

Eastern Kentucky University
Department of Foreign Languages & Humanities
HUM 300: HUMANITY IN THE POSTMODERN AGE
CRN: XXXXX

Professor: TBA
Office: TBA
Office Hours: TBA
Email: TBA

Catalog Course Description: HUM 300 Humanity in the Postmodern Age. (3) A.
Prerequisite: ENG 102, 105(B), or HON 102. Comparative and interdisciplinary approaches to the study of culture since 1945, including study of Western and non-Western works of literature, visual art, music, film, and religion/philosophy; focus on integrative thinking as a means toward affirming values for living meaningfully in the contemporary world. Credit will not be awarded for both HUM 300 and 300W. Gen. Ed. E-3A, 3B.

Required Texts:

Fineberg, *Art Since 1940* (Prentice Hall; 2nd edition, 2003) ISBN: 0131833219
McCluhan, *The Medium is the Massage* (Gingko Press, 2001) ISBN: 1584230703
Harrison & Wood, *Art in Theory, 1900-2000* (Blackwell, 2nd edition 2002) ISBN: 0631227083

Additional required materials include handouts, images viewed via the internet, and films shown and discussed in class.

Skills Developed in the Humanities: Students that complete this course will gain greater verbal, written, and analytical skills to enable them to read, interpret, and evaluate literary and artistic works and be able to apply these skills to other academic areas. Students also will be able to think more critically and creatively, constantly seeking to question and improve their world. These are skills that will support your personal and professional growth. These are also skills that are transferrable and adaptable to a wide variety of work situations.

A. General Education Goals and the Course

Students will be able to:

1. Use appropriate methods of critical thinking and quantitative reasoning to examine issues and to identify solutions. (Goal two)
2. Analyze the values, cultural context, and aesthetic qualities of artistic, literary, philosophic, and/or religious works. (Goal six)
3. Distinguish the methods that underlie the search for knowledge in the arts, humanities, natural sciences, history, and social and behavioral sciences. (Goal seven)

4. Integrate knowledge that will deepen their understanding of, and will inform their own choices about, issues of personal and public importance. (Goal eight)

B. Student Learning Outcomes

The General Education Goals are achieved through the study of selected works of literature, visual arts, drama, and music. Students will be introduced to various critical methods to enable them to interpret such art works in a systematic and rational way. Such critical models will help students explore and articulate their interpretations so that they may better understand and define the cultural and personal values inherent in the arts. Students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Analyze through written work the essential humanistic problems and complications of twentieth and twenty-first centuries (Comprehension and Clarity of Expression).
2. Critically examine major modern and postmodern works of literature, art, drama, film, and music (Contextual Analysis).
3. Understand and analyze the humanistic concepts of twentieth and twenty-first century and apply them to modern and post-modern problems and works of art, literature, drama, film, and music (Comprehension, Contextual Analysis, Theoretical Application).
4. Examine and evaluate the various aesthetic and cultural movements of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries in historical context (Comprehension, Context, and Theoretical Application).
5. Differentiate and evaluate in written work modern and postmodern perspectives as expressed in works of art, literature, drama, film, and music. In written work, express ideas that are clearly formulated, grammatically correct, and stylistically competent. (Integration Across the Course; Clarity of Expression).

Attendance and Expectations: Students are expected to attend class. Students are expected to read or otherwise prepare materials prior to class. Students are expected to bring the required books and other materials to class when those materials are under consideration. Students are expected to participate in class appropriately. Classroom discussion will prepare you for the test. If you do not participate, you will not be prepared. Your grade in this class is your responsibility.

Requirements: Four non-cumulative, equally weighted exams will determine your grade. The exams will be returned to you, each prior to the next, so that you can assess your evolving grade in the course. 90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, <60=F

Evaluation Methods: TBD

Note: I reserve the right to make changes in this syllabus as necessary throughout the semester. Any such changes will be announced in class.

Drop/Add and Withdrawal Deadlines

Students should consult the Schedule of Dates on the Colonel's Compass regarding Drop/Add and Withdrawal dates: <http://colonelscompass.eku.edu/calendar-spring-2014>

Disability Statement

A student with a "disability" may be an individual with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities such as learning, seeing or hearing. Additionally, pregnancy or a related medical condition that causes a similar substantial limitation may also be considered a disability under the ADA.

If you are registered with the Office of Services for Individuals with Disabilities, please obtain your accommodation letters from the OSID and present them to the course instructor to discuss any academic accommodations you need. If you believe you need accommodation and are not registered with the OSID, please contact the office in the Whitlock Building Room 361 by email at disserv@eku.edu or by telephone at (859) 622-2933. Upon individual request, this syllabus can be made available in an alternative format.

Academic Integrity Policy

Students are advised that EKU's Academic Integrity policy will strictly be enforced in this course. The Academic Integrity policy is available at www.academicintegrity.eku.edu. Questions regarding the policy may be directed to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Official E-mail and Blackboard Access

An official EKU e-mail is established for each registered student, each faculty member, and each staff member. All university communications sent via e-mail will be sent to this EKU e-mail address. If you have any difficulties with EKU e-mail, Blackboard or any other technological aspect of this course, please contact the Information Technology Help Desk, whose job it is to help you, at (859) 622-3000. Their webpage, on which you'll find a link to Blackboard Support, is: <http://www.it.eku.edu/helpdesk/>.

Schedule by week:

Aug 21	Abstract Expressionism, Fineberg, 20-31; 74-113; 128-147 Greenberg "Avant-garde and Kitsch" www.sharecom.ca/greenberg/kitsch.html
Aug 28	cont.
Sept 4	No class Monday ; Postwar European art
Sept 11	Neo-Realism: <i>The Bicycle Thief</i>
Sept 18	cont.; Test One
Sept 25	Neo-Dada, Fineberg 172-221
Oct 2	Pop Art, Fineberg 244-266
Oct 9	Fall Break Monday ; McLuhan, <i>The Medium is the Massage</i>
Oct 16	cont.; Test Two
Oct 23	

Oct 30 Performance art; Conceptual art; Minimalism, Fineberg, 294-322
Nov 6 Pluralism, Fineberg, 376-393, 466-477, 478-503
Nov 13 Matthew Barney, *Cremaster 3* (selection)
Nov 20 **Test Three; Thanksgiving**
Nov 27 Site specific art: Fineberg, 323-331, 356-363; Goldsworthy, *Rivers and
Tides*
Dec 4 cont.; review
Dec 11 **Final Exam Week**