

***Spring 2026***

***South Plains College: Humanities 1301 Section 181***

***Introduction to Humanities/Instructor: Robert Wood***

**CONTACT:**

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Office Location: Levelland, Student Services 118

Levelland Office Hours: 8:15-9:30 on M, T, W, R and 8:15-11:15 on Friday

Office Phone: 894-9611 ext. 4034

**South Plains College: General Course Syllabus**

**Department:** Behavioral Sciences

**Discipline:** Humanities

**Course Number:** Humanities 1301

**Course Name:** Introduction to the  
Humanities **Credit:** 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: Yes- Language, Philosophy & Culture

**Prerequisites:** none

**Campuses:** All

**Textbooks:** All materials will be provided to the student online and without cost.

**Course Specific Instructions:** refer to individual instructor's course information sheet

**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:** 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.

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

**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 The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.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.

See instructor's Course Information Sheet for additions to the attendance policy.

**Students can find the Diversity Statement, Disabilities Statement, Non-Discrimination Statement, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement, and Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

here: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is

regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

- **Cheating:** Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the text- book or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This applies to quizzes of what- ever length, as well as to final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.

**Plagiarism:** Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression of material taken from books, Internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism. 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; and 5. Using any form of Artificial Intelligence Software (A.I.) to create or write (in whole or in part) any academic submission of any size.

See *South Plains College Student Guide 2015-2016*, pages 13 and 14 and *South Plains College General Catalog 2015-2016*, page 22.

See instructor's course information sheet for more information.

#### **Student Conduct Policy:**

- Classroom Conduct: Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course.
- See *South Plains College Student Guide 2015-2016*, pages 13 through 18 for full policy covering other areas of conduct including penalties for misconduct and procedures for disciplinary action.

#### **Campus Concealed Carry syllabus statement:**

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and

South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: [http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human\\_resources/policy\\_procedure/hhc.php](http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php)) Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

**Grade and Academic Discipline Appeals:** South Plains College provides two procedures which allow students the opportunity to address grievances of an academic nature.

- **Appeal Restrictions:** Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed
- **Informal Appeal**
  - 1. The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or disciplinary action.
  - 2. If the student is still not satisfied, she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate departmental 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:** If the student is not satisfied with the results of the informal appeal, s/he should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:
  - 1. A request for a formal appeals hearing.
  - 2. A brief statement of what is being appealed.
  - 3. The basis for the appeal.
  - 4. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.

The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.

- **The Hearing**
  - **Composition of the appeals committee:**

- Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing.
- Faculty member of the student's choice.
- Faculty member and student selected by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- President of Student Government Association.
- Dean of Students.
- Other persons who should be available at the hearing:
  - The student who requested the hearing.
  - The faculty member involved.
  - Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case.
  - Chairperson and Divisional Dean.
- 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. By majority vote, the committee will decide to sustain, amend or reverse the previous decision.
- The decision of the committee is final and completes the academic appeals procedure.

See *South Plains College Student Guide 2015-2016*, pages 18 and 19.

**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.

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**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.
- Revised Fall 2023

Instructor Information Sheet

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I can almost always be reached by email and we can meet virtually on Collaborate. This is the Blackboard virtual classroom which is similar to a Zoom meeting.

**Academic Integrity- See College Catalog, p. 23.**

Unfortunately, it is necessary to remind all students that any form of cheating will not be tolerated. Cheating is cheating, whether plagiarism or copying another student's exam. Since the Internet has become a common source of information, it is important that you understand plagiarism and not neglect to include citations or footnotes on all papers. Please do not put yourself or others in the position of having cheated. If you are caught cheating at my discretion you may be removed from class. In discussions you will need to read the material before posting your first discussion post. On papers as well as discussions: **You are not allowed to simply copy work and rephrase it and claim it is your own. This is plagiarism!**

## **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Resources:**

**Use of AI software is prohibited in the class.** If your work triggers multiple AI detection software packages. You will be given a zero and feedback will direct you to the syllabus. If you feel this was an error, you have 10 days to set up an appointment with me and I will ask you to explain the learning objectives or content that the assignment is covering. If you do that and illustrate that you have mastered the material, we can discuss your grade on the assignment in question. If you do not contact me and have an appointment within the first 10 days after the grade is posted, you forfeit the right to have any such meeting or grade appeal directly with the instructor. This does not mean that you cannot appeal the grade at another level, that is still your right.

## **Classroom Behavior:**

\_\_\_Although this is an online course there are still acceptable and unacceptable behaviors. I do want you to feel the academic freedom to ask questions of myself and other students. I do want all questions though to be academic in nature and respectful. We will cover many controversial subjects (race, sexuality, class) and I want you all to feel comfortable asking questions but there is to be no name calling during discussions and all posts must be respectful of everyone in the class. Also see the Attendance section!!

## **Attendance:**

While this is an online class there will obviously not be the need for physical attendance. However working at regular intervals is paramount in student success so you need to be involved in the class every week either through your discussion topics, or handing in assignments. **If you are not attending or participating in the course you may be dropped. If you miss four or more than four assignments over the course of the semester I may drop you with an X or an F.** This includes missing discussions, papers, reading assignments, or tests. You have to do all of the activities in the class to be a part of the class. If you are not fully participating in discussions (doing the introductory post but not responding to others, or vice versa) and this becomes a pattern these may be counted in your missed assignments.

## **Accommodations:**

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**Grading:** There are an assortment of assignments that must be completed in the course. These range from video assignments in Ultra, paper annotation assignments in

Perusall, Short writing assignments and a major semester project. These assignments values and due dates are listed in the course checklist. Your grade will be determined by the percentage of points that you earn against the points that were possible. I will use a standard grading rubric of 90-100% is an A, 80-89% is a B, 70-79% is a C, 60-69% is a D and below 59% is an F.

**Instructor Expectations:** While much of the syllabus details what I expect of you as a student this section deals with what you can expect of me. If you send me an email on M, T, W, R, or F (by noon) you can expect a response within 24 hours. This does not mean that I will know the answer to your question, but if I don't then I will at least respond and let you know I got your email and am working on it. If you email on Friday afternoon, Sat or Sun then I *may* get back to you that day, but you can expect to hear from me by Monday afternoon. When grading assignments, I will typically have everything graded within a week of when it was originally due. . Feedback is very important and I will use it on the hand graded written work. It is important that you read the feedback so that you do not repeat the same mistakes and lose points again for something that can be avoided. If you feel that I am not keeping up my end of the bargain as an instructor I certainly want you to feel free to speak with me about it. You can do this through email or a phone call. If for some reason you feel that you cannot talk to me about it then I would welcome you to speak with my Department Chair Dr. Peggy Skinner.

Textbook and Reading Assignments: All reading assignments links are contained within the blackboard course shell. For the annotations in Perusall I will not count off for minor misspellings or grammatical errors. However I expect you to do the work. *Do not cut and paste content into the annotation windows as this will not receive any credit.*

**Academic level writing is expected on all assignments:** Please do not use abbreviations, slang or idioms as this will hurt your grade. Follow standard rules of grammar on anything you turn in or email to me or another student. As not following standard grammatical practices impacts your ability to communicate in a written forum, assignments that are turned in with multiple or apparent grammatical errors can expect that to be reflected in the grade that the student earns for the assignment.

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