

Introduction to Humanities (HUMA 1301) - Common Course Syllabus Sections 154 and 451

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Prerequisites: TSI reading compliance for INET Available

Discipline: Humanities

Course Number: HUMA 1301

Course Name: Introduction to Humanities

Campuses: Levelland, Lubbock Downtown Center, Lubbock Career and Technical Center, Dual Credit

Formats: Conventional (Fully Face-to Face, Fully Online, Hybrid)

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

Does this course satisfy a core curriculum requirement? Yes - Language, Philosophy & Culture

Course Description: This stand-alone course is an interdisciplinary survey of cultures focusing on the philosophical and aesthetic factors in human values with an emphasis on the historical development of the individual and society and the need to create.

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.

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.

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.

Relevant SPC Policies & Procedures:

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: Dr. Andrea McCourt is the faculty member who is responsible for the assessment of the student learning outcomes. She will be sending a list of which SLOs will be assessed for each semester. Garrett is also the person responsible for entry of the data into Weave for documentation.

Course Evaluation: See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance. However, all courses will have multiple exams and written work that is designated by the instructor of record.

Attendance/Engagement Policy: Students are expected to engage in class each week in order to be successful in a course. "Engagement" includes learning activities such as logging into class weekly, submitting assignments, completing make-up work, etc. Due to South Plains College attendance policies, any student who fails to engage in three consecutive weeks during the semester or fails to attempt a minimum of two major grades may be dropped from the course with an 'X' or 'F.'

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.

Dropping a Course: Students may drop courses through Texan Connect, the Admissions and Records Office, or Advising and Testing Center through the late registration period.

After late registration has closed, a student must complete the online [Student Initiated Drop Request](#) to drop a course.

Students may also drop courses in person at any campus location by completing a Student Initiated Drop Form. Complete a [Student Initiated Drop Form](#) and return the signed form to the Levelland Admissions and Records Office, the Student Support Center at the Lubbock Downtown Center, the Lubbock Career and Technical Center, or Plainview Center. You must have a picture ID to complete the drop.

A mark of "W" will be given for student-initiated drops that occur prior to and through the last day to drop as indicated in the online Academic Calendar found here:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/academiccalendar/index.php>.

South Plains College policies concerning Disabilities, Non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy and Parenting Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation), Intellectual Exchange, Campus Concealed Carry, COVID-19, and AI (Artificial Intelligence) can be found here: [Syllabus Statements](#) or <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/index.php>

Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

AI Use Policy: Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs (such as ChatGPT) may be used in this class to generate ideas and brainstorm for assignments. For example, ChatGPT might be used to generate a thesis statement for an introductory paragraph while the individual independently writes the rest of paragraph. However, you should note that the material generated by AI programs may be incorrect, incomplete, or otherwise problematic. Overuse or incorrect use of AI programs may also decrease individuals' independent thinking, creativity, and learning.

You may not submit any work generated by AI programs as your own original work. This includes discussion questions and essay questions. Using AI to create an assignment or even the majority of an assignment is considered to be a form of plagiarism in this class. If you include material generated by an AI program, it should be cited in the same manner as any other outside materials/references. Here is a link with information on how to cite AI using APA Citation Style: <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Instructor's Course Information: HUMA 1301: Introduction to Humanities

Name: Dr. Andrea McCourt	Phone Number: (806)716-2458
Office: Levelland - Administration Room 127 Lubbock Downtown Campus Room 2005	Email Address: amccourt@southplainscollege.edu
Course Website: Blackboard (southplainscollege.blackboard.com)	Preferred Contact Information: Because I teach on both the Levelland and Lubbock campuses, email is typically the fastest way to contact me.
Final Exam Time: Students must submit the final assignment during Finals Week	
Office Hours: Mondays: 9:00-9:30; 11:00 a.m.-Noon and 1:00-3:00 (Levelland Campus) Tuesdays: 8:30-9:30 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m. (Lubbock Downtown Campus) Wednesdays: 9:00-9:30; 11:00 a.m.-Noon (Levelland Campus) Fridays: Virtual and On-Campus Office Hours by Appointment	

Textbook Information: All reading materials are posted in Blackboard. You will not need to purchase a textbook for this class.

Student Access to Office 365

Microsoft Office 365 is now available to all SPC students. Students will have access to email, file storage, and Microsoft Office applications including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Publisher, Outlook, Skype and OneDrive by logging into <https://office.com> or <http://portal.office.com/account/#installs> for more apps.

All new student correspondence will be sent to their new o365 email account (student1234@southplainscollege.edu) and also forwarded to their Gmail account that will remain active.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

Respect for Fellow Students: It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability or age. All students will maintain respect for fellow classmates' personal beliefs, values, morals and life situations. In short, "Bigotry will not be tolerated." (Student Guide)

Disruptive Behavior: Do your best to be respectful of others and their right to learn in a peaceful environment in all aspects of classroom behavior. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to creating distractions, talking out of turn, talking with classmates during lecture, wandering in and out of class, chronically showing up late, chronically leaving early, or improper use of technology. "Failure to comply with lawful directions of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class will result in the student being dropped from the course." (See Student Guide)

Late work: All assignments are considered late if they are not submitted by 11:59 PM CST on the day they are due. For each week that assignments are late, a 10% deduction in the overall grade for that assignment will be enforced. Please note that some assignments (such as exams) are not accepted late without an excused absence (such as a doctor's note that the student was ill). Assignments will not be accepted after two weeks past the original due date, except with instructor permission. Assignments other than the Final Exam will not be accepted after the last official day of class.

It is the student's responsibility to plan ahead to submit assignments on time. If you are traveling, etc. and are unsure of your access to the internet, it is strongly recommended that you plan ahead and submit assignments and take quizzes early. If for some reason the Blackboard system is down and the class has trouble accessing the quiz (this is rare but has been known to happen) I will work with the class to create a new due date. The key is this: internet access is required for this course, if you are unsure of your potential access submit early!

At times, extraordinary circumstances (death in the family, verified illness, etc.) may occur in student's lives that impact their assignment submission. In these circumstances, course assignments (e.g., quizzes, written assignments, etc.) might be granted an extension from the instructor. If you feel your circumstances warrant an extension, please email the instructor within one week of the original due date.

Methods for Assessing Expected Student Learning Outcomes: Online discussion, quizzes, writing assignments, midterm exam, final exam.

Regular course assignments will not be accepted after the last official day of regular classes (Sunday, May 3).

Regular class assignments will not be accepted during the week of Final Exams.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING INFORMATION:**Online Discussion (worth up to 200 points or 20% of overall grade in the course)**

The Online Discussion component of this course is comprised of weekly Discussion Questions (DQs) and is an important part of class. Most weeks there will be discussion related to the course material. The faculty member posts weekly main discussion questions for the class to discuss. Students are expected to respond to ALL Main DQs. As a general rule, Main DQ responses should be at least 150 words in length.

Each week, you are also expected to make at least 2 thoughtful and substantial responses to classmates. Because these responses are interactive in nature, I do not accept these late. All responses submitted after the due date will be given a zero.

I suggest that class members participate in the online discussion at least two times per week. It is a good idea to check in early in the week and again closer to Sunday (the last day of each week of class, except as noted in the Course Schedule). This assures that you are an active member of the class throughout the week and have ample opportunity to interact with other class members. Weekly Discussion will be closed at 11:59 p.m. Central Time on Sunday nights, unless otherwise noted below.

For each Main DQ, you will be graded on (1) your response to the question and (2) your responses to classmates' discussion of that same discussion question (at least two responses are required per discussion question). Weekly Online Discussion will be graded as follows:

Responses to Main DQs (worth up to 60% of the weekly discussion grade) should:

- be made in a timely fashion that gives others an opportunity to respond
- include accurate information and be on topic
- be thoughtful, organized, and analyze the information and/or question
- utilize appropriate language, grammar, and spelling

Responses to Classmates' Postings (worth up to 40% of the weekly discussion grade) should

- for each Main DQ, include at least 2 responses to classmates
- be constructive/supporting
- add to the overall value of the discussion; simply posting a statement of "I thought this week's ideas were neat" or "I agree" will not be given full credit
- utilize appropriate language, grammar, and spelling

Quizzes (worth up to 200 points or 20% of the overall course grade):

There will be quizzes throughout the semester over the assigned readings and course materials. Quizzes are designed to assess your understanding of the course materials. You will have the opportunity to take each quiz two times. The average of those two scores will be used to calculate your grade.

All quizzes are taken in Blackboard and are timed. Once you start a quiz, you must complete it. You will not be able to log back into a quiz once you have opened it. Please make arrangements to take each quiz on a computer with a secure internet connection. If you lose internet connectivity, your quiz attempt will be submitted whether you have completed it or not. Please note that quizzes and exams do not always work well in the Blackboard app. You must take the quizzes individually.

Please see the course schedule for due dates. Generally speaking, you should expect to have one quiz most weeks. All quizzes are due in Blackboard by 11:59 pm on Sunday evenings.

Hero's Journey Analysis (worth up to 100 points or 10% of the overall course grade)

For this assignment, students will analyze a film that depicts the different stages of Joseph Campbell's description of the mythological "Hero's Journey". This analysis involves being present in class for the review of the film as well as a Blackboard assignment related to the analysis. More details on this assignment will be posted in Blackboard.

Taming of the Shew Analysis (worth up to 100 points or 10% of the overall course grade)

For this assignment, students will analyze a modern film adaptation of William Shakespeare's play "The Taming of the Shrew". This analysis involves being present in class for the review of the film as well as a Blackboard assignment related to the analysis. More details on this assignment will be posted in Blackboard.

Analysis of Film and Musical Theater Activity (worth up to 100 points or 10% of the overall course grade)

For this assignment, student will watch a film and analyze the film's use filming and sound techniques such as camera angle, mise en scene, diegetic/non-diegetic sounds, and the sound track. More details on this assignment will be posted in Blackboard.

Exams (worth up to 300 points or 30% of the overall course grade) Exams will assess your knowledge related to the significant concepts, theories, frameworks, and information from course readings, videos, and discussions. It is your responsibility to be take these exams at the appropriate time and place. You may not use AI or search engines such as Google on exams. You cannot work with classmates or receive help from anyone else during this exam.

Make-up exams: Students should make every possible effort to take each exam on the scheduled date and time. If necessary, students may only take one make-up exam during the entire semester. If you will be missing an exam, you must inform the instructor at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled exam time. If students fail to notify the instructor 24 hours prior to the exam, the make-up exam will automatically be scheduled during finals week. If you fail to attend your scheduled make-up, your grade for that exam will be a zero, no exceptions.

Regular course assignments will not be accepted after the last official day of regular classes (December 6, 2026).

Regular class assignments will not be accepted during the week of Final Exams.

Grading Policy & Method of Evaluation:**Summary of Assignments**

Assignment	Possible Points
Online Discussion	200
Online Quizzes	200
Hero's Journey Analysis	100
Taming of the Shew Analysis	100
Analysis of Film and Musical Theater	100
Exams	300
Total Points Possible =	1000

Final Grades will be determined by calculating the total amount of points earned by you this semester. Using the scale below, your instructor will determine the corresponding letter grade.

A = 900-1000 points

B = 800-899 points

C = 700-799 points

D = 600-699 points

F = 599 (or below) points

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

TENTATIVE COURSE CALENDAR/OUTLINE		
Calendar Week/Dates	Course Topics and Assigned Readings	Assignments <i>(due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on Sundays unless otherwise noted)</i>
Week One August 24-30	Introduction to the Humanities Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion
Week Two August 31-September 6	Philosophy and Critical Thinking Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion Online Quiz in Blackboard
Week Three September 7-13	Mythology Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion Online Quiz in Blackboard
Week Four September 14-20	The Hero's Journey Film Analysis Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	The Hero's Journey/Hunger Games Analysis Assignment
Week Five September 21-27	Overview of Art Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion Online Quiz in Blackboard
Week Six September 28-October 4	Art History Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion Online Quiz in Blackboard
Week Seven October 5-11		EXAM 1
Week Eight October 12-18	Overview of Theater Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion Online Quiz in Blackboard
Week Nine October 19-25	Elizabethan Theater and Shakespeare Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion Online Quiz in Blackboard
Week Ten October 26-November 1	Taming of the Shrew Analysis Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Taming of the Shrew Blackboard Assignment

Week Eleven November 2-8	Music Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion Online Quiz in Blackboard
Week Twelve November 9-15	Film and Television Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion Online Quiz in Blackboard
Week Thirteen November 16-22	Music in Theater and Film Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Discussion Online Quiz in Blackboard
Week Fourteen November 23-29 Happy Thanksgiving!		Exam 2
Week Fifteen November 30-December 6	Analysis of Film and Musical Theater	Online Discussion (extra credit)
Final Exams Week	Final Exam	The Film Analysis must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, December 8

**Assignments will not be accepted after the last official day of regular classes
In other words, assignments cannot be submitted for credit during Final Exams Week.**