Humanistic Tradition I
Course Syllabus
Fall 2012

Instructor: Didi Gibbs
E-mail: didi.gibbs@ucf.edu
Class: HUM 2210.0002  HUM 2210.0001
Time: MWF 11:30 - 12:20  MWF 12:30 - 1:20
Room: HEC 0104
Office Hours: by appointment, after class, or Wednesdays 10:00 - 11:00, PSY Bldg. # 232
(suggested): MLA guide

Course Description:

“Humans are creative species. Whether in science, politics, business, technology, or the arts, we depend on our creativity almost as much as anything else to meet the demands of daily life” (Sporre 26). This course is a survey of humankind’s cultural and creative contributions. The focus is on ancient civilizations and the cultural heritage stemming from them. Even though we will follow the conventional evolution of art from its beginnings in prehistoric societies to the European traditions of the Renaissance, we will pay special attention to several non-Western cultures as well. We will also attempt to constantly recognize how the creative spirit unites the far past and the modern day in our religion, business, value systems, etc…

Catalog Description:

This is a Gordon Rule class.

Humanistic Tradition I is an interdisciplinary, multicultural study of the arts and sciences contributed by diverse human traditions to world civilization. Focus is on ancient civilizations and the cultural heritage stemming from them. Primary sources (in translation) are emphasized.

Course Objectives:

1.) To demonstrate knowledge of the meaning of an artwork, performance, or text in diverse aesthetic, historical, and cultural contexts.
2.) To demonstrate knowledge of the chronology and significance of major events in western and world civilizations.
3.) To critically analyze the meaning of an artwork, performance, or text in diverse aesthetic, historical, and cultural contexts.
4.) To demonstrate knowledge of the meanings of an artwork, performance, or text in diverse aesthetic, historical, and cultural contexts.
5.) To demonstrate knowledge of the chronology and significance of major events and movements in western and world civilization.
6.) To critically analyze the significance of major events and movements in western and world civilizations.
Grading Scheme: (flat grading)

90-100  A  **Excellent**, exceeds average understanding as evidenced in course work and goes well beyond the basics.

80 - 89  B  **Far above average**, fully meets average understanding as evidenced in course work and fully understands the basics and can deal with concepts somewhat beyond that level.

70 - 79  C  **Average**, meets minimum expectations and satisfies course requirements.

60 - 69  D  **Below average**, meets many minimum expectations and satisfies all or most course requirements.

0 - 59  F  **Fails** to meet minimum expectations in understanding and course work as by performance and submission of graded elements

Core Assignments:

Tests: You will have four tests over the semester. These tests will be made up of multiple-choice, True/False, and fill-in-the-blank questions. You will also be asked to identify different pieces of art, music, etc… from different periods and cultures. **Tests will have an essay component (so come to the test ready to write!)** The content of the tests will come from both my lecture and the text. Much of what I say in class is not necessarily covered in the text; therefore, class attendance is very important. Also, it is impossible for me to cover every bit of information in the text, so reading and taking notes from the text in combination with my lectures is important in order to be successful in class.

Final Exam: Your comprehensive final examination is set for the following days:
HUM 2210.0001 (MWF 11:30 -12:20): Wednesday, December 5, 12:00 - 12:50
HUM 2210.0002 (MWF 12:30 - 1:20): Friday, December 7, 12:00 -12:50

Quizzes: I reserve the right to give quizzes unannounced. You will not be able to make these up upon an absence. I will, however, drop the lowest quiz grade (including a zero for an absence).

Paper: You will have one paper. It will be 1000 – 1200 words. The topic choices will be given out as the semester progresses. All papers will be typed using the MLA format. I will not accept a paper unless it is in MLA format. Use a published guide for MLA (you may have one from ENC 1101 or 1102) or an online source like [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/). The paper will be turned in to turnitin.com. All students will be required to use this tool.

Project: You will need to work well with a partner for this project. I will explain the details of the project later in the semester.

Participation: I will give random response questions unannounced in class. To receive credit, you must be present and you must respond in a thoughtful and well informed manner. You will not be able to make up any missed
response question due to an absence. These questions may concern art we are
looking at, film reviews, and in-class activities.

**Evaluation:**

Tests/Project (10% each): 50
Final Exam: 20
Quizzes/Participation: 10
Paper 20

**Course Policies: Student Expectations**

**Professionalism Policy:** Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, etc. **must be silenced** during all classroom lectures. Those not heeding this rule will be asked to leave the classroom immediately so as to not disrupt the learning environment. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, etc., and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade.

**Academic Dishonesty Policy:** Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. If you are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook (http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/) for further details. As in all University courses, The Golden Rule Rules of Conduct will be applied. Violations of these rules will result in a record of the infraction being placed in your file and receiving a zero on the work in question **AT A MINIMUM.** At the instructor’s discretion, you may also receive a failing grade for the course. Confirmation of such incidents can also result in expulsion from the University.

**Turnitin.com:** In this course we will utilize turnitin.com, an automated system instructors can use to quickly and easily compare each student's assignment with billions of web sites, as well as an enormous database of student papers that grows with each submission. Accordingly, you will be expected to submit all assignments in both hard copy and electronic format. After the assignment is processed, as instructor I receive a report from turnitin.com that states if and how another author’s work was used in the assignment. For a more detailed look at this process visit http://www.turnitin.com.

Note: essays not turned in to turnitin.com by the due date are subject to a half‐letter grade penalty, and the instructor will upload the essay manually anyway.

**University Writing Center:** The University Writing Center (UWC) is a free resource for UCF undergraduates and graduates. At the UWC, a trained writing consultant will work individually with you on anything you're writing (in or out of class), at any point in the writing process from brainstorming to editing. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information or to make an appointment, visit the UWC website at http://www.uwc.ucf.edu, stop by MOD 608, or call 407.823.2197.

**Ethics:** As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the University’s Rules of Conduct (see http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/) and the Golden Rule. Vandalism of the course wiki will also be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.
Disability Access: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. 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.

Make-ups:
The make-up of tests will be handled on an individual basis. Proper documentation will be necessary (doctor’s note, etc…) in order to proceed with make-up tests. There will be no make-ups for quizzes and response papers. I suggest you make friends with someone in the class. If you are absent for some reason, you then have a contact in the class for makeup information. Essays turned in late will be assessed a penalty: a half-letter grade if it is one day late, or a full-letter grade for 2-7 days late. Essays will not be accepted if overdue by more than seven days.

Remember:
This syllabus may change at any time. I will notify you in class and electronically of any changes as the semester progresses. The same is true for the Daily Syllabus.

My new friend's name is ________________________________________________.
Phone number: __________________________________________________________.
E-mail address: __________________________________________________________.