

HUM 2020 Encountering the Humanities

UCF Fall 2018

This course is conducted entirely online through Canvas. It is not self-paced; there are weekly assignments.

Syllabus Change Policy: This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change. Any changes will be posted in the Announcements in the Canvas course site, and emailed to all students. Please read this syllabus carefully, along with "How the Course Works," which can be found under the Pages menu button, and is also linked in the Week 1 module.

Instructor: Remy Christopher Ansiello (remy.ansiello@ucf.edu). You can also call the following phone number, 407-582-1971, or send me a message through the People menu in Canvas.

Contact and Office Hours: I respond to emails/Canvas messages usually the same day, definitely within 24 hours, Monday - Friday.

Text: Sophie's World, by Jostein Gaarder

Catalog Course Description: "The range of ideas, research methods and approaches to scholarship, critical reflection, and creative work in the humanities." This course opens with a discussion of what 'the humanities' means and whether their study is relevant.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Encountering the Humanities is a part of the cultural and historical foundations requirement within the General Education Program. The university sets the following learning outcomes:

Be able to gather, synthesize, and analyze information from appropriate resources and be able to critically evaluate information and sources for accuracy and credibility.

Identify and deepen appreciation of common human themes and the richness of diverse cultures.

Be able to analyze and discuss meaning of an artwork, performance, or text in diverse aesthetic, historical and cultural contexts.

Demonstrate knowledge and critical thinking of the concepts, styles, and aesthetic, theoretical, and critical principals in an art.

Demonstrate knowledge of the chronology and significance of major events and movements in western civilization, U.S. history or world civilization.

Evaluation: Final grades are calculated as follows:

Introductions Forum Post: 25

3 non-cumulative tests, worth 100 points each: 300

Reaction Paper 1: 100

Reaction Paper 2: 100

7 group discussion posts/responses, worth 25 points each: 175

6 journal reflection assignments, worth 50 points each: 300

Total points for course: 1000

Grading Scale: 900 – 1000: A; 800 – 899: B; 700 – 799: C; 600 – 699: D; 559 and lower: F. This is the official grading scale; Canvas may show a different scale, but please ignore it.

Attendance/Assignments: If you miss a deadline for any reason other than a serious and documentable one, you will not be able to make up the work and will receive a “0” for that assignment. You should always contact me immediately if you have a problem submitting an assignment, not the day after. If you will have an unavoidable work or school requirement that takes you out of reach of the internet for a brief period during the semester, let me know this during the first week of class. Vacations, family events, or other types of personal travel are not acceptable excuses for missing an assignment deadline.

Help with Canvas: I am responsible for content only and don't have the expertise to troubleshoot individual issues, so please contact Support by clicking on the Help button in Canvas, or calling 407-823-5117 or emailing servicedesk@ucf.edu. The Service Desk is open 7 am – 7 pm on weekdays.

Student Responsibilities: Students are expected to

- obtain their textbook in time to complete the first assignments
- have regular and reliable access to a computer that can access the course materials fully
- proactively resolve any technical issues
- check their email and visit the course site regularly during the week
- carefully read/watch everything assigned by the instructor
- complete all assignments by the deadlines
- avoid plagiarism and work alone - collaboration is considered a form of plagiarism

Expected Student Conduct: We are working in a virtual environment, but the policies of UCF's Golden Rule still apply, and online students are subject to penalties for disruptive behavior. In all your communications, please remain as courteous and respectful as you would in a face-to-face class. In an online environment we don't have the cues of seeing expressions and hearing tones, so it's a good idea to take a little extra care to avoid sounding curt or negative.

Academic Honesty: You are expected to write every word of any assignment yourself, from your own ideas, and never to use someone else's words or ideas without identifying them as such. Don't take any material from any without identifying it and its source clearly with a citation, and quotation marks if it's a direct quote. Writing assignments are submitted through Turnitin, which checks them for borrowed material; the discussion forum posts are also subject to being checked electronically for plagiarism. The lightest penalty for plagiarism will be a “0” for the assignment; I reserve the right to give any student who plagiarizes an “F” for the course. This applies to so much as a sentence that is taken word-for-word from another source without citation, as well as to “rewrites” in which material is taken from any source, and turned in as a student's own work with a few words changed.

Students with Disabilities: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Course Schedule

Assigned materials are listed in the Overview of each weekly module.

Missed assignments cannot be made up except in the case of a serious, documented situation.

No assignments accepted after December 1st by 11:59 pm, without prior arrangement with the instructor.

Final Exam test period will be from Monday, December 3rd - Saturday, December 8th by 11:59 pm