

HUM 131-51: Cultural Connections**Jackson College**

Instructor: Matthew Pickard
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Location: BW 210
Office Hours: By Appointment
Day & Time: Monday & Wednesday – 10:00am-12:57pm
Course Text: -*Culture and Values Vol 1 & 2* E-text access Card. Publisher: Cengage
 -*Things Fall Apart*, Author: Chinua Achebe. Publisher: Anchor
 -Shakespeare's *Hamlet* (no purchase required)

Course Description:

This interdisciplinary course examines contemporary issues, their human and technological components, and their historical precedents through art, music, literature, and philosophy.

General Education Outcomes:

The course goals and objectives incorporate specific General Education Outcomes (GEOs) established by the JC Board of Trustees, administration, and faculty. These goals are in concert with four-year colleges and universities and reflect input from the professional communities we serve. GEOs guarantee students achieve goals necessary for graduation credit, transferability, and professional skills needed in many certification programs. The GEOs and course objectives addressed in this class include the following:

General Education Outcomes (GEO) & Essential Competencies (EC) 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 here:

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 interest, disinterest and interest expressed in formal discussion or writing.

Understand and respect the diversity and interdependence of the world's peoples 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.

Major Assignments Grading:

Mid-Term Essay	100 points
Cultural Event Project	300 points
In-Class Quizzes	150 points
Writing Responses	150 points
Participation	<u>300 points</u>
	1000 points

Assignments

Every week, there will be a Writing Response due, based on a given prompt, as well as an in-class quiz. **Every Monday your Writing Response will be due.** The response will answer a prompt given in class or ask you to complete a task. Each Writing Response should be 1-2 pages and is worth 25 points. Points will be deducted for every day your response is late. **Every Wednesday there will be an in-class quiz to assess your understanding of the readings.** The quiz will take place at the beginning of class. There are no makeups on quizzes, however **quiz replacement prompts** will be given. You may answer one prompt to either makeup a quiz or replace a quiz score. If you are late for class, and the quiz has already begun, you will not be able to take the quiz. There are six quizzes worth 25 points each.

There will be prompts for each Essay/Project due. The mid-term essay will be due electronically on Friday July 5. The **mid-term paper** will be 2-3 double spaced typed pages.

The Cultural Event Project is made up of several elements which are due throughout the semester. The assignment will be available after week 1, with a **Statement of Intent** and **Thesis/Sources** being due on specific dates. Please review the calendar and be aware of these dates. The final project must include the Statement of Intent and Thesis/Sources.

Reading assignments, YouTube clips, and other files will be available on JetNet. The course's page will be updated regularly. Please make a habit of checking JetNet for new resources.

Participation is crucial. Engaging in classroom discussion is a large portion of this course. Everyone should be contributing every week so we, as a class, can reflect on the material and learn from others' ideas. It doesn't matter how valuable you think the contribution is, the whole class will benefit from your ideas.

Cell Phone & Laptop Policy

Preferably, your phone should be off and out of sight. If you are rarely on your phone, responding to a text or other message, that is acceptable. However, if you abuse this and are on your phone in a way that distracts you from class, your participation grade will suffer. I will not tell you to put your device away, but I will take notice and begin taking off participation points for every occurrence. Similarly, laptops are allowed for taking notes, but be sure you are attentive in class. Please, do not record class sessions. This is a discussion-based class, and I ask

that you please do not record your fellow students as they express their views and opinions.

Center for Student Success (CSS) – Please take advantage of the services offered by CSS. If you would like more information, please visit Bert Walker Hall, Room 138 or at www.jccmi.edu/success.

Library – Please utilize the library here at Jackson College. The library and its staff are dedicated to helping you with your research and goals for this class. If you would like more information, see me, or visit www.jccmi.edu/library.

Grading Scale:

Total: 1000 points 100%

4.0 = 950-1000

3.5 = 900-949

3.0 = 840-899

2.5 = 780-839

2.0 = 720-779

1.5 = 660-719

1.0 = 600-659

0.5 = 550-599

0.0 = 0-549

Academic Honesty Policy

Academic Honesty is defined as ethical behavior that includes student productions of their own work and not representing others' work as their own, by cheating or by helping others to do so.

Plagiarism is defined as the failure to give credit for the use of material from outside sources.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Submitting other's work as your own
- Using data, illustrations, pictures, quotations, or paraphrases from other sources without adequate documentation.
- Reusing significant, identical or nearly identical portions of one's own prior work without acknowledging that one is doing so or without citing this original work (self-plagiarism)

Cheating is defined as obtaining answers/material from an outside source without authorization.

Cheating includes but is not limited to:

- Plagiarizing in any form
- Using notes/books/electronic material without authorization
- Copying
- Submitting other's work as your own or submitting your work for others
- Altering graded work
- Falsifying data
- Exhibiting other behaviors generally considered unethical
- Allowing your work to be submitted by others

Makeup Policy

In general, you cannot submit late assignments because the course does not allow for it. For every day that an assignment is late, points will be deducted.

Attendance Policy

If you know you are going to be absent, please let me know ahead of time. Being that this is a short semester, your attendance is required. Amount of allotted absences:

- 1-2 Times – No loss in Points
- 3 Times – Lose One Letter Grade
- 4 Times – Lose Two Whole Letter Grades
- 5+ Times - Failure

Tentative Calendar:

(The instructor reserves the right to adjust this syllabus as needed)

***Please check JetNet for additional readings and other materials each week!**

Week 1: June 10 & 12

Monday: Welcome! Course details and syllabus, class introductions, expectations, and all that other awkward business related to the first day of class.

For Wednesday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapters 3 and 4 (pp 83-112, 130-135)

Wednesday: Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Monday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapters 6-8 (pp 203-277)

Writing Response Prompt Will Be Given

Week 2: June 17 & 19

Monday: Writing Response One Due in Class

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Wednesday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapters 9-10 (pp 279-338)

Wednesday: Quiz One

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Monday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapters 11-12 (pp 342-413)

Writing Response Prompt Will Be Given

Week 3: June 24 & 26

Monday: Writing Response Two Due in Class

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Wednesday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapter 13 (pp 416-451)

Wednesday: Quiz Two

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Monday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapter 14 (pp 454-493), *Hamlet* (on JetNet)

Writing Response Prompt Will Be Given

Due in Class: Statement of Intent for Cultural Event Project

Week 4: July 1 & 3

Monday: Writing Response Three Due in Class

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Wednesday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapter 15 (pp 495-545)

Wednesday: Quiz Three

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Monday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapters 19-20 (pp 625-721)

Writing Response Prompt Will Be Given

Friday, July 5: Mid-Term Essay Due Electronically**Week 5: July 8 & 19**

Monday: Writing Response Four Due in Class

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Wednesday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapter 21 (pp 724-775)

Wednesday: Quiz Four

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Monday: Read *Culture and Values* Chapter 22 (pp 777-815)

Writing Response Prompt Will Be Given

Due in Class: Thesis and Sources for Cultural Event Project

Week 6: July 15 & 17

Monday: Writing Response Five Due in Class

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Wednesday: Read *Things Fall Apart* Chapters 1-6

Wednesday: Quiz Five

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Monday: Read *Things Fall Apart* Chapters 7-13

Writing Response Prompt Will Be Given

Week 7: July 22 & 24

Monday: Writing Response Six Due in Class

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

For Wednesday: Read *Things Fall Apart* Chapters 14-25

Wednesday: Quiz Six

Lecture and Discussion on Readings.

Class Review and Evaluations

Due in Class: Cultural Event Project