

West Los Angeles College
Humanities 60
People and Their World: Technology and the Humanities
Anne Winter
Fall 2013
Section 1260

AUG 27	Introductory Overview <i>Landmarks in Humanities</i>	Explanation of Course/Syllabus Writing module (non-graded)
AUG 29		<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 1
SEP 3	Writing Assignment #1 Due	
SEP 5	Student Exercise/Participation	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 2
SEP 10		
SEP 12	Writing Assignment #2 Due	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 3
SEP 17		
SEP 19	Guest Speaker	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 4
OCT 1	Writing Assignment #3 Due	
OCT 3		<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 5
OCT 8	Writing Assignment #4 Due	
OCT 10		<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 6
OCT 15	Writing Assignment #5 Due	
OCT 17	Group Break Outs	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 7
OCT 22	Mid-Term Exam/Film	
OCT 24		<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 8
OCT 29		
OCT 31	Writing Assignment #6 Due	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 9
NOV 5		

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NOV 7	Museum Report Due	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 10
NOV 12	Writing Assignment #7 Due	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 11
NOV 14	Writing Assignment #8 Due	
NOV 19	Writing Assignment #9 Due	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 12
NOV 21	Writing Assignment #10 Due	
NOV 26	Research Project Due	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 13
NOV 28	Holiday – NO CLASS	THANKSGIVING
DEC 3	Research Presentations	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 14
DEC 5	Research Presentations	
DEC 10	Research Presentations	<i>Reading:</i> Chapter 15
DEC 12	FINAL EXAM	LAST DAY OF CLASS

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Course Information

3 units UC : CSU

Section: 1260 - Tuesday / Thursday 9:35am – 11:00am

Instructor: **Anne Winter**
Email: winterar@wlaac.edu
Contact: 310-717-8316

Location: FA208

Office Hours: By appointment

Dates: August 27 – December 12, 2013

Course Description

This course relates technology to the Humanities. Covers and provides opportunities to examine the interaction between society and technology. Challenging and stimulating questions about cultural and social values, in light of the effects of technology from the Paleolithic period to the 21st century are developed and discussed. Students are encouraged to do research on the latest technological developments of our time.

This survey of cultural heritage of Western Civilization presents a history of cultures and values with emphasis on artistic, literary, religious, and philosophical traditions, using a variety of modes of instruction, including lectures and class discussions, supplemented by appropriate media – videos, films, and music recordings.

Purpose of Studying the Humanities

People and Their World: Technology & the Humanities is designed as an interdisciplinary survey of human cultural/technological achievement in the Western Humanistic Tradition, which has shaped, more than any other, our cultural and social identity. Emphasis is placed on objective analysis and comparison of selected works from all disciplines within Humanities – arts, music, literature, philosophy and history - to reveal general traits of Western Civilization.

Pursuing the Humanities aspect of West Los Angeles College's mission, this semester is based on the assumption that, among other things, "an educated person should have a critical appreciation of the ways in which we gain and apply knowledge and understanding of the universe, of society, and of ourselves. Specifically, he or she should have an informed acquaintance with the aesthetic and intellectual experience of literature and the arts." (1-Harvard Core Curriculum Report, 1978)

Goals:

To help students develop writing, thinking, speaking, and research skills necessary for their personal/professional benefit, that they may become lifelong learners.

To provide students with learning experiences in Humanities disciplines, but also that reflect interdisciplinary connections.

To provide students with opportunities to develop a global perspective, and an understanding and appreciation of other peoples and cultures, through a historical survey of human cultural/technical achievement in the Western Humanistic Tradition.

Student Learning Outcome:

The successful student in this course will be able to demonstrate:

- A. Critical Thinking: Analyze problems by differentiating fact from opinions, using evidence, and sound reason to specify multiple solutions, and their consequences. Students will distinguish fact from opinion that technology has been present since the dawn of the primitive civilizations, by engaging in activities such as essays, museum visits, quizzes, and exams.

- B. Cultural Diversity: Respectfully engage with other cultures in an effort to understand them. Students will demonstrate their appreciation and respect for technology and tools used by other cultures by research presentations.
- C. Aesthetics: Use multiple modes of inquiry, and approaches to experience, and engage with the arts and nature; develop, and express personal creative visions throughout all aspects of one's life. Students will demonstrate their engagement in the aesthetic interaction between society and technology since the Pre-historic Period, in activities such as class forums. Creation of new technical tools will also be considered.

Required Text

Fiero, Gloria. *Landmarks in Humanities*, Third Edition, (McGraw-Hill).
ISBN: 978-0-07-352396-5

How the Course Works

This section of Humanities will meet twice weekly. Students should be prepared to discuss textbook readings in depth during class. Your course outline will include dates of class meetings, along with assignments. It is your road map for the course. Consult it often to confirm what your assignments entail, when they are due, and when you are scheduled for an exam.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to come to each class with their textbook, having read all assigned material. Students who miss a class meeting must take responsibility for all material covered. If there is a compelling reason why you cannot attend the class, please contact your instructor in advance.

Evaluation

You will be held responsible for the reading assignments, museum visits, and oral presentations. Final grades will be based on the following scale:

Two Exams: a Mid-term and a Final – Each 6 Page Minimum	40%
Ten Chapter Tests / Writing Assignments – 1 Page Minimum	30%
Museum Report – 2 Page Minimum	20%
Research Project – 6 Page Written Paper & Oral Presentation	10%

***Note: Minimum Assignment criteria excludes Works Cited Page**

Grading:

A	90—100
B	80—89
C	70—79
D	60—69
F	Below 60

Note: To receive credit and a grade in the course, students must turn in all assignments. Assignments not turned in by announced due dates will receive a grade reduction. No make up exams will be allowed, without a compelling reason. I do not normally provide for any extra-credit work. Students who are absent for more than 3 sessions of class are subject to possible exclusion from the class for violating attendance regulations. (See WLCA Catalogue). Students who are no longer interested in completing this class are responsible for DROPPING/WITHDRAWING themselves at the Office of Admissions & Records. (See WLAC Schedule for drop/add dates). Failure to do so will result in a Semester grade of “F” for this class. Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disabled Students Programs and Services located in HRLC 119, phone number 310-287-4450 as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Assignments:

This course limits itself, in the main, to Western culture without denying the interest and importance of other cultures. This course is intended to help you develop your abilities to read, speak, write, and listen effectively and critically. For the sake of achieving these goals, you are expected to:

1. Read the assigned texts (specific reading assignments will be given as the course progresses). Complete the assigned reading **before** you come to class, **Text Chapters are to be read by the date assigned.** You should be prepared to talk about it, be tested on it, or write about it without advance warning.
2. Participate in class discussions/group activities/oral presentations.
3. Complete in-class tests.
4. Submit all writing assignments by due date. **Only in the case of an emergency will extensions be granted for handing in late papers.**

Supplies:

1. Laptop/Notebook for Class Lectures
2. Materials for Research and creative projects
3. 8 1/2 x 11 lined loose-leaf paper only - no smaller or unlined paper
4. A blue or black ink pen for in-class assignments (No writing compositions in Pencil)

Note: Papers must be typed, double spaced. Font should be set at Times New Roman, 12-point size (not 9, not 10, not 10.5 etc!). Margins should be set at 1-inch top and Bottom, and 1.25-inch right and left.

Classroom Etiquette:

Please do not hold conversations with classmates whenever the professor or another student is speaking. Also refrain from writing and passing notes, or participating in other distracting behavior. Your undivided attention in class is a must. An atmosphere of mutual respect is in order. The Instructor reserves the right to request that you leave if you engage in disrespectful conduct, *including use of cellphones/texting*. Academic dishonesty, plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are not tolerated. See the Dishonesty statement in the WLAC “Standards of Student Conduct” for a full description of the college’s policy. The Standards will be enforced and can be found in the Schedule of Classes.

The Syllabus and Schedule are subject to revision at the discretion of the Instructor.