

Dr. Benjamin Goldberg
HUM 2230
010 MWF 11:50-12:40 (CPR 345)
011 MWF 12:55-1:45 (CPR 347)
012 MWF 10:45-11:35 (CPR 256)

Office: CPR 369
Office Hours: By appointment
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Humanities 2230: Renaissance - 20th century

Course Description

This course will discuss and analyze aspects of Western culture from the Renaissance to the 20th Century, exploring various kinds of cultural productions. We shall examine painting, sculpture, music, literature, philosophy, history, architecture, film, and performance. Concepts and materials are organized both chronologically (around key historical events that influenced politics and culture) and thematically (around a series of core questions designed to generate discussion and to stimulate further inquiry).

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete this class will have developed skills that will enable them to:

- (1) Think critically about the history and development of Western culture from the Renaissance to the 20th century.
- (2) Understand some of the changes and developments in topics from God and nature, truth and beauty, and to the nature of reality and our place as humans in it.
- (3) Analyze, interpret, and present about various kinds of cultural productions including philosophical works, poems, and paintings.
- (4) Write clearly and persuasively through both historical contextualization and close reading and interpretation of documents and other sorts of cultural products.

Required Text

Fiero, Gloria K. *The Humanistic Tradition*, 6th Edition. Books 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Emergency Notifications

In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USF to suspend normal operations. During this time, USF may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Canvas, Elluminate, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It's the responsibility of the student to monitor the Canvas site for each class for course specific communication, and the main USF, College, and department websites, emails, and MoBull messages for important general information.

Learning Disabilities/Personal Problems

If you feel that you are dealing with an issue that is in any way affecting your college experience, please come talk with me. Anything we discuss will be private, and we will do our best to offer solutions and to help you work through any problems that you may have.

If you have a learning disability that requires special accommodations or affects your contribution to or performance in class, please speak with one of us privately and contact the office of Disabled Student Academic Services in SVC 2043 (974-4309) so that they can help accommodate your needs. The Tutoring (<http://lib.usf.edu/tutoring/subjects/>) and Writing Center (<http://www.lib.usf.edu/writing/>) are all great resources that I encourage you to use, but please remember that it fills up fast, so please make an appointment!

Plagiarism / Cheating

Academic dishonesty of any type, including plagiarism, is unacceptable. Plagiarism is the representation of another person's work, words or ideas as your own. The cost of plagiarising/cheating starts with failing the course and may result in stiffer penalties.

Course Requirements and Grades

Library Contact: Lily Todorinova, ltodorinova@usf.edu

Grading scale

100-93% A	<93-90% A-	<90-87% B+	<87-83.1% B	<83-80% B-
<80-77% C+	<77-73% C	<73-70% C-	<70-67% D+	<67-63% D
<63-60% D-	< 60% F			

In class exams: 45%

Each exam will focus on the material from that unit and may be cumulative. Exams will feature multiple choice, short answer, and might feature an essay question or two at the discretion of the professor; they exams will get progressively more difficult and longer as the term proceeds.

Unit 1 Exam (9/20): 13%

Unit 2 Exam (10/30): 15%

Unit 3 Exam (see below): 17%

Section 010 (10:45-11:35) 7:30a–9:30a Wednesday, December 11

Section 011 (11:50-12:40) 12:30p–2:30p Wednesday, December 11

Section 012 (12:55-1:45) 8:00P–10:00P Monday, December 9

Group Interpretation Assignment: 25%

You will be assigned a group on the first day of class. The goal of this group activity is to learn how to interpret a document or artifact from the time period under consideration. These documents or artifacts could be philosophical writings, scientific writings, poetry, prose, painting, sculpture, or song, and they can be taken from our books or from anywhere else (with approval from the professor). The groups will be broken down as follows:

Groups 1 & 2: Renaissance (1400-1600)

Groups 3 & 4 & 5: Early Modernity (1600-1800)

Groups 6 & 7: Modernity (1800-Present)

Each group must do the following:

1. Decide on a document or artifact to interpret, and have it approved by the professor, be it a poem, a painting, a sculpture, a philosophical argument, a letter, etc. This document or artifact must be from the period under consideration. If the group chooses a written document, try to pick either a short one, or some part of a longer one, in order to make the project manageable.
 - a. You must inform the professor of your choice at least 1 week before your assigned presentation.
2. As a group, figure out how to best interpret your chosen document or artifact. If it is a philosophical piece, offer an interpretation of the argument (what does it say? Why would the author argue that? Is it a good argument? etc.); if it is an artistic work, analyze its themes and style (does the work have political overtones? Does the style evoke some particular feeling? Was the work appreciated in its own time? etc.); and so on according to the genre of the artifact. If you have questions or need some help, please get in touch with me through email (metabenny@gmail.com).
3. As a group, prepare and then present a 8-10 minute Power Point presentation during your assigned in class presentation slot. This presentation should both introduce the chosen document or artifact and its historical circumstances, as well as present your group's interpretation of it. After the presentation, the group will have up to 5 minutes to respond to questions from fellow students and the professor.
4. The Power Point file must be turned in to the professor after the presentation.

Response Paper: 30%

The goal of this assignment is to respond to a piece we have encountered so far in class through a close reading of that piece (be it an artwork, a poem, or what have you). Each student must write a paper of 3-6 pages (12 pt., Times New Roman, double-spaced, don't mess with the margins: I know that trick). The paper should be written for an academic audience, with proper citations and style. Each paper should include the following:

1. A description of the historical circumstances of the piece chosen.
2. A brief analysis of the work according to its genre (artwork should be analyzed in terms of style and theme, philosophy by argument, etc.).
3. Your own personal response to the work. This response should have two parts:
 - a. This first part of the response should take a stand with regard to the work. If it is a piece of philosophy: do you agree with the argument? If so why, if not, why not? If it is a painting: Do you like the painting? Why or why not? And so on for other sorts of cultural productions.
 - b. The second part of the response should compare the work to another. This other work can be from any period or place we have studied other than the previously chosen piece. The comparison should illuminate your response from (a) by showing how a similar theme, or style, or argument occurred in a different time and place, and how that makes it different from the previously chosen piece.

Due, in class, **December 2**

Schedule

(subject to change – additional readings may be assigned in class, at the professor's discretion)

UNIT 1: THE RENAISSANCE

M 8/26

Introduction; assignment of groups; argument and interpretation

W 8/28

Reading and writing; brainstorming for in-class presentations

F 8/30

Read Ch. 15 *Adversity and Challenge: The Fourteenth-Century Transition*

M 9/02 ***** NO CLASS, LABOR DAY *****

W 9/04

Read Ch. 16 *Classical Humanism in the Age of the Renaissance*

F 9/06

Read Ch. 17 *Renaissance Artists: Disciples of Nature, Masters of Invention*

M 9/09

Read Ch. 17 *Renaissance Artists: Disciples of Nature, Masters of Invention*

W 9/11

Read Ch. 18 *Cross-Cultural Encounters: Asia, Africa, and the Americas*

F 9/13

Read Ch. 18 *Cross-Cultural Encounters: Asia, Africa, and the Americas*

M 9/16

Read Ch. 19 *Protest and Reform: The Waning of the Old Order*

W 9/18

Read Ch. 19 *Protest and Reform: The Waning of the Old Order*

F 9/20

*****EXAM 1 REVIEW*****

M 9/23

*****IN CLASS PRESENTATIONS: GROUPS 1 & 2*****

W 9/25

*****UNIT 1 EXAM (IN CLASS) *****

UNIT 2: EARLY MODERNITY

F 9/27

Read Ch. 20 *The Catholic Reformation and the Baroque Style*

M 9/30

Read Ch. 21 *Absolute Power and the Aristocratic Style*

W 10/02

Read Ch. 21 *Absolute Power and the Aristocratic Style*

F 10/04

Read Ch. 22 *The Baroque in the Protestant North*

M 10/07

Read Ch. 23 *The Scientific Revolution and the New Learning*

W 10/09

Read Ch. 23 *The Scientific Revolution and the New Learning*

F 10/11

Read Ch. 24 *The Enlightenment: The Promise of Reason*

M 10/14

Read Ch. 24 *The Enlightenment: The Promise of Reason*

W 10/16

Read Ch. 25 *The Limits of Reason*

F 10/18

Read Ch. 25 *The Limits of Reason*

M 10/21

Read Ch. 26 *Eighteenth-Century Art, Music, and Society*

W 10/23

Read Ch. 26 *Eighteenth-Century Art, Music, and Society*

F 10/25

IN CLASS PRESENTATIONS: GROUPS 3 & 4 & 5

M 10/28

EXAM 2 REVIEW

W 10/30

UNIT 2 EXAM (IN CLASS)

UNIT 3: MODERNITY

F 11/01

Read Ch. 27 *The Romantic View of Nature*

M 11/04

Read Ch. 27 *The Romantic View of Nature*

W 11/06

Read Ch. 29 *The Romantic Style in Art and Music*

F 11/08

Read Ch. 29 *The Romantic Style in Art and Music*

M 11/11 * NO CLASS, VETERAN'S DAY *****

W 11/13

Read Ch. 30 *Industry, Empire, and the Realist Style*

F 11/15

Read Ch. 31 *The Move Toward Modernism*

M 11/18

Read Ch. 32 *The Modernist Assault*

W 11/20

Read Ch. 32 *The Modernist Assault*

F 11/22 * NO CLASS *****

M 11/25

Read Ch. 34 *Total War, Totalitarianism, and the Arts*

W 11/27

Read Ch. 35 *The Quest for Meaning*

F 11/29 * NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING *****

M 12/2

Read Ch. 36 *Identity and Liberation*; and Ch. 38 *Globalism: The Contemporary World*

RESPONSE PAPER DUE IN CLASS

W 12/4

UNIT 3 EXAM REVIEW

F 12/6

IN CLASS PRESENTATIONS: GROUPS 6 & 7

REMEMBER! UNIT 3 EXAM SCHEDULE

010 MWF 10:45-11:35	7:30a–9:30a Wednesday, December 11
011 MWF 11:50-12:40	12:30p–2:30p Wednesday, December 11
012 MWF 12:55-1:45	8:00P–10:00P Monday, December 9