

## **South Plains College: General Course Syllabus**

**Department:** Behavioral Sciences

**Discipline:** Humanities

**Course Number:** Humanities 1301

**Course Name:** Introduction to the Humanities

**Credit:** 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: Yes- Language, Philosophy & Culture

**Prerequisites:** none

**Campuses:** All

**Textbooks:** *The Art of Being Human: The Humanities as a Technique for Living* by Richard Janaro & Thelma Altshuler, 11<sup>th</sup> ed. ISBN: 9780134240305 Pearson

**Course Specific Instructions:** refer to individual instructor's course information sheet

**Course Description:** This course is an interdisciplinary, multi-perspective assessment of cultural, political, philosophical, and aesthetic factors critical to the formulation of values and the historical development of the individual and of society.

**Course Purpose:** This course is an introductory course designed to acquaint students with a broad understanding of how the arts interface with individual and societies. A holistic approach will be utilized to explore ideas of aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human experience across cultures.

**Course Requirements:** To maximize the potential to successfully complete this course, the student should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments in a timely manner, and complete all examinations including the final exam. Internet courses require the work to be completed in specific time periods.

**Course Evaluation:** Refer to the instructor's course information sheet for specifics on assignments and testing.

**Attendance Policy:** Whenever absences become excessive, and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student may be withdrawn from the course. The typical view of excessive absences is when a student misses more than two weeks of the course.

**Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies:** Students who have successfully completed this course will be expected to:

- Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
- Articulate how these works express the values of the individual and society within an historical and social context.
- Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works in the arts and humanities.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the influence of literature, philosophy, and the arts on cultural experiences.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the creative process and why humans create. **Core Objectives addressed:**
- **Communication skills-** to include effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Critical thinking skills-** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Social Responsibility-** to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.
- **Personal Responsibility** – to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

### **Relevant SPC Policies & Procedures**

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the

course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment. See Instructor’s Course Information for additions to the attendance policy. (See Catalog)

**Academic Integrity:** The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. This policy relates to all forms of cheating and plagiarism. See Instructor’s Course Information for additions to the academic integrity policy.

**Student Conduct:** A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. Students are subject to federal, state and local laws, as well as South Plains College rules and regulations. Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw. Failure to comply with lawful direction of a classroom teacher relative to maintaining good order is considered misconduct on the part of the student. Repeated violations of disrupting a class may result in the student being dropped from that course (See Catalog/Student Guide for full policy). See Instructor’s Course Information for additional policies related to student conduct.

**Academic Appeals:** The Vice President for Student Affairs is the South Plains College Title IX Coordinator and is designated to formally investigate student grievances, address inquiries and coordinate the College’s compliance efforts regarding student complaints and grievances. Whenever possible and safe, the problem or complaint should first be discussed with the

individual involved in the complaint. If satisfactory resolution is not reached after discussion with the individual, the student should contact the individual's direct supervisor to attempt to resolve the complaint. If these efforts are unsuccessful, the formal grievance process may be initiated. The College does not require a student to contact the person involved or that person's supervisor if doing so is impracticable, or if the student believes that the conduct cannot be effectively addressed through informal means (See Catalog/Student Guide for full definitions and policy).

**Disability Services:** Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**Diversity & Equal Rights:** South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President of Student Affairs.

All students are entitled to equal rights under the affirmative action and equal opportunity laws. Students are also protected against unjust or biased academic evaluation, but at the same time, they are responsible for maintaining standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. (See Catalog/Student Guide for full definitions and policies)

Course Specific Information

HUMA 1301, section

Instructor:

**Mr. Sanchez A. V.**

Office Hours:

M/W4:30 to 5:30 (**Reese Center Building 4 - 410**)

Other days and times, by appointment only

Primary Office: Reese Campus, Building 4, room  
[TTU – HH 034 M/F:10:50 to 11:50]  
Office Phone\*\*: 806--  
E-Mail\*\*: [asanchez@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:asanchez@southplainscollege.edu)

\*\* Please note: I prefer to be contacted by email rather than telephone. I have voicemail in my Reese office, but there are many times during the week when I can get back to you more quickly if you email me rather than call me. There is a phone in the Levelland office I use, but this is a shared office and I do not have my own Voicemail there (e.g. if you call that number and leave a voicemail, it won't go to me), however during my Levelland office hours, if you need to call me on the phone, you may call 806-716-2469.

### **POLICIES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Student Responsibility:** It is your job, as a student, to know the rules of student conduct laid out in the Catalog and Student Guide, all other South Plains College policies which impact you laid out in the Catalog, and the policies laid out in this syllabus. It is also your job to check email, blackboard, and the calendar of due dates regularly to make sure that you are keeping up with your work.

**Classroom etiquette:** It is rude to be physically in class, but not engaged in the class and paying attention. It is a distraction to me and your classmates. I allow the use of computers for taking notes only, but reserve the right to restrict the use of computers or disallow the use of computers in the class if I observe inappropriate use of computers, including but not limited to: checking email, browsing the internet, checking Facebook, registering for classes, etc. Additional behaviors that are inappropriate include, but are not limited to: use of cell phones, reading the newspaper, reading material for other classes, talking while other people are speaking, sleeping in class, making offensive/bigoted remarks, and taking pictures of any portion of the class (remember your classmates have the same FERPA privacy rights as you do!). It is not acceptable to take pictures of PowerPoint slides as a substitute for taking notes. You are not allowed to record class (voice or video) without my permission.

**Course Specific Attendance Policy:** A student with 5 or more absences (not counting absences that I excuse) may be dropped, especially if: the absences follow a habitual pattern or are consecutive, the student does not contact me regarding absences, and/or the student stops completing course work. A student who is discussing his/her circumstances with me and making every effort to stay caught up will not be administratively dropped due to absences alone. When dropping due to absences, it is my policy to drop a student with an X, unless there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. cheating, etc.) that would leave me to drop a student with an F. In order for an absence to be excused, you must be able to provide independent documentation of an unavoidable situation outside of your control.

### **ASSIGNMENTS 1. Journals (50 points each; Total of 200 points)**

There will be four journal-based projects in this class. Each one will require that you reflect on and apply material from class focused on starter questions that I provide to you. These journals

will go beyond your ability to remember the concepts and focus on your ability to think critically about the material and relevant issues. Starter questions will be initially provided during lecture and later posted to Blackboard. If you miss the announcement in class, you may get it from a classmate or wait until it is posted to Blackboard. The first three journals will be due on exam days (journal one due on the day of exam 1, etc.), but the fourth one will be due the first day of presentations. See tentative schedule below.

## **2. Pearson REVEL chapter quizzes (30 points each; Total of 300 points)**

The required book for this class is an e-textbook. Access to this e-textbook involves the purchase of an access code. Within each chapter of the e-textbook, there is a chapter quiz, worth 30 points. The best 10 chapter quizzes (out of 12 required chapters) will be worth up to 300 points toward your final grade. The schedule of due dates is in the tentative schedule below.

## **3. Exams (100 points each; Total of 400 points)**

There will be four exams this semester. The fourth exam (final exam) will count the same as the first three but will be a mix of new material and material from exams one through three. All exams may include a mix of any of the following types of questions: multiple choice, True/False, matching, fill in the blank, short answer/essay. The listing of exam dates is in the tentative schedule below. For all exams, you will be required to place all belongings at the front of the room and you will not be permitted to have notes, cell phones, smart watches, hats, or sunglasses at your desk. **If you arrive late to an exam and any of your classmates have already finished the exam and left the room, you will not be permitted to take the exam.** If you miss an exam and can document an excusable reason, then you will be permitted to take a make-up exam. You must take that make-up exam within one week of the original exam (or within one week of when you are able to return to school according to your documentation).

## **4. Presentation (100 points)**

Each student will give a presentation focusing on the topic they find most interesting. This presentation will be given during the last three classes (April 26<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, and May 3<sup>rd</sup>). Students will have the opportunity to sign up for their presentation day during the first two weeks of class. The goal of this presentation is for you to go beyond the textbook and teach your classmates about something that belongs with the topics of this course. Citing outside sources will be required. If you do not present on your assigned day, you will not receive any points, except in the case of students who have an excused absence and schedule a make-up presentation. Additional detailed instructions will be provided on Blackboard and discussed in class.

## **Extra Credit**

You may earn a maximum of 50 points of extra credit by doing approved extra credit activities, which can be found on the Blackboard page and may also be announced in class. Some extra credits will have a specific due date, while others will be accepted until 12 Noon on Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>. No extra credit will be accepted after 12 Noon on Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Final Grade Calculation**

You final grade will be determined as follows

Pearson REVEL chapter quizzes	300 points
Journals	200 points
Exams	400 points
Presentation	100 points

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Total 1000 points

Your letter grade will be based on the following percentages:

90% and above	A
80%-89%	B
70%-79%	C
60%-69%	D
<60%	F

Please note: if your final grade reflects a percentage that is not a whole number (e.g. 692 points is 69.2%), it is my policy to round up that percentage to the next whole number (e.g. 69.2% rounds to 70%).

**Tentative Schedule**

Please note that you are responsible for any schedule changes via Blackboard, SPC email, or announced verbally in class.

Color Key
Pearson REVEL announced
Journals
Exams
Holidays

Date	Topic	Assignment due
	Introductory Unit	
8/29	Ch. 1 The Humanities: A Shining Beacon	Chapter 1 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 8/31
8/31 & 9/7	Ch. 2 The Humanities and Critical Thinking	Chapter 2 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 9/9
9/10 & 9/14	Ch. 3 Myth and the Origin of the Humanities	Chapter 3 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 9/15
9/16	EXAM 1	Journal 1 due by 5 PM

	Foundational Topics Unit	
9/17 & 9/21	Ch. 4 Literature	Chapter 4 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 9/20
2/24 & 2/28	Ch. 5 Art	Chapter 5 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 9/27
10/1 & 10/5	Ch. 6 Music	Chapter 6 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 10/04
10/7	EXAM 2	Journal 2 due by 5 PM
	Integration Unit	
10/8 & 10/15	Ch. 7 Theater	Chapter 7 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 10/16
10/19 & 10/22	Ch. 8 The Musical Stage: Opera, Musical Theater, Dance	Chapter 8 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 10/23
10/26 & 10/29	Ch. 9 Film and Television	Chapter 9 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 10/30
11/1	EXAM 3	Journal 3 due by 5 PM
	Interpretation Unit	
11/2 & 11/5	Ch. 10 Religion	Chapter 10 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 11/4
11/09 & 11/12	Ch. 11 Morality	Chapter 11 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 11/14
11/16 & 11/26	Ch. 13 Love	Chapter 13 quiz due 11 PM Sunday 11/25
11/30, 12/3, & 12/7	Presentations	Journal 4 due 11/30 by 5 PM
12/13 10:15AM – 12:15 PM	FINAL EXAM	Arrive at your <b>regular classroom at the Final Exam time.</b> Do not be late to this exam!!

### Course Agreement

I have received a copy of the course syllabus. I have reviewed the syllabus thoroughly. I understand the course format, attendance, drop policy, classroom behavior, Blackboard, SPC email, assignment, and grading structure. I further understand my responsibilities and rights as explained by the instructor. I also understand that this course deals with controversial/difficult topics and will discuss any issues I have concerning the class material and/or discussion with the professor. I agree to all the course requirements as stated in the syllabus.

Course and section number \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*This sheet must be turned in before exam 1 and will count as part of your Journal 1 grade. This information will be kept until the completion of the corresponding semester. Following this period this sheet will be shredded and disposed of properly to ensure the confidentiality of this information.