

University Studies 1320: Humanities
Modernism and the Globalization of Culture
Professor Victoria Grieve
Spring 2011, T/TR 10:30-11:45am

Classroom: TSC Auditorium

Office Location: Main 321-G

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 10am-11am, or by appointment.

Email: victoria.grieve@usu.edu

Office Phone: 70145

Graduate Assistant: Jon Alfred; **Email:** jonwalfred@yahoo.com **Office Hrs:** T/TR 1-2pm

Course Description

Many of you may have walked into this course without knowing what is meant by the term “humanities.” You may think of such divergent topics as the Humane Society and Human Anatomy. If we look to the Latin root, *Humanitas* is best understood to mean “human nature” or “humanity.” The study of humanities (*literae humaniores*) is, therefore the study of what makes us human. As humans, we define ourselves in a variety of ways, but in this class we will



concentrate on how humans have sought to understand themselves and their world through the arts, including visual and literary culture, and especially during times of war and social change.

Course Objectives

The purpose of this course is to understand the development of modern culture, particularly in the United States, and the ways in which culture interacts with, transforms, and transcends the world around it.

- Our primary focus will rest with the United States from 1900 to the present, but we will also discuss events and cultural forms in Europe and Mexico.
- Your goal is to embrace the personal and intellectual growth that comes from studying and understanding the past.
- My main goal is to advance your skills in articulating issues centering around historical events and figures, matters which relate to all times and peoples.
- With effort, you will increase your knowledge of modern cultural developments and the events that inspired them.

Required Texts

Henry Sayre, *The Humanities: Continuity, Culture and Change, Book 6. Modernism and the Globalization of Cultures, 1900-Present.*

There is a Blackboard page for this class where I will post Powerpoint presentations.

Please do not submit any assignments on Blackboard. All assignments are due in class.

Academic Honesty

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated in this course, and will be grounds for a failing grade for the assignment or the course. Academic misconduct includes plagiarism, which includes knowingly “representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one’s own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgement. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.” (*Code of Policies and Procedures for Students*, Article V, Section 3A.1) The penalties for plagiarism are severe. They include “#1) warning or reprimand and #2) grade adjustment” (see: Article VI, Section 1A): Other penalties may also be imposed at the Dean’s discretion. These include probation, suspension, expulsion, withholding of transcripts, denial or revocation of degrees, referral to psychological counseling, and other appropriate disciplinary actions. Please review “The Code of Policies and Procedures for Students at Utah State University” for more information.

Disability Resource Center

Students requesting academic accommodations based on a disability must register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), which will issue a verification letter. DRC is located in University Inn 101, and is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri; 797-2444.

Assignments and Assessments

- 1.) 8 chapter quizzes– taken in class as noted in the Course Schedule below. Your lowest score will be dropped. **Quiz make-up day is THURSDAY, APRIL 28 in class.** (7 quizzes @ 5% each = 35%)
- 2.) Go to the Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art; choose one piece of art on exhibit and write an analysis of the work. 500 words/2-3 pages. Sign up schedule on Blackboard. Due 2 weeks after you go to the museum. (15%).
- 3.) Answer one Critical Thinking Question from the end of 5 chapters (Choose 5 of the 8 chapters). (15%)
- 4.) Midterm Exam (15%)
- 5.) Final Exam (20%)



Course Schedule

Tuesday	Thursday
1/11 Course Introduction Lecture: The Rise of Modernism	1/13 Modernism and the Arts Read: Chapter 41 Quiz – Chapter 41

1/18 The Great War and its Effects: Literature and the Visual Arts Read: 1350-1359; 1364-1382	1/20 The Great War and its Effects: Philosophy Read: 1350-1359; 1364-1382
1/25 The Russian Revolution: Politics and its Cultural Impact Read: 1359-1363 Quiz – Chapter 42	1/27 The 1920s in the US: Optimism and Pessimism Read: 1386-88, 1398-1411
2/1 The Harlem Renaissance Read: 1388-1398	2/3 From Silent Film to the Talkies: A Bit of Film History Quiz – Chapter 43
2/8 The Rise of Fascism in Europe Read: 1422-1436; 1428-1432	2/10 Social Realism: USSR, Mexico, and the US Read: 1436-1440; 1433-1434
2/15 Culture during the Great Depression Read: 1440-1448 Quiz – Chapter 44	2/17 Midterm Review In-class study session
2/22 NO CLASS – FOLLOW MONDAY SCHEDULE	2/24 MIDTERM EXAM
3/1 World War II	3/3 Existentialism and Abstract Expressionism Read: 1460-1489
3/8 SPRING BREAK	3/10 SPRING BREAK
3/15 Cold War Culture and the Red Scare	3/17 The Other 1950s Quiz – Chapter 45

3/22 The Civil Rights Movement in the United States and the Black Arts Movement	3/24 The Civil Rights Movement in the US: <i>Eyes on the Prize</i>
3/29 Rebels With a Cause: Art and Music in the 1960s Read: 1515-1525	3/31 The Political Scene: Kennedy through Nixon and Identity Politics
4/5 The Sixties in Global Context	4/7 Vietnam Quiz – Chapter 46
4/12 Postmodernism: Architecture and the Visual Arts Read: 1528-1553	4/14 Postmodernism: Literature and Theater Quiz – Chapter 47
4/19 The Global Village Read: 1556-1573	4/21 Contemporary Art
4/26 The Global Village Read: 1573-1583 Quiz – Chapter 48	4/28 QUIZ MAKE-UP DAY Course Evaluations Final Exam Review
FINAL EXAM: Thursday, May 5, 9:30am-11:20am	<i>By law, I am prohibited from emailing any grades. Thank you for not asking!</i>

Have a great summer!