

HUM 124

Class Locations: M 11:25-12:35 in Humanities Lecture Hall;

TR _____ in _____

Instructor: Kathryn Hast: **hast.kathryn@gmail.com**

Office Hours: TR: 9:00-10:50 a.m. Humanities Adjunct Lounge (New Hall 120)

and by appointment

Course Description:

The focus of this course is the ancient world, from Mesopotamia and Europe to India and China. We will study how these various cultures relate to themselves, to others, to nature, and to whatever they perceive the divine to be. Through a variety of different texts, we will identify a series of narratives: in context and subtext. Specifically, we will examine how the people of the ancient world handled things like death, government, community, and art. We will then take that knowledge and compare it to how we, as a class and as a society, relate to those very themes. While the course is not by definition “writing intensive,” **writing will be a strong element of the course**, as the professor believes it to be one of the best tools for learning.

Required Texts: (All available at UNCA bookstore; bring to class as needed)

1. Fiero, ed., The Humanistic Tradition, 5th edition, Volume 1
2. Hook, Moseley, Peters, eds., The Asheville Reader
3. Miller, ed. The Bhagavad-Gita
4. Weller, ed. Plato, The trial and Death of Socrates
5. Kovacs, ed., The Epic of Gilgamesh
6. Fagles, ed., The Iliad
7. Clay, Euripides, The Trojan Women
8. Virgil, The Aeneid
9. Any other readings will be provided by the instructor or available online.

Syllabus and Homework Assignments: *subject to change at instructor's discretion.*

Course Objectives:

- To improve your critical abilities in reading, thinking, writing and discussion
- To recognize and appreciate differing world-views, both past and present
- To increase your empathy for and understanding of people from different parts of the world
- To analyze the evolution of values in societies, including our own

Program-wide goals can be found at www.unca.edu/humanities/goals.htm

Methodology:

Large group lectures in Humanities Lecture Hall Auditorium will set the context for each week's classes. See the seating chart available at www.unca.edu/humanities/hum124/124Home.htm. The class meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays will focus on discussion and analysis of the assigned readings and topics, and writing to learn. The Fiero textbook is the main secondary source of information for this course, and provides, along with the Monday lectures, a historical or intellectual framework in which to place the more difficult primary source readings. The Fiero assignments, therefore, should always be read before you begin the other reading assignments. You are responsible for reading assignments, that is, the core syllabus that is the same for every HUM 124 class, even if we do not discuss them in class.

Course Requirements:

- **Attendance is required and necessary** for success, and roll will be taken both at Monday lectures and at class meetings. Be punctual and do not leave class early.
- Being late to class is unacceptable: Monday lectures begin promptly at 11:25am, and Tuesday/Thursday classes at 11:00 a.m. If you are late more than twice, I will begin deducting **½ of an absence for each subsequent tardy**.
- After the third unexcused absence, **I will lower your overall grade by 2 points for each subsequent absence**.
- If you have a documented emergency or extenuating circumstance, you must contact me as soon as possible, preferably no later than the day of the absence. Delay in notification will result in an unexcused absence regardless of documentation.
- Make-up work. You are responsible for making whatever arrangements you need to make up the work you missed, including finding out ahead of time about any syllabus changes. Note that some work cannot be made up through normal channels, and you will receive a zero for that work unless you bring to me, on the first day you return to campus, a document from an authenticated source stating the emergency you had.
- Make-up tests: Students should make every attempt to take tests as scheduled. Failure to appear for the test without making prior arrangements with the instructor will result in a grade of zero, except in the case of a documented, unavoidable emergency. The instructor may assign an alternative form of evaluation under some circumstances. If there are other issues or concerns you have regarding fulfilling the course requirements, you should schedule a time to meet with me and discuss them.
- **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED** unless there is a documented emergency or if the student asks the professor for an extension in advance.
- I am happy to work with you. If you are on an athletic team and will miss some classes, please let me know right away; I will expect confirmation about missed class dates from the Athletics Department, but you are not excused from any assignments.

GRADING CRITERIA

- Exams: There are three exams throughout the semester. Dates are on the syllabus. Exams I and II are not cumulative; the final (Exam III) may have some comprehensive elements.
- Analytical Papers: Two papers of 4-5 pages each are required. Details about each paper will be given in class, however traditional MLA or APA format is expected. Students may revise papers and resubmit them for additional credit; up to half the number of points deducted from the original work may be awarded for successful revision.
- Paper Assignments: There will be three shorter assignments leading up to the final analytical paper you turn in. These will consist of a topic selection, an annotated bibliography, and a thesis and outline. These assignments are integral to completing a successful final paper.
- Homework Presentation: Every student will have to complete a “public” homework assignment (usually in the form of written answers to questions). Because the entire class will review the student’s specific ideas on the subject, this assignment has to be submitted to me, via email, ***at least one day prior*** to the class meeting. Copies of the student’s assignment will be made and passed out to the class for discussion. Understand that this is a presentational aspect of the course and you will be expected to lead the class in discussion for **15-20 minutes**.
- Cultural Presentation: At some point during the semester, you will be responsible for a second presentation, which should last **5-10 minutes**. You will be expected to cover a particular cultural event on campus or in the world, and explain how it relates to something we are studying (or have studied) in class. The structure of these presentations is entirely up to you, although visual aids and/or hand-outs are strongly recommended, as is prepared discussion questions for the class. *The instructor is open to the idea of music/lyrics as a way of adding to this presentation, but that is not required.*
- Debate: The class will be divided into six sections, and three times in the semester two teams will debate a topic that is announced in advance. A strong team will come prepared with published opinions, statistics, laws, articles, or other such evidence of professional thought. It is up to the team to research the assigned topic and anticipate rebuttals.
- In-class Writing: On Tuesdays at the beginning of class (which begins promptly) you will write a short essay about the Monday lecture and/or reading assignments. Because the lowest grade will be dropped, you may not make up a quiz. If you arrive late to class, you will not be given extra time to finish your quiz, nor may you finish it after class. It is your responsibility to be on class on time. If you have a scheduling problem, please let me know ASAP.
- Participation: Come to class having completed all assignments. Be ready to answer questions, share information, work in groups, actively participate in discussion and complete assignments. Mere attendance is not considered quality participation. A participation grade will be assessed at the end of each week.

Grading:

Tests (3): 20%
Papers (2): 20%
Paper Assignments (6): 15%
Homework Assignment (1): 15%
Cultural Presentation (1): 10%
Debate (1): 10%
In-class Quiz (15): 5%
Participation (15): 5%

Grading Scale:

A = 95-100%
A- = 90-94%
B+ = 87-89%
B = 83-86%
B- = 80-82%
C+ = 77-79%
C = 73-76%
C- = 70-72%
D+ = 67-69%
D = 63-66%
D- = 60-62%
F= below 60%

Special Needs:

If any student has specific, diagnosed, individual learning needs that will require special arrangements such as more time to complete assignments or tests, using someone else's notes, taping classes or lectures, or typing rather than handwriting in-class tests and other assignments, please discuss those needs with me during the first week of the semester. If you wait until the day of a test or the day before an assignment is due, it may be difficult, if not impossible, to accommodate you on that day, since some arrangements have to be made through Disability Services. In addition, waiting until the last minute can put an undue burden on me, especially arranging for extra time. I will appreciate your consideration.

Plagiarism:

Do not do it. You will receive either an automatic F (0) for the assignment or an F (0) for the semester. Cite your sources properly. If you have any questions about the various citation methods, please consult your Lang 120 handbook, the Reference staff of Ramsey Library, the UNCA Writing Center, or myself.

Class Cancellation:

In case class is cancelled, we will pick up right where we left off. That means, for example, if a test was scheduled for a Tuesday and that class is canceled, the test will be given at the next class meeting, Thursday. In case of inclement weather, UNCA has a snow line (828) 259-3050, as well as information on class cancellation posted on the web at www.unca.edu.

AR= Asheville Reader
 F=Fiero Text
 HO=Handout
 HP=Homework Presentation

DATE	READINGS DUE:	ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	IN-CLASS ACTIVITY DUE:
1/15/09	Syllabus		
1/20/09	AR: "Reading a Text from Antiquity," "Essay on Translation," HO: "In Defense of History" (F: 1-17, 19-35, 36-45)	Homework Questions	Example of Homework Presentation Given
1/22/09	"Hammurabi's Code," HO: "The Spectacle of the Scaffold"	Homework Questions	HP#1 HP #2
1/27/09	<i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i>	Homework Questions	HP#3
1/29/09	<i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i>		CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS #1
2/3/09		<i>Paper Topic</i>	DEBATE #1
2/5/09	AR: Sinuhe, Love Poems, Instruction of Amenemope	Homework Questions	HP #4 HP#5
2/10/09	AR: Confucius, Book of Songs, Laozi, Han Feizi HO: "The Indifference of Confucius"	<i>Annotated Bibliography</i> Homework Questions	HP#6
2/12/09			EXAM ONE
2/14/09	<i>The Bhagavad-Gita</i> (F: 58-61)	Homework Questions	HP#7 HP#8
2/17/09	AR: Selected Buddhist Texts	Homework Questions	HP#9, HP #10
2/19/09	Begin reading <i>The Iliad</i> : Intro 3-29	<i>Thesis & Outline</i>	CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS #2

2/24/09	<i>The Iliad</i> : Books 1-4, 6-8, (F: 67-77)	Homework Questions	HP #11
2/26/09	<i>The Iliad</i> , Books 16, 18, 22-24	PAPER #1	CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS #3
3/3/09	<i>The Trojan Women</i> AR: Sappho, Lyric Poets (F: 81-93)	Homework Questions	HP#12 HP#13
3/5/09			EXAM TWO
3/17/09		<i>Topic Selection</i>	DEBATE #2
3/19/09	Thucydides (F: 77-81)	Homework Questions	HP#14 HP#15
3/24/09	<i>The Apology</i> (F: 94-105), AR: Pre-Socratic Philosophers, Aristotle	Homework Questions	HP#16
3/26/09	AR: Plutarch, Zarathustra	<i>Annotated Bibliography</i>	CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS #4
3/31/09	AR: Epicurus, Epictetus, Cleanthes, Josephus, Maccabees, Judges	Homework Questions	HP#17 HP#18 HP #19
4/7/09	AR: Polybius, Livy, (F: 46-57, 129-143)	Homework Questions	HP#20 HP#21
4/9/09	AR: Augustus, Tacitus	<i>Thesis & Outline</i>	CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS #5
4/14/09	Augustus, Tacitus, <i>The Aeneid</i> : Books 1-4, 6	Homework Questions	HP#22
4/16/09	AR: Dead Sea Scrolls, Matthews, Acts, Corinthians, Diary of Perpetua,		DEBATE #3
4/21/09	AR: Gorgias, Herodotus, Musonius Rufus		
4/23/09		<i>In-class Peer Review of Paper #2</i>	
4/28/09			CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS #6
4/30/09		PAPER #2	