



HON 12H - HONORS CULTURE, SCIENCE, SOCIETY - THE POSTMODERN WORLD

Catalog Id 692163.00

State Id CCC000590741

Division/School Online Education & Learning Resources

Department Honors

Program HONORS - Honors

Subject Honors

Short Title HON CSS – POSTMODERN

Full Title HONORS CULTURE, SCIENCE, SOCIETY - THE POSTMODERN WORLD

Catalog Description

Cross-disciplinary seminar. Explores the continuity of cultural traditions through a study of major works of history, literature, philosophy, social thought, fine arts, and the sciences. Compares and contrasts modes of inquiry characteristic of those disciplines. Organized around the theme of the postmodern world.

Course Requisites

Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for ENG 1B or ENG 1BH, Prerequisite: ENG 1A, or ENG 1AH

Course Functions

Course Prior To Y - Not applicable

Course Classification Y - Credit Course

Grading Option Letter Grade only

Method of Instruction Lecture Instruction Only

Maximum Enrollment 25

Cross-disciplinary seminar. Explores cultural traditions in major works from a variety of perspectives. Organized around the theme of the postmodern world.

Course Content - Topics Covered

Lecture Topics

1. Antecedents of postmodernism: From the European "Enlightenment" era through 20th-century Modernism
 1. Communication
 1. Education
 2. Intellectual networks
 3. Oral traditions
 4. Physical artifacts
 5. Transportation
 2. Social structure
 1. Urbanization
 2. Modes of production
 3. Class structure
 4. Patronage
 5. Religion
 6. Scientific community
 7. Loci of power
2. The humanities heritage
 1. Significant works
 1. Art and architecture
 2. Music and theater
 3. Philosophy and science
 4. Letters
 2. Significant issues
 1. Race
 2. Gender
 3. Intellectual freedom and expression
 4. Artistic freedom and expression
 5. What it means to be human
3. The postmodern world's relationship with its heritage
 1. Absorption
 2. Rejection
 3. Deconstruction
 4. Transformation

Course Content - Learning Objectives

Students participating in this class will:

1. **Recognize, analyze, and discuss a number of diverse scholarly perspectives concerning the postmodern world and its intellectual heritage.**
2. **Complete a close, critical reading of primary texts and artifacts related to the postmodern world and its intellectual heritage.**
3. **Examine explicit models and techniques of reasoning used since the Western Enlightenment.**
4. **Conceptualize research problems and prepare a documented research paper based on an argumentative thesis, including an abstract and supported by an annotated bibliography of primary and other scholarly sources, concerning an aspect of the postmodern world or its intellectual heritage.**
5. **Prepare a hermeneutical analysis of a masterwork of the period; this may be done via representational passages for larger works.**
6. **Discuss and analyze the artistic significance of a major artifact of the period.**
7. **Orally present a research paper in an academic conference environment.**

Course Content - Methods of Evaluation

Evaluation of the student will be based upon the following items:

Writing Assignments

- **term or other paper(s)**

Description

Students will be evaluated on a research paper addressing cultural conditions, texts, masterworks, artifacts, or impact of renaissance events, thinkers, or themes. Papers will be evaluated for their thesis statements, use of research methods, clarity in writing, accuracy in discussing positions, development of argument, consideration of objections, and for relevance of topic to topics.

Research papers will demonstrate students' ability to develop a sustained argument, consider opposing scholarly perspectives, and reach reasoned conclusions.

- **Other (please describe)**

Description

1. Students will be evaluated on the comprehensiveness, focus, and format of an annotated bibliography created in the process of constructing the research paper.
2. Students will be evaluated on the comprehensiveness, focus, format, and cohesion of an abstract created in the process of constructing the research paper.

Problem Solving Demonstrations

- **Other (please describe)**

Description

Students will be evaluated on specific exercises done at home, such as an analysis of a reading from the period, hermeneutical analysis of a masterwork of the period, or discussion of an artifact of the period, or analysis of impact of themes within the period to society today. Such tasks will demonstrate students' applied knowledge of their understanding of the postmodern world.

Skill Demonstrations

- **class performance(s)**

Description

Students will be evaluated on their ability to create and present lectures, lead discussions, or create dramatic or artistic presentations to communicate course content. Students will be assessed on their ability to orally present own research in a format appropriate to an academic conference.

- **Other (please describe)**

Description

Students will be evaluated for their class presentations of texts or other material as they present lectures, lead discussions, or create dramatic presentations of these. Such tasks will test students' ability to discuss ideas with each other, negotiate consensus, and to solve problems publicly.

Examinations

- **essay**

Description

1. Ability to recognize, analyze, and discuss a number of diverse scholarly perspectives concerning the postmodern world.
2. Ability to conduct a hermeneutical analysis of a masterwork of the period (this may be done via representational passages for larger works).
3. Analysis of the artistic significance of a major artifact of the period.
4. Presentation of a close, critical reading of a text.

Course Content - In and Out-of-Class Assignments

Typical Reading Assignments

1. Students will be reading from a wide variety of primary, secondary, and literary sources.
2. Students will be reading articles from peer-reviewed journals for class discussion and also toward the completion of their research project. Readings are assigned for each class meeting.

Typical Writing Assignments

1. Research paper created according to the following processes and standards:
 1. Refinement or narrowing of topic;
 2. Construction of completion timeline;
 3. Construction of outline or draft;
 4. Selection of research methods and resources;
 5. Use of print and online sources;
 6. Navigation of search engines and other tools for finding appropriate sources;
 7. Assessment of quality, reliability, accuracy, and perspective of sources;
 8. Proper citation of sources, correct attribution of information, preservation of integrity of information, and compliance with laws and rules pertaining to acceptable use of technology and effective presentation of information.
2. Abstract of the paper.
3. Annotated bibliography for the paper.

Typical Oral Assignments

1. Students will read and view primary sources, both literary and visual, and participate in seminar discussion led by the instructors.
2. Students will present their completed research in a format appropriate to academic conferences.
3. Students may create and present dialogues or other dramatic presentations to communicate course content.

Typical Other Assignments

1. Students may visit an appropriate museum or other site, gathering information on a selected topic by viewing and analyzing the art and/or the environment itself. This evidence may be used in the semester research.
2. Students may keep a journal/notebook reflecting the readings, lectures, and discussions of the course.
3. Students may study videos of lectures on the topics, or study videos as primary documents.
4. Students will participate in the course by presenting lectures or leading a seminar.

Course Content - Other Requirements

Textbooks / Supplies

Cunningham, L., Reich, J., Fichner-Rathus, L., Culture and Values: A Survey of the Humanities, Vol II, 9th Ed. Cengage Learning. 2018

McHale, B., The Cambridge Introduction to Postmodernism, Cambridge University Press. 2015

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