University of Central Florida

HUM 2211H
Honors Humanistic Traditions I

Instructor: Bruce Janz	**Term**: Fall 2005
Time: T Th 12:00-1:15	**Room**: BHC 131
Phone: 407-823-2273	**Credits**: 3
Course Website & Resource Website: http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~janzb/courses/	**Section:** 0210
Office Hours: Announced early in the course	**Office**: Colbourn Hall 411E
Prerequisites: Honors standing	**Email**: janzb@mail.ucf.edu

This course will be an interdisciplinary, multicultural, historical survey of central ideas and questions raised by human thought and representation (art, architecture, literature, music, philosophy, religion) up to 1500. Students will be required both to recognize ideas and examples of cultural and intellectual production, and understand their meaning and significance. Students will also be encouraged to apply these ideas to larger questions of the nature of human existence. The course will have honors content.

Specific Objectives:
- Students should be able to identify and analyze key questions in the humanities that allow them to connect cultural ideas and representations from the past with the present, and from one culture to another.
- Students will be able to recognize and understand ideas and examples of cultural production from human cultures and civilizations in the modern era. You will be able to think critically and philosophically about them. You will learn to reflect on your own cultural and historical position (your assumptions and values) in relation to them.
- Students should be able to analyze meanings of artworks, performances, and texts in diverse historical and cultural contexts.
- Students should demonstrate knowledge of the chronology and significance of major events and movements in western civilization, U.S. history or world civilization.

Required Texts:

- Fiero, Gloria. *The Humanistic Tradition*. Vols. 1-3. 4th Edition. McGraw-Hill, 2002.
- Web-based Resources, available on the course web page

Requirements:

1. **Identifying Important Questions**: (2% x 10 = 20%, Due at the latest at the beginning of the week in which the chapter is assigned.) Over the term, you will develop 10 central questions in the humanities that arise from the texts. These questions should be ones which address some issue of human concern connected with the cultural and historical material in the chapters (ideas, images, writings, historical events), and may connect the past with the present, and one culture with another. Each discussion should state the question, connect it to the course material, and analyze it to determine its meaning. The discussion might also connect the question to contemporary issues, as well as suggest disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to addressing the question. I am not asking you to give a definitive answer to the question, but rather give it context as well as a research program. There will be more discussion of this in class. Each of these should be between 200 and 300 words long (please include a word count on your paper). These are due at the beginning of the week in which the chapter is assigned in class (or before, if you wish). If two chapters are listed for a given week, both questions would be due at the beginning of that week.

This is a **Gordon Rule course**, as mandated by the State of Florida. This means that **each student must write a minimum of 6000 words*** to meet the class and Gordon Rule requirements. This course provides reinforcement in these college level academic skills:

- Literal and critical reading comprehension;
- Essay skills (e.g., selecting a subject, formulating a thesis, providing supporting details, revising for clarity and conformity);
- Writing skills (e.g., sentence structure and punctuation).

Failure to submit a major writing assignment will prevent Gordon Rule credit from being awarded. Students must earn a C in the course for the Gordon Rule to apply.

*Minimum on the writing assignments in this course is 6250 words. Maximum is 8500 words.

2. **Developing Important Questions**: (15%, Due Nov. 10) Take three of the questions you have written about. In 750-1000 words (please include a word count), expand the research on those questions. Do some background reading to determine what has been written about the questions. The purpose of this assignment is to do more background research on some of the questions raised, to set forth a plan of writing that will answer the question.

3. **Writing Important Questions** (Final Paper): (20%, Due Nov. 29) Take one of the questions you developed, and write a 2000-2500 word paper (please include a word count) in which you answer the question. This paper should use at least four scholarly sources.

4. **Midterm Tests**: (10% each) There will be two midterm tests: Sept. 22 and Oct. 25. They will be based on the readings, the web resources, and the class discussions.

5. **Final Exam**: (25% of final grade, Thursday Dec. 8, 10:00 a.m., in the classroom).

Grade Distribution: I will record the assignment grades based on the percentage of the course grade during the term (so, for example, although a quiz might have a grade out of 10 on the paper, that grade will be converted to being out of 2 on my grade sheet). The letter grade will be calculated only at the end of the course, based on full course grade. The distribution will be as follows:

A: 93-100	B: 83-86	C: 73-76	D: 63-66
A-: 90-92	B-: 80-82	C-: 70-72	D-: 60-62
B+: 87-89	C+: 77-79	D+: 67-69	F: 0-59

Reading & Assignment Schedule:
Readings must be done for the first class of the week in which they are assigned.

Week 1: Aug. 23, 25	Week 2: Aug. 30, Sep. 1	Week 3: Sep. 6, 8
• Fiero Intro, 1	• Fiero 2, 3	• Fiero 4
Week 4: Sep. 13, 15	**Week 5: Sep. 20, 22**	**Week 6: Sep. 27, 29**
• Fiero 5	• Fiero 6, 7 • Midterm Sept. 22	• Fiero 8, 9
Week 7: Oct. 4, 6	**Week 8: Oct. 11, 13**	**Week 9: Oct. 18, 20**
• Fiero 10, 11	• Fiero 12	• Fiero 13, 14
Week 10: Oct. 25, 27	**Week 11: Nov. 1, 3**	**Week 12: Nov. 8, 10**
• Fiero 15 • Midterm Oct. 25	• Fiero 16	• Fiero 17 • Developing Important Questions Nov. 10
Week 13: Nov. 15, 17	**Week 14: Nov. 22**	**Week 15: Nov. 29, Dec. 1**
• Fiero 18	• Fiero 19	• Writing Important Questions Nov. 29.

The Fine Print

STANDARDS FOR PAPERS: I expect papers to be typewritten, in essay form (that is, not point form). They should be in 12 point Times New Roman font, with one inch margins, and double-spaced. Pages must be numbered, and the paper should be single-sided (that is, do not use both sides of the sheet of paper when printing). There should be a title page which includes the title of the paper, the name of the author, the date, the course, and the name of the professor. DO NOT put the paper in a folder, binder or plastic sleeve. I will be taking grammar, spelling, and structure into account - good ideas cannot be communicated with poor form. If the grammar or structure in a paper is severely flawed, I reserve the right to give a paper back to the student for revision without a grade (or with a reduction in grade), or fail the paper. As for citation style, I will be using the MLA format. I am open to other recognized formats (e.g., Chicago, Turabian), but whatever format you use must be used consistently. Note that the library has obtained a site license for a number of good citation programs, such as Endnote and Procite, which can aid in proper citation form. See the library's home page for these. For information on documentation styles, see http://www.uwc.ucf.edu/Writing%20Resources/writing_resources_home.htm#documentation

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PAPERS: It is usually preferable to submit your paper electronically to me. It should be sent to janzb@mail.ucf.edu as an attachment. The paper needs to be in Word (preferred), Adobe Acrobat (pdf), Rich Text Format (rtf), or WordPerfect format. It must appear identical to how it would look if you were to hand it in as a physical document (in other words, with a title page at the beginning and reference list at the end). You will receive typed comments on the paper, and it will be returned electronically in the same format as it was sent. Do not include .exe files or anything that might contain a virus, and please scan your document with a virus program before you send it. Please identify yourself and the course in the subject line of the message (e.g., "<Your Name>, <Paper title> for <course name and number>"). Please make sure as well that I can reach you at the email address that you use to send the paper, in case the file does not open.

- *Why should I submit my paper electronically?* You will likely receive more extensive comments, as I can type faster than I can write. You may receive the paper back faster, as I often return electronic papers before class. Drawback: I cannot record a grade on a paper sent by email (see below). You will still have to find out your grade in class, or on WebCT, if we are using it for this course.
- *How do I know that my paper arrived?* I will respond to your email containing your paper once I have determined that the file opens. If you don't receive an email from me within a day or so, check that the paper arrived. Email is notoriously unreliable, and it is possible that something went wrong.
- *Why can't I read the returned paper?* It may be that you use Microsoft Works, instead of Microsoft Word. These programs may not be compatible. The paper should be sent in Microsoft Word, not Works. You may be able to install a document converter - see your program documentation.
- *The file opens but I can't read the comments. What do I do?* If you sent the paper in Microsoft Word, I will use the "Comments" function and the "Track Changes" option. If the program opens, but you don't see any comments, bring up the "Reviewing" toolbar (right-click on your toolbar at the top, and when you see a list of options for toolbars, make sure the "reviewing" toolbar is checked). Look for a tab marked "show", and click it. Underneath you will see several options. Make sure "Comments" and "Insertions and Deletions" at least are marked (the others wouldn't hurt, either). If you are using WordPerfect, either make sure you are in "draft" mode, or else while in "page" mode, go to the far left margin (you may have to scroll the screen to the side), and note the small tabs. When you click on one, you will be able to see comments. Please use the program that you used originally - comments may not be readable if made in one word processor and read in another.
- *Where's my grade?* See below on the communication of grades.
- *Can I use another word processor?* No. It needs to be in Word, Adobe Acrobat, Rich Text Format, or WordPerfect. It will be read on a Windows system, which may cause problems for papers written on Macs. Please make sure that your paper actually opens on a Windows system. I will not download another word processor and install it in order to read your paper.
- *Can I fax my paper to the department instead?* Sorry, the department has a policy of not accepting faxes of assignments from students.

ATTENDANCE: I expect regular and prompt attendance from members of the class. If you cannot be at a class, let me know before-hand. I reserve the right to not accept assignments from students either if attendance has been a problem, or if a paper is seriously late without a legitimate (in my opinion) reason. This includes any paper or graded activity in the course, including the final paper and the final exam. I will only inflict this measure after having given a warning; however, if you simply never come to class, do not expect to get much sympathy at the end of the term when you want to hand in assignments.

LATE PAPERS: On late papers in general: The due dates are firm. There will be penalties for late papers. If there is a legitimate reason for a paper being late, I am willing to consider it and waive the late penalty. Illegitimate reasons include "I had too much work" (you could have started earlier); "My computer deleted my file" (make back-ups); "I'm on a team and we were away" (work that out with your coach, not me); "I couldn't think of a topic" (come & see me early). This, of course, does not exhaust the list of reasons that will not succeed. Plan ahead, and save yourself problems. Having said that, I recognize that there will sometimes be factors beyond a person's control. I will deal with these cases on an individual basis. Giving an extension in one case in no way obligates me to do it in others. The most successful appeal will a) have an argument for why an extension is justified, and b) suggest a way that the assignment will be made better by the extension.

EXAM RULES: I will not change exam dates simply to accommodate travel schedules. I am especially unsympathetic if someone buys a plane ticket first, and comes to me later saying that I have to change an exam date to accommodate it. If there are other reasons that you think might be legitimate, please see me.

COMMUNICATION OF GRADES: The university does not allow the communication of grades to a student by email (including embedding them in documents, which means they cannot be placed on a paper emailed to me), or by posting them outside a professor's door. This is a confidentiality issue. Please do not ask me for your grade by email. I will tell you your grade in person, in class, or over the phone, as long as I can be certain that you are who you say you are. If this is a course in which we use WebCT, grades will be available there.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: We will discuss the nature of academic honesty in class, but a note here is warranted. Basically, your work should be your own and original to this class, and when you are drawing on the words, images, or ideas of others, this should be properly noted. What should be avoided?
- Handing in an identical (or substantially similar) paper to another person in the class.
- Using a paper from another student (e.g., a former student, or a paper from an internet paper mill).
- Using any information from a book or an internet site without proper referencing.
- Handing in work done for another class without discussing it with the professor first.

The university writing center has many useful handouts on writing, including handouts on properly handling citations. If you have any question about how to properly complete an assignment, please see me. On occasion I may submit student papers to Turnitin.com, a website that checks for plagiarism. Papers submitted to that site become part of their database. Submitting a paper in this course gives consent for your paper to be added to their database.

WITHDRAWAL: It is the student's responsibility to drop or withdraw from the course if there is an unavoidable conflict or if the need should arise for another reason. Students who fail to drop before the deadline established in the curriculum catalogue will receive an F for the course. The withdrawal date for Fall 2005 is October 14.