

South Plains College: General Course Syllabus

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Humanities

Course Number: Humanities 1301

Course Name: Introduction to the Humanities

Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: Yes- Language, Philosophy & Culture

Prerequisites: none

Campuses: All

Textbooks: *The Art of Being Human: The Humanities as a Technique for Living* by Richard Janaro & Thelma Altshuler, Pearson, 11th ed. ISBN: 9780134240305 (This is for an online ebook version called Revel)

Course Specific Instructions: refer to individual instructor's course information sheet

Course Description: This course is 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.

Course Purpose: This course is an introductory course designed to acquaint students with a broad understanding of how the arts interface with individual and societies. A holistic approach will be utilized to explore ideas of aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human experience across cultures.

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to successfully complete this course, the student should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments in a timely manner, and complete all examinations including the final exam. Internet courses require the work to be completed in specific time periods.

Course Evaluation: Refer to the instructor's course information sheet for specifics on assignments and testing.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A

student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

See instructor's Course Information Sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

Disability Services Policy: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland Student Health & Wellness Center 806-716-2577, Reese Center (also covers ATC) Building 8: 806-716-4675, Plainview Center Main Office: 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611, or the Health and Wellness main number at 806-716-2529. See *South Plains College General Catalog 20152016*, pages 53 and 54 for more information.

Academic Integrity Policy: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

- **Cheating:** Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text-book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.

Plagiarism: Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression of material taken from books, Internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

See *South Plains College Student Guide 2017-2018*, pages 13 and 14 and *South Plains College General Catalog 2017-2018*, page 22.

See instructor's course information sheet for more information.

Student Conduct Policy:

- Classroom Conduct: Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course.
- See *South Plains College Student Guide 2017-2018*, pages 13 through 18 for full policy covering other areas of conduct including penalties for misconduct and procedures for disciplinary action.

Equal Rights Policy: All students are entitled to equal rights under the affirmative action and equal opportunity laws. Students are also protected against unjust or biased academic evaluation, but at the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. See *South Plains College Student Guide 2017-2018*, page 10.

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies: Students who have successfully completed this course will be expected to:

- Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
- Articulate how these works express the values of the individual and society within an historical and social context.
- Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works in the arts and humanities.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the influence of literature, philosophy, and the arts on cultural experiences.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the creative process and why humans create.
- ACGM Approval Number: 24.0103.51 12

Core Objectives addressed:

- **Communication skills-** to include effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills-** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Social Responsibility-** to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.
- **Personal Responsibility** – to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Course Specific Information
HUMA 1301

Instructor: Juvencio Portillo

Office Hours: By appointment

Cell Phone: You may text me at this number (936) 230-4411. Please remember to identify yourself and the course in which you are enrolled.

Email address: jportillo@southplainscollege.edu

Thank You: I want to thank you in advance for the time and hard work that you will put into this learning experience. One of the keys to being successful in college is to maintain communication with your instructor. Feel free to call or e-mail if I can help you be successful in this course. I wish you all the luck this semester and hope the grade you achieve in this course will reflect the effort you put into it.

Policies and Important Information

Student Responsibility: It is your job, as a student, to know the rules of student conduct laid out in the Catalog and Student Guide, all other South Plains College policies which impact you laid out in the Catalog, and the policies laid out in this syllabus. It is also your job to check email, blackboard, and the calendar of due dates regularly to make sure that you are keeping up with your work.

Classroom etiquette: It is rude to be physically in class, but not engaged in the class and paying attention. It is a distraction to me and your classmates. I allow the use of computers for taking notes only, but reserve the right to restrict the use of computers or disallow the use of computers in the class if I observe inappropriate use of computers, including but not limited to: checking email, browsing the internet, checking Facebook, registering for classes, etc. This is IMPORTANT! Cell phones should be silenced or turned off during class. Behaviors that are inappropriate include, but are not limited to: use of cell phones, reading the newspaper, reading material for other classes, talking while other people are speaking, sleeping in class, making offensive/bigoted remarks, and taking pictures of any portion of the class (remember your classmates have the same FERPA privacy rights as you do!). It is not acceptable to take pictures of PowerPoint slides as a substitute for taking notes. You are not allowed to record class (voice or video) without my permission.

Attendance Policy: See college catalog. Class roll will be taken during each class meeting and a record of attendance will be maintained. You will be responsible for the material presented in class as well as the assigned material from the textbooks.

Administrative Drop Policy: Due to Financial Aid and South Plains College requirements for participation/attendance a student who fails to attend 5 classes during the semester may be dropped with a grade of "X" from the course. Similarly if a student fails to turn in two of the major assignments (i.e. tests, projects, or quizzes), he/she may be dropped with a grade of "X" from the course.

Tardiness: Being late does not constitute being absent but it is very disruptive and rude to come to class late so allow enough time in your schedule to arrive a few minutes early to class. If you do arrive late, quietly take a seat closest to the entrance. Also, it is your responsibility to sign the roll sheet or you will be counted absent.

Late work: No late work is accepted in this course.

Blackboard: Blackboard is the computer software used to deliver this course. It is essential that you have reliable access to the Internet. It is not necessary to purchase or own your own computer but you should have a backup plan in place should you encounter computer problems. There are open computer labs available to all enrolled SPC students on all campuses. Should you encounter technical difficulties contact the instructor first, and/or the SPC technical support. Also you may contact blackboard@southplainscollege.edu or call (806) 894-9611, ext. 2180. Be sure to include course and section number information when contacting technical support.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Journals (50 points each; Total of 200 points)

There will be four journal-based projects in this class. Each one will require that you reflect on and apply material from class focused on starter questions that I provide to you. These journals will go beyond your ability to remember the concepts and focus on your ability to think critically about the material and relevant issues. Starter questions will be initially provided during lecture and later posted to Blackboard. If you miss the announcement in class, you may get it from a classmate or wait until it is posted to Blackboard. The first three journals will be due on exam days (journal one due on the day of exam 1, etc.), but the fourth one will be due the last day of presentations. See tentative schedule below.

2. Pearson REVEL chapter quizzes (30 points each; Total of 300 points)

The required book for this class is an e-textbook. Access to this e-textbook involves the purchase of an access code. Within each chapter of the e-textbook, there is a chapter quiz, worth 30 points. The best 10 chapter quizzes (out of 12 required chapters) will be worth up to 300 points toward your final grade. The schedule of due dates is in the tentative schedule below.

3. Exams (100 points each; Total of 400 points)

There will be four exams this semester. The fourth exam (final exam) will count the same as the first three and will not be cumulative. All exams may include a mix of any of the following types of questions: multiple choice, True/False, matching, fill in the blank, short answer/essay. The listing of exam dates is in the tentative schedule below. For all exams, you will be required to place all belongings at the front of the room and you will not be permitted to have notes, cell phones, smart watches, hats, or sunglasses at your desk. ***If you arrive late to an exam and any of your classmates have already finished the exam and left the room, you will not be permitted to take the exam.*** If you miss an exam and can document an excusable reason, then you will be permitted to take a make-up exam. You must take that make-up exam within one week of the original exam (or within one week of when you are able to return to school according to your documentation).

4. Presentation (100 points)

Each student will give a presentation focusing on the topic they find most interesting. This presentation will be given during the last three classes (Nov. 29th, Dec. 4th, and Dec. 6th). Students will have the opportunity to sign up for their presentation day during the first two weeks of class. The goal of this presentation is for you to go beyond the textbook and teach your classmates about something that belongs with the topics of this course. Citing outside sources will be required. If you do not present on your assigned day, you will not receive any points, except in the case of students who have an excused absence and schedule a make-up presentation. Additional detailed instructions will be provided on Blackboard and discussed in class

Extra Credit: Extra credit points may be earned based on class participation for a maximum of 50 points a semester.

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English.

Final Grade Calculation

You final grade will be determined as follows

Pearson REVEL chapter quizzes	300 points
Journals	200 points
Exams	400 points
Presentation	100 points
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Total	1000 points

Your letter grade will be based on the following percentages:

90% and above	A
80%-89%	B
70%-79%	C
60%-69%	D

Tentative Schedule:

Please note that you are responsible for any schedule changes announced via Blackboard, SPC email, or announced verbally in class.

Date	Topic	Reading Due	Work Due
Aug. 28	Introductions		
Aug. 30	The Humanities: A Shining Beacon	Chapter 1	
Sept. 4	<i>Labor Day Holiday-no class</i>		
Sept. 5	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 1 Revel Quiz
Sept. 6	Critical Thinking	Chapter 2	
Sept. 11	Critical Thinking		
Sept. 12	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 2 Revel Quiz
Sept. 13	Myth and the Origin of Humanities	Chapter 3	
Sept. 18	Myth and the Origin of Humanities		
Sept. 19	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 3 Revel Quiz
Sept. 20	Happiness	Chapter 12	
Sept. 25			Exam #1; Journal #1
Sept. 27	Literature	Chapter 4	
Oct. 2	Literature		
Oct. 3	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 4 Revel Quiz
Oct. 4	Art	Chapter 5	
Oct. 9	Art		
Oct. 10	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 5 Revel Quiz
Oct. 11	Music	Chapter 6	
Oct. 16	Music		
Oct. 17	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 6 Revel Quiz
Oct. 18			Exam #2; Journal #2
Oct. 23	Theater	Chapter 7	
Oct. 25	Theater		
Oct. 26	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap.7 Revel Quiz
Oct. 30	Cinema	Chapter 9	
Nov. 1	Cinema		
Nov. 2	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 9 Revel Quiz
Nov. 6	Freedom	Chapter 16	
Nov. 8	Freedom		
Nov. 9	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 16 Revel Quiz
Nov. 13			Exam #3; Journal #3
Nov. 15	Religion	Chapter 10	

Nov. 16	Last day to drop a course Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 10 Revel Quiz
Nov. 20	Morality	Chapter 11	
Nov.21	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 11 Revel Quiz
Nov. 22-24	<i>Thanksgiving Holiday-no class</i>		
Nov. 27	Love	Chapter 13	
Nov.28	Quiz due by 11:59pm		Chap. 13 Revel Quiz
Nov. 29	Presentations		
Dec. 4	Presentations		
Dec. 6	Presentations		Journal #4
Dec. 11	Arrive at your regular classroom at the Final Exam Time. Do not be late to this exam!		Exam #4

Course Agreement

I have received a copy of the course syllabus. I have reviewed the syllabus thoroughly. I understand the course format, attendance, drop policy, classroom behavior, Blackboard, SPC email, assignment, and grading structure. I further understand my responsibilities and rights as explained by the instructor. I also understand that this course deals with controversial/difficult topics and will discuss any issues I have concerning the class material and/or discussion with the professor. I agree to all the course requirements as stated in the syllabus.

Course and section number _____

Student's name (print) _____

Date _____

Student's Signature _____

***This sheet must be turned in before Exam #1 and will count as part of your Journal #1 grade. This information will be kept until the completion of the corresponding semester. Following this period this sheet will be shredded and disposed of properly to ensure the confidentiality of this information.