

## **Introduction to Humanities (HUMA 1301) - Common Course Syllabus Section 001**

**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 attending class, 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 writing assignments and essay questions on exams.** 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

<b>Name:</b> Dr. Andrea McCourt	<b>Phone Number:</b> (806)716-2458
<b>Office:</b> Levelland - Administration Room 127 Lubbock Downtown Campus Room 2005	<b>Email Address:</b> <a href="mailto:amccourt@southplainscollege.edu">amccourt@southplainscollege.edu</a>
<b>Course Website:</b> Blackboard (southplainscollege.blackboard.com)	<b>Preferred Contact Information:</b> Because I teach on both the Levelland and Lubbock campuses, email is typically the fastest way to contact me.
<b>Final Exam Time:</b> Students must submit the final assignment during Finals Week	
<b>Office Hours:</b> Mondays: 11:00 a.m.-Noon and 2:15-3:15 (Levelland Campus) Tuesdays: 8:30-9:30 a.m. and 12:15-3:15 p.m. (Lubbock Downtown Campus) Wednesdays: 11:00 a.m.-Noon and 2:15-3:15 (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)

**Electronic Devices:** Cell phones must be silenced and put away while in the classroom. Devices used for note-taking are permitted, but should be used responsibly and must not create distractions for you or others. Headphones will not be allowed during class.

**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. Students cannot submit regular assignments during the week set aside for Final Exams.

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:** Class 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, 2026).**

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

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING INFORMATION:****Attendance/Participation/Engagement in Class Activities (worth up to 200 points or 20% of the course grade):**

Participation includes being involved in class each week (attending class, being on time for class, participating in class activities, etc.). Part of this grade requires you to participate in discussion and activities. I will drop your lowest two activity grades. If you are here for all of the activities those points will count as extra credit points for the course.

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

There will 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 take these exams at the appropriate time and place.

**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.

### **Grading Policy & Method of Evaluation:**

#### **Summary of Assignments**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Possible Points</b>
Attendance/Participation/Engagement	100
In-Class Activities	100
Online Quizzes	200
Hero's Journey Analysis	100
Taming of the Shew Analysis	100
Film Analysis	100
Exams	300
<b>Total Points Possible =</b>	<b>1000</b>

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 (due in Blackboard by 11:59 PM on Sundays unless otherwise noted)
<b>Week One</b>  January 12-18	Introduction to the Humanities  Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	
<b>Week Two</b>  January 19-25  NO CLASS ON Monday, January 19 due to the MLK Holiday	Philosophy and Critical Thinking  Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Quiz in Blackboard
<b>Week Three</b>  January 26-February 1	Mythology  Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Quiz in Blackboard
<b>Week Four</b>  February 2-8	The Hero's Journey Film Analysis  Related materials are posted in Blackboard	<b>The Hero's Journey/Hunger Games Analysis Assignment</b>
<b>Week Five</b>  February 9-15	Overview of Art  Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Quiz in Blackboard
<b>Week Six</b>  February 16-22	Art History Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Quiz in Blackboard
<b>Week Seven</b>  February 23-March 1		<b>EXAM 1</b>
<b>Week Eight</b>  March 2-8	Overview of Theater  Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Quiz in Blackboard
<b>Week Nine</b>  March 9-15	Elizabethan Theater and Shakespeare Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Quiz in Blackboard
<b>SPRING BREAK (March 16-22)</b>		
<b>Week Ten</b>  March 23-29	Taming of the Shrew Analysis  Related materials are posted in Blackboard	<b>Taming of the Shrew Blackboard Assignment</b>

<b>Week Eleven</b> March 30-April 5	Music Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Quiz in Blackboard
<b>Week Twelve</b> April 6-12	Film and Television Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Quiz in Blackboard
<b>Week Thirteen</b> April 13-19	Music in Theater and Film Reading materials are posted in Blackboard	Online Quiz in Blackboard
<b>Week Fourteen</b> April 20-26		<b>EXAM #2</b>
<b>Week Fifteen</b> April 27-May 3	Analysis of Film and Musical Theater	
<b>Final Exam Time Period</b> May 4 - 7	Final Assignment (Analysis of Film and Musical Theater Activity)	<b>The Final Assignment must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Tuesday, May 5 at 11:59 PM</b>