

HUMANITIES 324

COURSE GUIDELINES

READINGS

All students will be assigned core readings, which change from semester to semester and are chosen in consultation with the faculty. Some core readings may be a bit more variable. For instance, instructors may choose which selections from Fiero to assign their sections week by week. Primary material in Fiero is not variable.

In our recent discussion, the faculty clarified that coverage means students are expected to read the core readings, bring questions to class, and draw on the readings in discussion. This does not mean that the instructor will discuss every reading with the class. Instructors need to think of innovative ways to make sure students have completed the readings so that they are available to them to use in discussion (see section IV below) and writing in the course.

Other readings may be added by each instructor.

Each section will read at least one additional text (consider the possibility of including different genres: novels, drama, poetry) of the instructor's choice.

EXAMS

There will be 3-4 exams (including a comprehensive final). One of the in-class exams may be replaced by regular quizzes.

Exams are to be mainly essay, as stated in the program objectives adopted this year.

Every final exam should have at least one comprehensive essay question which asks students to draw on a range of materials and synthesize what they have learned.

25% of tested material (either exams or quizzes) should draw on lecture material. Lecturers will provide 2-3 objective questions that may be used for this component. (Note: We also request that each lecturer give us the main ideas or thesis of the lecture or a listing of the main concepts.)

WRITING

All students will be asked to write a critical research paper using secondary sources.

Other forms of writing should be assigned at the instructor's discretion (essays on readings or cultural events, journals, response notebooks, or other assignments).

The total amount of assigned writing should be between 15 and about 25 pages.

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DISCUSSION

Discussion of texts should be the primary format in individual sections. "Texts" should be understood broadly: core and supplemental readings, art, and music. All such material is curriculum in the Humanities Program. Since discussion of this range of texts necessarily involves a variety of exchanges, e.g. student with instructor, student with student, student with entire class, a variety of strategies should be attempted to encourage it: e.g. small group exercises and presentations, at instructor's discretion.

OUTSIDE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Students will be required to attend at least 3 cultural events during the semester and provide a written response to the instructor. Refer to the program guidelines for cultural events, new for the spring semester.

SYLLABUS

Each course syllabus should include a copy of the Humanities program objectives developed in 1998-99. This statement of objectives is available at the Humanities program website. In addition, a statement on course policies on attendance, plagiarism, teaching philosophy, and related matters should be included.

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