not be accepted.
* I don’t accept ANY late projects. Period. No. Matter. What. Anticipate that you will get called into work, or your computer will crash, or your cat will get sick. Get your work done EARLY, because life won’t wait for a convenient time.
* The powerpoint length limit DOES NOT include your title page or references, but only means the “meaty bits” of your presentation. Don’t try to fluff up the length with some fancy stuff at the front or back, ‘k?
* I will provide a grading rubric for the project, so you’ll know how many points each section is worth. Be mindful that an “A” grade is a combination of factors, so put forth your very best effort and be creative.

NOTE: Each week, you will have several tasks.

* Read the posted materials
* Watch any videos or view any powerpoints assigned to the lesson
* Complete discussion forum(s) and respond to peers
* Complete the module reflection

ALSO NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

* Our week begins on Monday, and all work is due Sunday night by 11:59pm\*\*\*
* DO NOT submit any “zipped” files. You must either type your responses directly into the text window in your “assignments” page, or upload a Microsoft Word or RTF document. I cannot open non-Microsoft file extensions.
* EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW about due dates is on this syllabus. This is your road map to the course this term; use it.
* I will give you info on your final project (the “Capstone Project”) usually by the 5th week of the term.

CONDUCT CODE for HUM 101

* This is a COLLEGE LEVEL course, and I expect conduct and participation that is conducive to the collegiate atmosphere.
* You must do your own work, at all times. Collaboration and teamwork are good study habits, but all submitted work must be YOUR OWN. Do not submit the same thoughts as your colleagues.
* Additionally, if you use any outside resources to locate answers (Google, etc), you must cite your sources. If you plagiarize (see the college Code of Conduct for specific details), you will fail the assignment. Repeat offenders will receive an “F” for the term, and be reported to the appropriate Dean for disciplinary action.
* Because we discuss many concepts concerning the human experience, there’s a good chance you will be offended at some point during this term. Remember, we are here to expand our horizons and engage in critical thought. Differences of opinion are encouraged, but making fun of someone or lashing out in the discussion forums is not proper etiquette and will not be tolerated.
* Be mindful of how you “speak” to your professor and your colleagues in the discussion forums. Every word you write is a reflection of you… be engaging, be sincere, be provocative—but be respectful, articulate, and professional. As Sartre says, we have ultimate freedom but this gives us ultimate responsibility as well. Therefore, use your academic freedoms for good and not evil.
* I have a strict “NO EXCUSES” policy. If you miss an assignment, work harder on the next. Unless you are facing a truly emergency situation (death of parent, child in hospital—something of that dire nature), don’t email me to ask for an extension. In those situations, I reserve the right to require documentation of illness/death before granting extension. Don’t ask me to re-open the discussion boards because you had to work late and missed them. It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to complete the assignments EARLY in the week so that you will be prepared if something comes up on Sunday night. Furthermore… if you do ask for some sort of extension, please note that I am going to seriously consider your prior work ethic when making a decision. Students who consistently work hard and complete assignments early will earn my respect easier than someone who always waits until Sunday night at 11:58 to complete work.
* I HIGHLY encourage you to do more than just the “bare minimum” required in a class. This is actually good advice for ALL of your courses. Doing just the bare minimum implies that you’re a mediocre student, who just wants to “get by”. Put yourself 100% into the course—you will get more out of this course if you apply yourself completely and fully.
* A’s are not given, they are earned—through hard work and dedication. If you expect an A, then I expect you to do more than just the bare minimum.
* Don’t complain (either to your professor or to others in the discussion forums) about the amount of work in the course. As an adult, you can choose to take the course or not. Take a long look at the syllabus during the first week and decide if this course is for you. I expect total dedication and input from each student. Your commitment and hard work in this course will be directly reflected in your grade. Work hard, be consistent, and you are very likely to succeed.
* Above all, roll up your sleeves and get dirty. Read, research, challenge, pick apart, and explore… Be provocative, daring, vocal—don’t be afraid to ask questions and make obscure or “off the wall” points. YOUR opinions matter! YOUR perspectives and reflections give this course substance! So let down your guard, and have fun J

**Schedule**

Module 1: Intro and Early Humanity

week 1 …..…………………………………………............human evolution

Icebreaker Discussion, Discussion 1, module reflection #1

Module 2: Greek Influence

week 2…….…………………………………………….......…Old Dead Greek Dudes

Discussions 2 and 3, module reflection #2

Module 3: Early Religion

week 3…………………………………………………………Foundations of Religion

Discussions 4 and 5, module reflection #3

Module 4: Medievals

week 4………………………………………………Medieval Philosophy/Life

Discussions 6 and 7, module reflection #4

Module 5: Reformation and Renaissance

week 5………………………………………………...........…Italy and Europe

Discussions 8 and 9, module reflection #5

Midterm Exam

week 6

Module 6: Baroque

week 7…………………………………………………………Protestant and Catholic

Discussions 10 and 11, module reflection #6

Module 7: Romantic Era

week 8…………………………………………Philosophy and Culture of Industrialism

Discussions 12 and 13, module reflection #7

Module 8: American Civil War

week 9……………………………………..……………Innovations and Conflicts

Discussion Forums 14 and 15, module reflection #8

Module 9: Toward the Modern

week 10………………………………………Transitions and Emerging Philosophies

Discussion Forums 16 and 17, module reflection #9

Module 10: Capstone Work Area

week 11................................................................................................Finishing up the Course

module reflection #10

Capstone Projects

\*\*\*\*\*\*Finish up, project due by 11:59pm \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*



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