

West Los Angeles College
Humanities 60
People and Their World: Technology and the Humanities
Anne Winter
Spring 2014
Section 7591

Feb 10	Introductory Overview Chapter Participation Groups	Explanation of Course/Syllabus Writing module (non-graded)
Feb 12	Pre-History First Civilizations	<i>Read</i> A.I. Ch.11 – Communications/Intro Gilgamesh Handout + WA#1
Feb 17	<u>Presidents' Day – Holiday</u>	
Feb 19	Writing Assignment #1 Due Roundtable Discussion Group 11	<i>Read</i> Ch. 11 Communications Parts 1- 8
Feb 24	DVD-Resurrection of a Lost Art	Ancient & Modern Medicine Mummification vs. Plastination Handout – WA#2
Feb 26	Group Project-Mummification	<i>Read</i> Ch. 1 – Medicine Parts 1-9
Mar 3	Writing Assignment #2 Due Roundtable Discussion Group 1	
Mar 5	DVD – The Real Olympics	<i>Read</i> Ch. 12 – Sports & Leisure Parts 1-13 Handout - WA#3
Mar 8	Museum Visit	Getty Villa
Mar 10	Greek Theatre Writing Assignment #3 Due	
Mar 12	Roman Legion VI	Guest Speakers
Mar 17	Roundtable Discussion Group 12	<i>Read</i> Ch. 5–Military Technology Parts 1-9
Mar 19	Roundtable Discussion Group 5	<i>Read:</i> Chapter Handout – Mid-Term Exam
Mar 24	DVD – The Dark Ages Museum Report Due	<i>Read</i> Ch. 2 – Transportation Parts 1-12
Mar 26	Roundtable Discussion Group 2	<i>Read</i> Ch. 3 – High Technology Parts 1-11

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Mar 31	<u><i>Caesar Chavez Day - Holiday</i></u>	
Apr 2	Mid-Term Exam Due Roundtable Discussion Group 3	<i>Read Ch. 6</i> Personal Effects Parts 1-12
Apr 7-13	<u><i>Spring Break – Holiday</i></u>	
Apr 14	Renaissance DVD Writing Assignment #4 Due Roundtable Discussion Group 6	<i>Read Ch. 7</i> Food, Drink & Drugs Parts 1-9
Apr 16	Roundtable Discussion Group 7	<i>Read Ch. 8</i> Urban Life Parts 1-7
Apr 21	Roundtable Discussion Group 8	<i>Read Ch. 10</i> House & Home Parts 1-9
Apr 23	Da Vinci Weaponry DVD	
Apr 28	Research Project Due Roundtable Discussion Group 10	
Apr 30	Research Presentations	
May 5	Research Presentations	
May 7	Research Presentations Writing Assignment #5 Due	
May 12	Research Presentations	
May 14	Research Presentations	
May 19	Research Presentation	
May 21	Research Presentations	
May 26	<u><i>Memorial Day – Holiday</i></u>	
May 28	Ancient Art Film	
June 2	U. of Vermont Ancient Inventions Internet	Review for Final Exam
June	Final Exam	Last Day of Class

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Course Information

3 units UC : CSU

Class Meetings: Monday / Wednesday 7:35am – 9:00am

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

Location: Los Angeles Police Department – POPP/ARTC Campus

Office Hours: By appointment

Dates: February 10 - June 9, 2014

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.

Course Objectives:

Make students aware of the links that have historically existed between technology and the arts.

Examine technological innovations that found places within the arts – such as the laser beam, acrylic paints, and electronic sounds in music.

Study the historical evolution that has produced our modern industrial society.

Acquaint the students with the works of various artists, musicians and writers.

Give the students background materials on urban development throughout history, and the industrial revolution.

Demonstrate the technical development of musical instruments.

Acquire knowledge of the space program and the use of computers in our information age.

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

James, Peter and Thorpe, Nick - *Ancient Inventions*, Ballantine Books, 1994. ISBN: 13:978-0-307-29061-8.

Supplemental Text

Lamm, Robert C. - *The Humanities in Western Culture*, Revised Fourth Edition, Brief Version, McGraw-Hill, 2004. ISBN: 0072835982

Note: Always bring textbook(s) to class, as their usage will be required as part of your participation grade.

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.

Instructional Methods

The primary method is a combination of lectures, roundtable class discussions, supplemented by appropriate media – videos, films, and music records.

Readings should be completed as assigned, **prior** to each class.

Student Responsibilities

Read Announcements

Assignments

Quizzes/Exams/Museum Report, Research Projects

Weekly Group Work

Course Resources

Library and Learning Resources Center

Online Tutoring – <http://www.wlac.edu/online/tutoring.asp>

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.

Students are expected to participate in all classes for which they are registered. Students who are unable to participate in class regularly, regardless of the reason or circumstance, should withdraw from the class. Instructors may exclude a student from a class whenever a student is not participating on a regular basis.

Examples of regular participation may include:

- submitting/grading assignments (students/faculty)
- participating in discussions (students & faculty)
- responding to emails / phone calls (students & faculty)
- adherence to scheduled events in the syllabus (students & faculty)
- On-campus events or other locations where instructor and students meet for class; i.e. museum, observatory, etc. (students & faculty)

Withdrawal from class can affect eligibility for federal financial aid.

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 5 Page Minimum	40%
Five Chapter Tests /Writing Assignments – 1 Page Minimum	15%
Museum Report – 2 Page Minimum	10%
One Research Project – Written (15%)& Oral (5%) Presentation	20%
Participation	15%

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

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 them, be tested on them, or write about them without advance warning.
2. Participate in class discussions/group activities/oral presentations. **(15% of grade).**
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.**

Syllabus Change Policy – This syllabus is a guide and every attempt is made to provide an accurate overview of the course. However, circumstances and events may make it necessary for modification of the syllabus during the semester.

Private Messages and Electronic Mail

Electronic mail is the official method of communication for delivery of college information. Every WLAC student has an e-mail address. Check your e-mail daily. To access your account visit www.wlac.edu, and click on the Student Email button. To log in, use your student ID # and your birthday and month. Your e-mail can be forwarded to any other personal email account.

Disabled Student Services

If you know or think that you have any learning or physical disabilities, please contact Dr. Duke in the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPPS) Office in the Student Services Building room 320 or at (310) 287-4423. The DSPPS will then contact your instructors to notify them of needed accommodations, such as additional testing time, or a note taker. If you require an accommodation for this class, please speak with me.

Dropping the course

According to college policy, you will be excluded for non-participation or for not following the Standards of Student Conduct (printed in the Schedule of Classes). If you drop the course, be sure to do so using the Student Information System at <http://www.laccd.edu> and keep the confirmation code. Pay attention to drop dates in the Schedule of Classes. The last day to drop for this class with no fee owed, the last day to drop without a “W”, and the last day to drop with a “W” is listed on the College Semester Calendar.

Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others’ academic endeavors. When there is evidence of cheating or plagiarism in classroom work, the instructor may assign a failing grade, “F,” or zero points to the examination or assignment in which the alleged cheating or plagiarism occurred. Before a substandard grade is issued the instructor will provide the student with supporting documentation of the plagiarism or cheating charge. Instructors have the authority to use plagiarism detecting instruments such as “Turn It In” to detect academic dishonesty.

Forms of Behavior which Violate Academic Integrity:

- **Cheating.** Using any materials or devices or strategies which provide undue advantage on any exam, assignment, activity or other method of assessment for a course. This includes, but is not limited to, copying content from the Web, textbooks or other sources, buying content, reusing materials produced in other courses, or any other system of inappropriate "help." Exams are to be measures of what YOU, as an individual, have learned.
- **Collaboration.** Working together on projects, papers, exams or other forms of assessment which are to be completed individually.
- **Plagiarism.** Taking anyone else's work as one's own. Presenting another's words, ideas, forms of expression, materials, or labor without proper citation, referencing, and declaration that this material originated outside the student's own work.

For assistance with course essays, papers and other writing assignments, please utilize the online Writing Lab, <http://www.wlac.edu/online/owl.asp>

Standards of Student Conduct

The West LA College faculty, staff and administrators are dedicated to maintaining an optimal learning environment and will not tolerate any disruptive behavior in or outside of the classroom or any academic dishonesty. These standards apply to all students.

Disruptive, disrespectful, or obstructive behavior will be dealt with in accordance with the LACCD Standard of Student conduct. Disciplinary action can be taken if student behavior interferes with instruction. Please refer to the Schedule of Classes.

- Warning - A written notice, given to the student by the instructor.
- Removal by the Instructor - An instructor may remove a student temporarily from the course.

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 distractive 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.

Instructional Support and Monitoring

- For assistance with research projects, visit the Library on the second floor of the HLRC or access Library resources online at <http://www.wlac.edu/library/index.html>
- Monitor your academic progress online at <http://www.wlac.edu/online/counselingonline.asp> by clicking on the DegreeWorks icon, or contact an Online Counselor at onlinecounseling@wlac.edu

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.

GRADING RUBRIC

A

Offers cogent analysis, shows command of interpretive and conceptual tasks required by assignment and course materials: ideas original, often insightful, going beyond ideas discussed in lecture and class

Essay controlled by clear, precise, well-defined thesis: is sophisticated in both statement and insight

Well-chosen examples; persuasive reasoning used to develop and support thesis consistently: uses quotations and citations effectively; causal connections between ideas are evident

Appropriate, clear and smooth transitions; arrangement of paragraphs seems particularly apt

Uses sophisticated sentences effectively; usually chooses words aptly; observes conventions of written English and manuscript format; makes few minor or technical errors

B

Shows a good understanding of the texts, ideas and methods of the assignment; goes beyond the obvious; may contain one minor factual or conceptual inconsistency

Clear, specific, argumentative thesis central to the essay; may have left minor terms undefined

Pursues thesis consistently: develops a main argument with clear major points and appropriate textual evidence and supporting detail; makes an effort to organize paragraphs topically

Distinct units of thought in paragraphs controlled by specific and detailed topic sentences; clear transitions between developed, cohering, and logically arranged paragraphs that are internally cohesive

Some mechanical difficulties or stylistic problems; may make occasional problematic word choices or awkward syntax errors; a few spelling or punctuation errors or cliché; usually presents quotations effectively

C

Shows an understanding of the basic ideas and information involved in the assignment; may contain some factual, interpretive, or conceptual errors

General thesis or controlling idea; may not define several central terms

Only partially develops the argument; shallow analysis; some ideas and generalizations undeveloped or unsupported; makes limited use of textual evidence; fails to integrate quotations appropriately

Some awkward transitions; some brief, weakly unified or undeveloped paragraphs; arrangement may not appear entirely natural; contains extraneous information

More frequent wordiness; several unclear or awkward sentences; imprecise use of words or over-reliance on passive voice; one or two major grammatical errors (subject-verb agreement, comma splice, etc.); effort to present quotations accurately

D

Shows inadequate command of course materials or contains significant factual and conceptual errors; does not respond directly to the demands of the assignment; confuses some significant ideas

Thesis vague or not central to argument; central terms not defined

Frequently only narrates; digresses from one topic to another without developing ideas or terms; makes insufficient or awkward use of textual evidence

Simplistic, tends to narrate or merely summarize; wanders from one topic to another; illogical arrangement of ideas

Some major grammatical or proofreading errors (subject-verb agreement; sentence fragments); language marred by clichés, colloquialisms, repeated inexact word choices; inappropriate quotations or citations format

F

Writer has not understood lectures, readings, discussion, or assignment

No discernible thesis

Little or no development; may list facts or misinformation; uses no quotations or fails to cite sources or plagiarizes

No transitions; incoherent paragraphs; suggests poor planning or no serious revision

Numerous grammatical errors and stylistic problems seriously distract from the argument

Student Acknowledgement
(Please return this sheet to the Instructor)

“I _____ have completely read this syllabus, and understand and agree to the course requirements.”

Student Name:
(print)

Student Signature:

Date:

Semester (Quarter/Year)

Humanities Course/
Section #

Please indicate below, any special needs or circumstances that may have some impact on your work in this class, and for which you may require special accommodations, including but not limited to physical or mental disabilities, inability to arrive in class on time or need to leave class early, and observance of religious holidays.

Special needs or circumstances:
