

COURSE SYLLABUS, Spring 2009

Hum 214, section 013

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Office hours: TTh 11-12; F 1-2

Class meets M 11:25-12:35 (HLH) and TTh 1:45-3:00 (KH 243)

I am grateful to my HUM 214 colleagues who have shared ideas and syllabi, some of which I have used here.

HUM 214 is the second course in the UNC-Asheville Core Curriculum in Integrated Liberal Studies. This course examines the ideas, values and world-views of European and non-European people beginning with the fall of Rome and ending with the rise of political absolutism, that is, the Medieval and Renaissance times.

Objectives you are expected to achieve in this course:

- Improve your critical thinking skills in reading, thinking, writing, and discussion
- Recognize and evaluate ideas, values, and world-views, past and present, that are different from your own
- Become acquainted with ethical and moral viewpoints and values different from your own, and make your own reasoned judgments about ethical and moral problems and issues
- Develop your ability to see the connections between different disciplines, and learn various methods of analysis through independent research

Core Texts (available for purchase in the UNC-Asheville bookstore)

- (Fiero 2, 3, and 4) Volumes 2, 3, 4 of Gloria Fiero, *The Humanistic Tradition*, 5th ed. Vol 2 was also used in Hum. 124. Vol. 4 will also be used in Hum. 324, so students should keep it at the end of the semester.
- (AR) The Asheville Reader, *The Medieval and Renaissance World*, 2nd. Ed., ed. Ho, McClain, Sawin, and Spellman.
- *Othello* and *Sundiata* (Niane ed., 7th or 8th edition)
- *The Song of Roland* (Harrison, trans., ISBN:9780451528575)

Week 1: 1/14 – 1/16 Intro. / No readings due.

Week 2: 1/19 – 1/23 **Monday is MLK Holiday** / Readings: Fiero vol. 2, ch. 8; Geoffrey of Monmouth (posted on Moodle—print and bring to class) Fiero, vol 2, ch. 9, AR: Procopius (16-27), *Muqaddimah* (*electronic text—always print and bring to class all electronic texts), AR: Ibn Khaldun (140-47)

*Note: To access HUM 214 electronic reserves, follow these steps:

1. Go to Ramsey Library home page: <http://bullpup.lib.unca.edu/library/>
2. On the left-hand side of the web page, click “Course Reserves”
3. On the Course Reserves page, click on the “By Course” link
4. In the “Course Name or Number Search” box, type Humanities 214”
5. On the Search Results page, click on the “UNCA Permanent” link
6. On the next page, click on the “Hum 214 Electronic Reserves” link
7. After clicking on the title you choose, enter your name and student ID number. Click “Submit”

Week 3 1/26 – 1/30 Lecture: *Community and Authority in the Medieval West* (Prof. Gillum) / Readings: AR: Benedict (2-15), Einhart (28-36), Fiero, vol. 2, ch. 11, *Book of Kings* excerpt (electronic text); CULTURAL EVENT 1 DUE BEFORE THE START OF MONDAY'S LECTURE

Week 4- 2/2 – 2/6 Lecture: *Islam and The Muslim World* (Prof. Downes) / Readings: Fiero, vol. 2, ch. 10, "Conflict Between Faith and Science in the Middle Ages" (electronic text); first half of *Song of Roland*

Week 5- 2/9 – 2/13 Lecture: *Science, Religion, and the Rise of the University* (Prof. Wilson) / Readings: Fiero, vol. 2, ch. 12. AR: Aquinas(107-13), The Medieval Church (72-79); second half of *Song of Roland*

Week 6- 2/16 – 2/20 Lecture: *Peace and War for the Glory of God: Cathedrals and Crusades* (Prof. Dunn) / Readings: Fiero, vol. 2, ch. 13, assorted Crusades readings (electronic text)

EXAM I, Thursday, Feb. 19—bring blue books (BYOBB)

Week 7- 2/23—2/27 Lecture: *From Xian to Kyoto: the Cultural Heritage of Asia* (Prof. Ho) / Readings: Fiero, vol. 2, ch. 14, pp. 152 – 170, AR: Sei Shonagon (172-183), poetry: Tu Fu/Li Po (electronic text)

Week 8- 3/2 – 3/6 Lecture: *Medieval India* (Prof. Maitra) / Readings: Fiero vol. 2, ch. 14, (pp. 144 – 51), India readings (electronic texts); RESEARCH TOPIC DUE THURSDAY

Week 9- 3/9 – 3/13 **Spring Break/No Classes**

Week10- 3/16 – 3/20 Lecture: *Best Selling Authors, Cross Dressing Warriors, and Other Uppity Women of the Middle Ages* (Prof. Ho) / Readings: Fiero, vol. 3, ch. 15. AR: Hildegard and Marie de France (38-57), Christine de Pisan (117-23) CULTURAL EVENT 2 DUE BEFORE THE START OF MONDAY'S LECTURE

Week 11- 3/23 – 3/27 Lecture: *European Renaissance: Humanism and Art* (Prof. Gillum) / Readings due Wednesday: Fiero, vol. 3, ch. 16 & 17. AR Nogarola, Machiavelli (188-209).

Last Day to Withdraw with a W: 3/25

Week 12- 3/30 – 4/3 Lecture: *Reformations* (Prof. Ettari) / Readings: Fiero, vol 3, ch. 19; AR: Grumbach (217-20), Calvin (256-66)

Week 13- 4/6 – 4/10 Lecture: *Counter-Renaissance and Othello* (Prof. Dunn) / Readings: *Othello* (excerpts), Fiero vol. 4, ch. 22, **EXAM II, Thursday, April 9**

Week 14- 4/13 – 4/17 Lecture: *African Cultural Spheres* (Prof. Traboulsi) / Readings: Fiero, vol. 3, ch. 18 (pp. 85-103). AR: Al Omari, Pires, Affonso of Congo (150-62), *Sundiata*

Week 15- 4/20 – 4/24 Lecture: *The Americas: To the 1600s* (Prof. Pearson) / Readings: Fiero, vol. 3, ch. 18, pp. 103-120. AR: Columbus and Poma (350-71), Montaigne "Of Cannibals" (296-306); RESEARCH PAPER DUE THURSDAY APRIL 23, BEGINNING OF CLASS

Week 16- 4/27 – 5/1 Lecture: *Counter Reformation, Royal Absolutism & the Baroque* (Prof. Sousa) / Readings: Fiero vol. 4, ch. 21 AR: Mornay (278-85), and Elizabeth I (267 – 77)

Week 17- 5/4 Lecture: *Where have we been? Where are we? Where are we going? The Ebb and Flow of Empires* (Prof. Dunn); CULTURAL EVENT 3 DUE BEFORE THE START OF MONDAY'S LECTURE (will be returned to you at final exam)

Final examination: Wednesday, May 6, 11:30am-2pm in NH 014: BYOBB

Grading:

Weekly quiz on readings, lecture and class work 15%

Oral report on individual topic, based on research paper (as scheduled) 5%

Research paper (MLA or Chicago format) on individual topic of choice (8-10pgs): 20%

Two in-class exams: 30%

Final exam 20%

Reports on 3 cultural events (1-2 pgs each, Times New Roman 12 pt (or similar font)

double-spaced, one-inch margins) due dates given above: 10%

Course Expectations:

This is a four credit-hour course. The workload is therefore heavier than it would be for a three credit-hour course. You will be fine if you keep up with the reading and attend all classes and lectures. Missed quizzes may not be made up, but I will drop the lowest grade. Missed exams may not be made up unless the absence is excused (that is, with documentation such as a doctor's note, police report, etc.).

Attendance:

I will take attendance at Monday lectures and at class meetings. You are allowed two unexcused absences. 1/2 a letter grade will be subtracted from your overall grade for each absence after that limit. If you anticipate absences beyond that, you must discuss them with me promptly. A discussion at the end of the semester, whether accompanied by documentation or not, will be moot. Two tardies = one absence. Promptness, preparedness and participation are important. Regular attendance and informed participation are required. There will be a penalty of 1 letter grade per day for late writing assignments. If you are absent, **you are responsible** for any changes or information that occur in your absence. It's a good idea to get the numbers of a few other students in this class and communicate with them, and you can get some updates on Moodle. **In case of snow:** classes will be cancelled (assignments due on next class day), will operate on a delayed schedule (for info. call the Snow Line (828) 259-3050), or they will operate on a normal schedule.

Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism in any form (internet downloads, glancing at other people's work, copying from library resources, media, etc) represents the antithesis of the spirit of academic inquiry. Plagiarism will result in an automatic F in this course. See your UNC-A Handbook.

Cultural Events:

Unusual cultural events must be cleared with me at least one week before the due date. Acceptable events include, but are not limited to, gallery/museum art exhibitions, musical, theatrical or dance productions, literary readings, attendance at a worship service other than your own denomination/faith, or other events relevant to the period we are studying.

Special Needs:

If you have specific, diagnosed, individual learning needs that will require accommodations to complete assignments, tests, or other course work please contact the Student Development Office at the beginning of the semester. Also, please talk to me as soon as possible so we can work together to ensure that you feel confident about your performance in this class. If you wait until the day of the first test or other major assignment to talk to me, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to accommodate you.

Moodle:

Significant course materials are posted in Moodle. You are responsible for being sure you can log on and access appropriate class resources. Some readings, the course syllabus, grades, and other information will be available there.

Email:

Email is usually the quickest and best way to contact me outside of class. I will reply as soon as I can to your queries. However, I DO NOT accept any work (homework, cultural events, etc) submitted to me by email—all assignments must be submitted in hard copy (though your research paper must be submitted in both electronic and hard copy formats).