

**Humanities 131: CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**  
**HUM 131.PP1**  
**Fall 2017**

**Instructor:** Dr. Hope Bernard

**Location:** Parnall Correctional Facility

**Day and Time:** Tuesdays, 5:30-8:30pm

**Textbook:** *Handbook for the Humanities* (Benton and DiYanni) ISBN 0-205094978-9; additional short readings will be handed out in class

**Course Materials:** Textbook, pens, notepad, folder

**Course Description:** This interdisciplinary course examines contemporary issues, their human and technological components, and their historical precedents through art, music, literature, and philosophy. During this semester, we will focus on and learn how to “read” the creative expressions that stem from human beings (from ancient times through the 21<sup>st</sup> century) as they describe the world in which they--and we – live.

**General Education Philosophy**

**A Message to Students from JC Faculty ~**

*General Education facilitates the development of an informed and educated person who recognizes and respects the diversity of communities, thinks critically and is proficient at fundamental skills. General education engages students in active learning by providing opportunities to observe, analyze and evaluate, and to apply these skills critically to problems. General education fosters the development of responsible, ethical human beings dedicated to improving their own lives and the lives of others through work, family life, social and political action, cultural awareness and service to others.*

**General Education Outcomes (GEO)**

In coordination with JC’s General Education Committee, the humanities faculty have adopted GEO #6, Understand aesthetic experiences and artistic creativity, and GEO #7, Understand and respect the diversity and interdependence of the world’s peoples and cultures. These competencies are further articulated below:

***Understand aesthetic experience and artistic creativity (GEO #6)***

- Meaning and Understanding--- Uses visual, musical, or literary vocabulary to identify works of art and organizes by basic historic and cultural influences.
- Analysis and Interpretation--- Identifies methods of analysis and interpretation of works of art and uses genre-specific language to support critical reflection.
- Engagement--- When prompted, engages in discussions of the creative, cultural, and historical contexts within which an artist works.
- Evaluation--- Identifies the aesthetic standards used to make critical judgments in various

artistic fields.

- Approaches works of creative expression with a combination of resistance and openness, disinterest and interest expressed in formal discussion or writing

***Understand and respect the diversity and interdependence of the world's people and cultures (GEO #7)***

- Knowledge of and regard for groups with which one identifies – Identifies characteristics, values, and hallmarks of the groups to which one belongs.
- Knowledge of and regard for individuals from groups other than one's own-- Identifies characteristics, values, and hallmarks of the groups other than one's own and articulates benefits of interacting with individuals from groups other than one's own.
- Knowledge of the importance of diversity – Defines various institutional systems and personal barriers that inhibit diversity such as racism, sexism, classism, ethnocentrism, privilege, etc.; Classifies behaviors and structures that promote diversity and encourage global thinking; Recognizes the ways in which, historically, cultures have mutually informed and enriched each other.
- Cultural Sensitivity – Utilizes vocabulary, behaviors, and practices that are culturally appropriate.

**Missed/Late Assignments**

In general, you cannot submit late assignments because the timeline and structure of our course does not allow for it. Extenuating circumstances notwithstanding, you cannot make up any quizzes that you miss.

**The Incomplete Grade**

In accordance with JC policy, an Incomplete or "I" grade is only issued to students who have demonstrated good standing in the class and hold a passing grade at the time of an extenuating circumstance that precludes completion of the class. Documentation validating the circumstance may be required.

**Academic Honesty Policy**

JC has an academic honesty policy, which will be adhered to in this class. In essence, the policy requires that all work must be done by the student whose name it bears.

**Plagiarism Policy**

Plagiarism is taking someone else's work and presenting them as if it is your own. We will discuss how to avoid plagiarism throughout the course, and it is expected that you know this and practice it throughout your writing. Any violation will likely earn you a zero on the assignment, but it may include an "F" in the course and referral to the Office of the Academic Dean for further disciplinary action.

**Major Assignments**

**Quizzes** Quizzes consisting of multiple choice and short answer questions to ensure that you have read the chapter before we discuss it.

**Reading Reflections** Weekly, written response to a prompt. Reading reflections should be completed on the page I provide for you. These reflections will help encourage you to critically engage with the textbook chapters to fully

prepare you for the weekly in-class discussion. These are designated as “RR” in the course schedule.

- Essay** 3-5 exploratory essay diving deeper into style or a period from the textbook, specifically analyzing one *literary* work (can be a poem, a play, a novel, a philosophical treatise, etc.). Detailed instructions will be given closer to due date.
- Exam** Final exam last day of the semester.
- Participation** A majority of the “work” done in class is via discussion. Being present in body only is not enough. This is a time when we can all reflect on the assigned reading and explore concepts in depth. I expect everyone to contribute; your thoughts are always valuable, and we learn from each other. Participation includes any small group work and in-class assignments and activities.

**Grading Breakdown**

Quizzes	10 @ 20 points each	200 points	20%
Reading Reflections	10 @ 20 points each	200 points	20%
Exam	200 points	200 points	20%
Essay		200 points	20%
Participation		200 points	20%
<b>Total:</b>		<b>1000 points</b>	<b>100%</b>

**JC Standardized Grading Scale**

4.0 = 95-100	(A)
3.5 = 89-94	B+
3.0 = 84-88	B
2.5 = 78-83	C+
2.0 = 72-77	C
1.5 = 66-71	D+
1.0 = 60-65	D
0.5 = 55-59	D-
0.0 = 0-54	F

## Course Calendar

Schedule subject to change. Please see me with any questions.

WEEK/DATE	TOPIC	HOMEWORK COMPLETED
Week 1 (10/3)	Introduction to Course Ancient Civilizations	
Week 2 (10/10)	Ancient Greece and Rome Quiz on Chapter 2	Read Chapter 2 RR on Chapter 2 Read “Plato’s <i>The Republic</i> ” handout
Week 3 (10/17)	Middle Ages Quiz on Chapter 5	Read Chapter 5 RR on Chapter 5 Read “Dante’s <i>Inferno</i> ” handout
Week 4 (10/24)	Early Renaissance Quiz on Chapter 6	Read Chapter 6 RR on Chapter 6 Read “Great Chain of Being” handout
Week 5 (10/31)	Later Renaissance Quiz on Chapter 7	Read Chapter 7 RR on Chapter 7 Read “ <i>Hamlet</i> Act 1 Scene 5” handout
Week 6 (11/7)	17 <sup>th</sup> Century (Baroque) Quiz on Chapter 8	Read Chapter 8 RR on Chapter 8
Week 7 (11/14)	18 <sup>th</sup> Century (Enlightenment) Quiz on Chapter 9	Read Chapter 9 RR on Chapter 9 Read “Swift’s <i>A Modest Proposal</i> ” handout
Week 8 (11/21)	Earlier 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Quiz on Chapter 10	Read Chapter 10 RR on Chapter 10 Essay Topic Due
Week 9 (11/28)	Later 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Quiz on Chapter 11	Read Chapter 11 RR on Chapter 11 Read “Blake’s Poems” handout
Week 10 (12/5)	Earlier 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Quiz on Chapter 12	Read Chapter 12 RR on Chapter 12 Read “Marx’s <i>Communist Manifesto</i> ” handout
Week 11 (12/12)	Later 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Quiz on Chapter 13 Review for Final Exam	Read Chapter 13 RR on Chapter 13 *Skim Chapter 14
Week 12 (12/19)	Final Exam Essay Due	Essay Due