SPC
INTRODUCTION TO HUMANITIES
COMMON COURSE SYLLABUS

Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: HUMANITIES

Course Number: HUMA 1301

Course Name: INTRODUCTION TO HUMANITIES

Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0
This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: Yes – Language, Philosophy and Culture

Prerequisites: none for campus; TSI reading for Internet

Available Formats: Conventional and Internet

Textbook: No textbook is required for this course, learning material will be made available in Blackboard.

Supplies: Computer and Internet access for Internet courses and campus classes.

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/Rationale/Goal: 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.

Learning Outcomes/Competencies:
Upon the successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Articulate how these works express the values of the individual and society within an historical and social context.
3. Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works in the arts and humanities.
4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the influence of literature, philosophy, and the arts on cultural experiences.
5. Demonstrate an awareness of the creative process and why humans create.

ACGM Approval Number: 24.0103.51 12

Core Objectives:

- **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.

Texas Coordinating Board Approval Number…… 45.1101.53 25

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

Attendance Policy: 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.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first-class meeting.

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.

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;
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.

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

Artificial Intelligence Statement:

Purpose of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications: AI applications such as ChatGPT, OpenAI, Bard, Grammarly, WordTune and others are advanced language models designed to aid and engage in meaningful conversations, as well as generate and revise content. AI is intended to supplement learning, stimulate critical thinking, and enhance academic discourse. However, its use comes with certain responsibilities.
Academic Integrity: Using AI to generate academic work, including essays, reports, or assignments, without proper attribution is a violation of SPC academic integrity policies. Plagiarism undermines the learning process and is strictly prohibited. Students must ensure that their work reflects their own ideas, research, synthesis, and analysis and appropriately cites all sources, including AI.
Collaboration and Consultation: While AI can be a valuable resource, it is essential to strike a balance between seeking assistance and maintaining personal responsibility. Collaboration with peers, consulting instructors, and utilizing other approved learning resources should be prioritized. Overreliance on AI for solutions without actively engaging in the learning process is discouraged and can be grounds for academic integrity violations. Utilizing AI as a tool for brainstorming or research is allowed but the writing should be the student's own work and thoughts.
Critical Thinking and Originality: AI usage can provide suggestions and information, but it is essential to critically evaluate the responses and exercise independent thought. Relying solely on AI for answers deprives students of the opportunity to develop their analytical and problem-solving skills. In assignments where originality, creativity, and independent thinking are valued, AI would be detrimental to the student learning process. Critical thinking and originality emphasize the importance of independent thinking in all academic endeavors as part of the student's learning experience apart from outside influence and offers the student the opportunity to refine their unique, individual voice through academic discourse with other students and faculty.
Ethical Use and Bias Awareness: AI is trained on large amounts of data from the internet, which may include biased or inaccurate information. Be mindful of the potential for bias and

critically evaluate the responses provided by AI. Therefore, when using AI, just like with using any other database, students must verify that the information is from reliable sources, question any potential biases, and ensure that the information and sources used in the paper are neutral, peer-reviewed sources.

Responsible Engagement: Students should engage with AI in a respectful and responsible manner and avoid using offensive language, discriminatory remarks, or engaging in any form of harassment or inappropriate behavior. Students should also uphold the standards of respectful communication in addressing both AI and fellow classmates.

Compliance with South Plains College Policies: Policies regarding the appropriate use of AI in South Plains College courses are set by instructional departments and individual instructors. Appropriate use of AI may range from strict prohibition to assignments they may require the use of AI. Misusing or violating the guidelines outlined in this syllabus warning may result in disciplinary action, including academic penalties. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the specific course policies regarding the use of AI and adhere to them throughout the semester.

Remember, AI can be a tool to support your learning in certain courses and assignments, but it cannot replace the critical thinking, creativity, and independent work that are integral to your overall academic growth.

Academic Appeals Procedure

INFORMAL APPEAL

1. The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or discipline action.
2. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate department chairperson to discuss the situation. (The chairperson may request that the instructor also be present.)
3. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. (The dean may request that the chairperson also be present.)
4. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should be advised of the formal appeal process.

FORMAL APPEAL

1. If the student is not satisfied with the results of the Informal Appeal, he/she should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:
   a. A request for a formal appeal hearing. b. A brief statement of what is being appealed. c. The basis for the appeal. d. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.
   NOTE: The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter.
2. The Vice President for Academic Affairs of South Plains College, will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.

THE HEARING

1. Composition of the appeals committee:
   a. Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing. b. Faculty member of the student's choice. c. Faculty member and student of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. d. President of the Student Body/Student Advisory Council. e. Vice President of Student Affairs.
2. Other persons who should be available at the hearing:
   a. The student who requested the hearing. b. The faculty member involved. c. Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case. d. Chairperson and Divisional Dean.
3. Hearing Procedure: The Committee will hear the student's appeal during which the parties to the controversy, and such representatives as desired, will present all facts relating to the case. Consequently, the committee will recommend appropriate action by majority vote.

4. The termination of the hearing finalizes the academic appeal procedure.

APPEAL RESTRICTIONS

1. Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. 2. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. 3. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit
https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/

South Plains College policies, return to campus plan, and protocols regarding COVID-19 can be found here: COVID Response (southplainscollege.edu).

INSTRUCTOR-SPECIFIC COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

HUMA 1301
INTRODUCTION TO HUMANITIES
Spring 2025

Instructor: Morgan Keener

Office: Plainview 101H
Phone: 806.716.4320
Email: mkeener@southplainscollege.edu or through Blackboard Email

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesday 1:30-3:30pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:45-10:15am; Fridays 8:30-11:30am

Required Text: No textbook is required. Weekly readings are provided for you.

How this Course is Conducted:

This course is a blended/hybrid course, which means that you will attend face to face, in a regular classroom setting, twice a week for lectures and instruction; ***but*** you will access Blackboard for all of your course work and for your grades.

Logging into Blackboard:

To access your course, go to https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/ or go to the SPC Homepage and click on the “Login to” link in the top right-hand portion of the page and then click on the Blackboard link on the pull-down or you can type or copy the address into the address window of your computer. I recommend that you bookmark Blackboard on your computer for quick access. You can also log into MySPC and there is a Blackboard link there. Once you reach the site you will click "Log In". The log-in screen will come up asking for your user name and password. Simply follow the instructions on the screen.

OTHER INFORMATION concerning Blackboard:

Open Computer Lab: There is an Open Computer Lab located on the Levelland campus in the Technology Center. It is available to all students, with priority given to those students enrolled in computer classes. Computers are also available on the Reese Center, Lubbock, and Plainview campuses. Check with libraries and labs for hours.

Technical Problems/Support: If you are having computer problems, you have to let me know. I will try to help you in any way that I can. Please remember that it is your responsibility to have a backup plan if your computer goes down. Please have this plan in place now and do not wait until it is a crisis situation. If you lose your course work due to bad flash drives, Internet service down, computer crash, or your dog ate your homework, there is nothing I can do about it. **THIS IS YOUR WARNING TO HAVE A BACKUP PLAN IN PLACE.**

- **IMPORTANT:** Most tech issues are related to failure to update java, using the incorrect internet browser (try use Google Chrome or Firefox instead of Internet Explorer), and/or not deleting browsing history files daily. Most issues are related to computer issues, not Blackboard. Please note that this instructor does NOT recommend use of any handheld devices for taking this course. Cellphones are wonderful but not for course work done on the Internet.
- Reminder - **bookmark** the Blackboard login page on your computer.

SPC Technical Support Contact: Call (806) 716-2180 or email at Blackboard@southplainscollege.edu for student technical support. I am your course work support contact. Only call or e-mail technical support with questions about Blackboard or computer functioning. There is Technical Support information in the Start Here area of your Blackboard course. It contains links to Student Tutorials and the Student Orientation Course for Blackboard. Contact me for any course content information.
https://www.southplainscollege.edu/technology/it-help-desk.php

PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO TURN COURSE WORK IN OR YOU MAY HAVE PROBLEMS! Remember the saying "**TECHNOLOGY HAPPENS**"!

Anti-virus Software: Please make sure that your computer has an up-to-date antivirus software program installed.

Academic Integrity: In addition to the policy in the Common Course Syllabus, it should be understood that students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism will earn a zero on the work in question for the first offense and will be dropped from the course with an 'F' should a second offense occur. Any amount of dishonesty is subject to these consequences, whether a lot or a little; this can include but is not limited to one copied sentence of a written assignment, a missing citation, an entire paper copied from someone/somewhere else, one plagiarized post on a discussion board, one copied exam item, looking at the scantron of another student during an exam or an exam or other coursework completed by someone other than yourself. You have also committed academic dishonesty when sharing course content/items/answers. This includes sharing course content with classmates or future students as well as sharing course content on websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, or similar "study applications." For further information and examples please see the Catalog, Student Guide, or refer to www.plagiarism.org

There is an APA Citation tutorial in the Applying the Sociological Imagination Essay section of your Blackboard course.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Resource Policy: If the student submits work obtained by using AI or is suspected of utilizing AI, it will be considered plagiarism and receive a grade of zero for the work. This course policy will be provided as feedback for said coursework, letting the student know that AI is suspected, or plagiarism has occurred. It is the student's responsibility to follow up with the instructor within 3 days of the posted grade if work has been incorrectly flagged for AI use. The student can discuss the coursework in question with the instructor by virtual appointment to earn credit. In these cases, the student will need to verbally provide mastery of concepts related to the work in question. Any further attempts at using artificial intelligence as one's own work will continue to earn zeroes for those attempts or may result in a course drop with an F by the instructor. The incidents will also be detailed to the Dean of Students for disciplinary actions.

Smoke free environment: The following is the SPC policy on tobacco use.

South Plains College prohibits the use of any tobacco product, electronic cigarette, or vapor device throughout all indoor areas and within a 25-foot perimeter around all facility entrances, exits and HVAC air intake vents under the control of SPC, including sporting facilities and SPC vehicles. Included in this ban are tobacco products of all types (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner to be suitable for spit tobacco use, smoking, or both). *This ban also includes herbal tobacco products and simulated tobacco products that imitate or mimic tobacco products such as e-cigarettes, vapor cigarettes, pipes or other types of inhalation devices.*

Attendance Policy: The following is in addition to the Common Course Syllabus:

You are expected to attend class in person and remain for the entire class. Attendance is necessary as test questions will also come from the lecture, class discussion and other material received in class as well as the textbook. If you are late, it is your responsibility to speak with the instructor to see if you missed an important announcement or assignment at the beginning of the class. Please communicate with me if you plan to be absent – this is your responsibility as a student.

Blackboard "Participation" in this class is **mandatory** – this is how you earn your grade. There are numerous assignments which should force you to log-in continuously. I understand that each of you has your own schedule and will be logging-in at different times. That's fine. All that is expected of you is that you **GET THE WORK DONE!!**

Each assignment and discussion have a dictated due DATE and TIME. It is your responsibility to get the work done and submitted to me by the designated time/date.
If you are unable to log-in or complete your work for any reason, **YOU MUST CONTACT ME ASAP!**

Excuses such as "The network was down," or "I could not figure out how to send the assignment through the assignments function" are not acceptable. In short, plan ahead and **do not wait until the last minute to submit your assignments**. It is always okay to turn in assignments early although discussion board postings should be done with the calendar schedule.

It is the student's responsibility to drop the course on or before the last drop date of the semester to avoid failure. Administrative drops will not be made, unless student has discussed/made arrangements with me.

Technical help with Blackboard and Student Support Services: https://www.southplainscollege.edu/technology/it-help-desk.php

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COURSE POLICY AND REQUIREMENTS

This is what you need to do to ***earn*** your grade

Introduction module: You must complete this to remain in the course.

Course Work: *You are responsible for all of your readings and assignments*. It is required that you read/review each assigned module, as well as complete the module activities. There are 12 modules that you will complete over the course of the semester.

Final Project: more information on Blackboard

All grades will be posted in Blackboard under the **My Grades** link.

Total possible points you can earn is 1,000. Your overall letter grade/percentage is based solely on the points you earn. Please reference the grading scale below. ***Grades are NOT rounded up, which means if you earn 899 points, you will receive an 89% or a B as your overall grade, no exceptions***

Grading scale:

A = 900 – 1000
B = 800 – 899.99
C =700 – 799.99
D = 600 – 699.99
F = 0 – 599.99.

This scale is the typical: A = 90%-100%; B=80%-89.99%; C=70%-79.99%; D=60%-69.99%; and F=0%-59.99%.

If you have any questions about any of the course work or anything about the course material do not hesitate to speak to me during office hours, before/during/after class, or via Blackboard e-mail.

Late work is accepted but not encouraged. Deadlines provide structure, and it is preferable that you stick to the course calendar. The deadline for all late work will be provided by the instructor in Blackboard.

Extra credit opportunities will be made available during the semester. I recommend that you take advantage of those opportunities as they become available as I will not make extra credit available on individual request.

Course Calendar
Spring 2026

All assignments modules are due on Sundays by 11:59pm, except your Final Project

Date	Day of the Week	Course Work
Jan 12	Monday	Classes begin
Jan 18	Sunday	Introduction Module due
Jan 19	Monday	MLK Day – All Campuses Closed
Jan 25	Sunday	Module 1 due
Feb 1	Sunday	Module 2 due
Feb 4	Wednesday	No Face to Face Class: See Blackboard
Feb 8	Sunday	Module 3 due
Feb 15	Sunday	Module 4 due
Feb 22	Sunday	Module 5 due
Mar 1	Sunday	Module 6 due
Mar 4	Wednesday	No Face to Face Class; See Blackboard
Mar 8	Sunday	Module 7 due Final Project check in due
Mar 15	Sunday	Module 8 due
Mar 16-20	Mon-Friday	Spring Break – all campuses closed

Mar 29	Sunday	Module 9 due
Apr 1	Wednesday	No Face to Face Class; See Blackboard
Apr 5	Sunday	Module 10 due
Apr 12	Sunday	Module 11 due
Apr 19	Sunday	Begin Module 12
Apr 26	Sunday	Module 12 due
Apr 30	Thursday	Last Day to Drop
May 4	**Monday**	**Final Project due**
May 7	Thursday	Classes end
May 8	Friday	Graduation

This calendar is subject to change. Students will be notified in class and/or through Blackboard of any changes.