

Introduction to the Humanities Course Syllabus
HUM2020.001; Fall 2014
Florida Gateway College – Dr. Frederick Key Smith

Course Overview

- ✚ **This course is a study of the major artistic disciplines in the humanities, including their composition, functions, cultural significance, and expression of the human condition.**
- ✚ This course concerns both cultural awareness and critical thinking skills, as detailed in the following **General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)** that each student should meet by the end of the course:
 - 1) Students will begin to understand and appreciate the historical development and cultural significance of the humanities and its major artistic disciplines.
 - 2) Students will demonstrate a basic ability to analyze and evaluate select works from various artistic disciplines using appropriate concepts and vocabulary.
 - 3) Students will recognize select works from various artistic disciplines and be able to provide a basic explanation of their cultural function, meaning, and value.
 - 4) Students will become aware of select topics, trends, and resources in various artistic disciplines, as well as their relevance in contemporary society and daily life.
 - 5) Students will consider the arts as a creative expression of the human condition in order to better understand themselves and the diversity of the human race.
- ✚ **PLEASE NOTE:** This college-level course considers such topics as the human body, sexuality, emotions, social issues, politics, religion, etc., as they relate to the humanities. As a student in this course, you are expected to approach this material in a mature, academic manner. Further, in keeping with FGC’s role as a secular public institution, discrimination and harassment are not permitted in this course (see **Equity and Diversity Statement**). In order to promote both safety and learning, you are expected to be **open-minded and tolerant** of other individuals’ ideas, beliefs, and lifestyles – assuming they are not illegal and/or dangerous – even if you do not personally agree with them. ***Any activity, discussion, or conversation – public or private – that I, the instructor, deem malicious, demeaning, inappropriate, illegal, condemning, or proselytizing will absolutely NOT be tolerated in this course for any reason.***

Instructor & Contact Information

- ✚ **Instructor:** Dr. Frederick Key Smith, Professor of Humanities
- ✚ **Contact:** frederick.smith@fgc.edu or (386) 754-4380
- ✚ **Office Location (physical):** New Fine Arts Complex, Building 2, Office 27
- ✚ **Office Hours (physical):** Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- ✚ **E-mail/Phone Policy:** I will respond to most e-mails within 24 hours, though phone calls will only be returned during my physical office hours (NO exceptions!). E-mails or phone messages received on weekends or holidays will be returned as soon as possible, usually no later than my next physical office hours. **All e-mails and phone messages MUST include your name, course, and section number.** Also, please remember that FGC students are required to use their provided “wolves.fgc.edu” e-mail account for official college business, which includes all electronic communications in this course.

General Course Information

- ✚ **This course meets every Monday and Wednesday of the semester from 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.** – in the New Rivers Fine Arts Complex, Building 2, Room 3 – except for on official college holidays and the Final Exam Period (see **Course Calendar**). There are no online meetings required for this course.
- ✚ **Roll will be taken daily as you are expected to attend and participate in all scheduled meetings of this course, including the Final Exam Period.** However, you are permitted up to four absences *for any reason* without adverse effect on your final course grade (see **Class Meetings**). If you know that you will be absent due to college-related functions, which are excused, please let me know *beforehand*.
- ✚ **The use of technology in this course, with the exception of laptops/tablets for the purpose of note taking, is STRICTLY prohibited.** Once class begins and until it ends, you may not talk on the phone, text, listen to music, use apps, surf the internet, or make any other use of technology *without my prior permission*. If I catch you doing so, you will not earn any points for that class (see **Class Meetings**).
- ✚ **As with any college course, this course requires items for which you are financially responsible:**
 - 1) The **course textbook**, *Perceiving the Arts: An Introduction to the Humanities* (10th ed.), by Dennis J. Sporre (Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2011; ISBN: 978-0-205-09655-8), available in the FGC bookstore.
 - 2) The **Music for the Humanities CD**, packaged with the textbook in the FGC bookstore. If you do not have this CD, you may listen to the needed tracks using the library's **Naxos Music Database**.
 - 3) A reliable **computer**, high-speed internet connection, and up-to-date software ([Microsoft WORD](#) or [compatible](#), [Windows Media Player](#), [Apple Quicktime](#), [Adobe Reader](#), [Adobe Flash](#), and [Java](#)).
- ✚ **In order to know and understand the expectations/requirements of this course, you should become familiar with this syllabus and discuss any related questions/concerns with me as soon as they arise.** Failure to understand these requirements is NOT a viable excuse for poor performance in this course.
- ✚ **This course is designed to meet the State of Florida's Gordon Rule writing requirement (see Gordon Rule Statement).** You MUST successfully complete and receive a passing grade (at least a "C") on the designated writing portion of this course in order to be eligible to earn a passing grade in this course.
- ✚ **You must have access to the FGC Library and its on-line databases as they include important material for this course.** If you do not have such access, it is your responsibility to contact the [FGC Library](#) in order to request it. I have absolutely no control over your library account and am not able to help you access it. A **Library Users Guide** designed for this course is posted under COURSE INFORMATION in Bb.
- ✚ **You are solely responsible for the function and security of any technology needed for this course** (e.g., computer, internet, software, etc.), with the exception of on-line resources directly controlled by the college (e.g., Bb, library databases, etc.). Should you have problems accessing any such resources, with the exception of library resources (see above), please contact the [FGC Technology HelpDesk](#).
- ✚ **As you should expect, any cheating issues in this course will be taken seriously.** At the very least, you will automatically fail any assignment on which I determine that you have cheated, *regardless of how such a failure impacts your final course grade* (see Academic Integrity Statement). Depending on the severity of the cheating, the issue may also be referred to the Vice-President of Academic Programs.
- ✚ **All students enrolled in this course, regardless of age, ability, or enrollment type (e.g., traditional, DE, etc.) will be treated with the same respect and afforded the same opportunities for success, while also being expected to fulfill the same course requirements.** It is your responsibility to let me know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE if you require a legitimate exception to this policy (see Disability Statement).

- ✚ **Your progress in this course, including your attendance, participation, and grades, will be treated with the strictest confidence (see FERPA Statement).** With the exception of college officials who have the authority to make legitimate inquiries, *I will not discuss your course progress with ANYONE except for YOU, the student,* unless you have submitted the required forms to the FGC Registrar's Office.
- ✚ **Any issues that you, the student, might have with any aspect of this course should be discussed with me, the instructor, as soon as they arise.** Most issues can be resolved with an e-mail, phone call, or office visit. Otherwise, you may contact the Vice-President of Academic Programs regarding any such issues, *though it is requested that you do so ONLY after first attempting to resolve the issue with me.*
- ✚ **Regarding issues for which I cannot reasonably/adequately provide assistance (e.g., study skills, basic writing skills, personal/mental health issues, etc.), the following resources are available:**
 - 1) The FGC [Collegewide Learning Lab](#) provides **free peer tutors** covering all levels of Math and English. Tutors for additional subject areas vary by semester. For more information, including hours, please click the above link or call the Lab at (386) 754-4437, 754-4305, or 754-4307.
 - 2) Free **professional on-line tutors** for many college subjects, including math and writing, may be accessed by clicking on the **NetTutor** link, located via the TOOLS button in Blackboard.
 - 3) For **personal/mental health issues** (e.g., stress, anxiety, depression, substance abuse, time management, etc.), FGC provides free, confidential, 24-hour telephone support via **BayCare Life Management**. For help or more information, call BayCare toll-free at 1-800-878-5470. Additional information may be found under the "Student" tab in BANNER/Self-Service.

College Course Withdrawal and Drop Policy/Procedures

- ✚ It is the student's responsibility to initiate a course withdrawal, which may be done up to the "last day for withdrawal" published in the college calendar [**Tuesday, 10/21**]. Instructors cannot withdraw students from a course. To withdraw, a student must fill out a Course Schedule Change form, available in the Registrar's Office or in Advising Services. The completed form must be signed by the student and an advisor. A student who does not clear his/her record by filing the withdrawal form with the Registrar's office, prior to the published withdrawal date, may be assigned an "F" grade in the course.
- ✚ There are potential repercussions when withdrawing from a course, including loss of future financial aid and scholarship awards and possible mandatory repayments. Withdrawals are limited to two per course and subsequent higher fees for all courses may apply under Florida Statute (Title XLVIII, Section 1009.286). As such, you should consult the Financial Aid Office before withdrawing from a course.
- ✚ Dual Enrollment students must contact their appropriate high school Guidance Counselor in order to initiate a course withdrawal. The student's Guidance Counselor must then complete and submit a withdrawal form to the College's Dual Enrollment Coordinator no later than the published "late day for withdrawal". Otherwise, the student will receive the letter grade earned for the course.
- ✚ Students who register for classes are responsible for all fees associated with those classes. A student will NOT be automatically withdrawn from a course which he/she has failed to attend. Students who register but do not attend or wish to be removed from a course are responsible for "dropping" the course during the Drop/Add period published in the college calendar. "Dropping" a course does not result in a "W" on a student's transcript. Any student not dropping or withdrawing by the published "last day for withdrawal" will remain officially registered, liable for all fees, and assigned an earned grade at the end of the semester.

Other Important College Policies

- ✚ **Academic Integrity Statement:** Cheating, plagiarism, bribery, misrepresentation, and fabrication are not permitted at Florida Gateway College and will be dealt with severely. You may not purposefully deceive any official of the College by cheating on any assignment, examination, or paper. Cheating is the use of anyone else's work, whether he/she is a student or not, as your own. A student may be withdrawn from this course with the grade of "F" if found to have cheated on any course assignments or tests. This includes, but is not limited to, borrowing, copying, purchasing, stealing, or using material from an outside source and submitting it as your own, as well as intentional plagiarism (e.g., copying and pasting material from the internet, etc.), as determined by the instructor.
- ✚ **Disability Statement:** Florida Gateway College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required affording equal educational opportunity. Students may obtain further assistance and information by calling Janice Irwin, coordinator of disability services, at 386-754-4215. The Disability Services Office is located in Building 017, Room 021, 149 SE College Place, Lake City, Florida 32025.
- ✚ **Equity and Diversity Statement:** Florida Gateway College does not discriminate in education or employment related decisions on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability, marital status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status in accordance with the law. The equity officer is Sharon Best, executive director of human resources, 149 SE College Place, Lake City, FL 32025, and may be reached at (386) 754-4313.
- ✚ **FERPA Statement:** The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) provides certain privacy rights to students related to educational records. This information can be found in the College Catalog, at the Registrar's Office in Building 015, or on the FGC web site.
- ✚ **SACS Statement:** Florida Gateway College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the baccalaureate and associate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, or call 404-679-4500 for questions about FGC's accreditation. *The Commission is to be contacted only if there is evidence that appears to support an institution's significant non-compliance with a requirement or standard.*
- ✚ **Gordon Rule Statement:** This course is a Gordon Rule course. In accordance with the State of Florida's Rule 6A-10.030, all courses designated as Gordon Rule ("GR") in the college catalog will include the requirement that students demonstrate the ability to produce college-level, discipline-based writings. Such courses include, but are not limited to, those in the Communications, Humanities, and Social Sciences categories. This requirement will be met in each class through the student's successful completion of multiple and substantive college-level writing assignments as designed and assessed by the instructor in such a way as to measure both course-specific learning and development of writing skills over the progress of a given term. In addition to demonstrating a satisfactory understanding of the written English language, all such assignments submitted by a student should exhibit critical thinking skills and be directly related to the discipline's specific General Learning Outcome(s).

Overview of Course Assignments

- ✚ This course is fifteen weeks long with approximately 30 physical class meetings – on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. – not including the Final Exam Period (see COURSE CALENDAR).
- ✚ This course will make regular and required use of Blackboard (Bb) for various activities/assignments, including all written assignments (see Graded Assignments). Written assignments will NOT be accepted as hard/paper copies. For this reason, you should familiarize yourself with Bb, if necessary, as soon as possible as failing to do so will not excuse you from completing required course activities/assignments.
- ✚ The material for each upcoming week will be announced in class, posted in Bb, and e-mailed to your “wolves” account. You should come to class prepared, having completed all assignments beforehand.
- ✚ Non-graded course assignments include Textbook Readings and Supplementary Materials (e.g., articles, handouts, library research, listening assignments, etc.). Graded course assignments include Class Meetings, Reading Quizzes, Analysis Essays, and the Final Project (see Graded Assignments).
- ✚ Assignments may NOT be submitted early or late, nor may they be “made up” unless they have been missed due to extremely extenuating circumstances, which I reserve the right to determine. If you believe such a circumstance may exist, it is completely YOUR responsibility to contact me to discuss it.
- ✚ The graded assignments in this course are worth 500 points total, broken down as follows:

<u>ASSIGNMENT [POINTS EACH]</u>	<u>TOTAL PTS.</u>	<u>% OF GRADE</u>
30 Class Meetings [5 pts. each]	150 pts.	} 30% (A&P)
10 Reading Quizzes [15 pts. each]	150 pts.	
4 Analysis Essays [30 pts. each]	120 pts.	} 40% (Writing)
1 Final Project [80 pts.]	80 pts.	
COURSE TOTAL:	500 pts.	

- ✚ You are strongly urged to monitor your progress in this course via the MY GRADES link in Bb, where your grades on all of the assignments will be posted and available for the entirety of the course.
- ✚ Please allow a full week for me to grade an assignment, after which you may contact me if you do not see a grade for it. You should also contact me if you have any questions about a grade after you review the graded assignment and read my comments, though you MUST do so within ONE WEEK of the grade being posted. After this point, the grade will be considered finalized and unchangeable.
- ✚ The following scale, without rounding, will be used to determine your Final Course Grade:

<u>TOTAL POINTS</u>	<u>COURSE GRADE</u>
450-500+	A
435-449	B+
400-434	B
385-399	C+
350-384	C
300-349	D
0-299	F

Graded Assignments

CLASS MEETINGS [150 PTS.]

- ✚ **The Class Meetings are the primary means through which this course will be taught and discussed.** Attendance and participation (A&P) in each of the Class Meetings is expected and required. However, you may miss up to four Meetings *for any reason* without an adverse effect on your Final Course Grade.
- ✚ **“Attendance”** will require that you arrive to the classroom before class starts, are ready to begin class at the scheduled time, and do not leave or even prepare to leave the classroom until after class is over.
- ✚ **“Participation”** will be based on such activities as class discussions, small group projects, short in-class assignments, and pop quizzes. In addition, participation will require that you stay awake, refrain from having personal conversations, and display a collegial attitude towards both me and your classmates.
- ✚ **Each Class Meeting is worth 5 points.** Attendance is worth 2 points, being based on your physical, mental, and emotional presence for the ENTIRE class (no arriving late, leaving early, working on other assignments, having personal conversations, improper use of technology, etc.). Participation is worth 3 points, being based on your contribution to the class discussion and/or your earned activity score.
- ✚ **Due to the fact that Class Meetings take place at a set time in a physical location, they CANNOT be made up.** Therefore, you are strongly urged to save your four absences for personal illnesses and/or family emergencies. If you do miss class, it is YOUR responsibility to contact me ASAP to discuss what you have missed. You should also ask a classmate to borrow his/her notes for any class that you miss.

READING QUIZZES [150 PTS.]

- ✚ **The Reading Quizzes are homework assignments intended to evaluate your objective knowledge of the Textbook Readings and/or Supplementary Materials.** Since your familiarity with such material is critical for optimum class participation, each quiz will occur prior to us covering its related topic in class.
- ✚ **There are ten Reading Quizzes in this course, each of which is worth 15 points and will consist of 15 multiple-choice and/or true/false questions based directly on the currently assigned material.** None of the quizzes will be cumulative or include any questions requiring you to revisit past material.
- ✚ **You will have three 15-minute attempts to take each Reading Quiz BEFORE THE START OF CLASS on its due date (see Course Calendar).** Regardless of how many attempts you use, your highest grade will count for credit. You are strongly encouraged to be prepared for your FIRST ATTEMPT at each quiz, however, as resets will NOT be granted for any reason, including for technical difficulties on your part.

ANALYSIS ESSAYS [120 PTS.]

- ✚ **The Analysis Essays are the major course writing assignments and, along with the Final Project (see below), fulfill the course’s Gordon Rule requirements (see Gordon Rule Statement).** Remember, you must pass the writing portion of this class with a “C” average in order to be eligible to pass the course.
- ✚ **There are four Analysis Essays in this course, one for each pair of topics (see Course Calendar).** For each Essay, you will be presented with a prompt (or a choice of prompts) requiring you to carefully review and consider its respective material in order to produce an intelligent 450- to 500-word essay.
- ✚ **Each Analysis Essay is worth 30 points and will be graded with a rubric (available in Bb).** The content of each essay is worth 24 points, being evaluated for critical thinking, cultural awareness, choice and discussion of appropriate examples, and the use of appropriate concepts and vocabulary. Each essay’s writing quality is worth 6 points, being evaluated for the proper use of college-level written English.

- ✚ **Each Analysis Essay must be submitted using the textbox link provided under ASSIGNMENTS in Bb according to the included instructions.** Although each essay's submission link will be configured to allow multiple attempts, in the case of permitted revisions (see below), I will automatically grade your FIRST submission unless you contact me to discuss your need to make more than one attempt.
- ✚ **In addition to a completed rubric, which may be accessed via MY GRADES once your grade has been posted, I will provide you with individual comments for each Analysis Essay.** Whatever your grade, you are strongly encouraged to read my comments for each essay, as it is my hope that they will aid in your development as a student (though, if deserved, my comments may be as simple as "Great job!").
- ✚ **With my permission, an Analysis Essay that earns below 20 points may be revised ONCE, within a week of its original grade being posted, for a maximum of 20 points.** Your grade on an essay will only be changed, however, if your revision displays substantial improvement based on the rubric and my comments. Your revision must be submitted through the original essay's link in order to be graded.
- ✚ **Analysis Essays which I deem unreadable or incomprehensible due to writing quality will NOT be graded.** Depending on the severity of the issue, I will require you to visit and get help from the Learning Lab, NetTutor, or the EXCEL Lab before I will consider allowing you to revise your essay.

FINAL PROJECT [80 PTS.]

- ✚ **The Final Project serves as the culminating experience in this course and, as such, will require you to demonstrate a successful assimilation and understanding of the course content.** Your project should also display your growth in terms of critical thinking and cultural awareness since the course began.
- ✚ **The Final Project is worth 80 points and will be evaluated for both objective and subjective content.** As it must be written [ca. 1000 words] and will help to fulfill the course's Gordon Rule requirements (see Gordon Rule Statement), it will also be evaluated for writing quality, though to a lesser degree.
- ✚ **Complete information about this important assignment, including its required subject matter and content expectations, will be made available in a separate document in Bb by the mid-point of the course.** This document will also include specific information on how your essay will be evaluated.

EXTRA CREDIT [25 PTS.]

- ✚ **While I am not particularly fond of extra credit, there MAY be one or more opportunities to earn up to 25 extra credit points TOTAL in this course.** Any such extra credit will be offered completely at my discretion and ONLY to the entire class. Individual extra credit will NOT be granted, so please don't ask!

Final Thoughts

- ✚ **College is a major commitment** and one of the most significant endeavors that you will ever attempt. It has the potential to change your life for the better. In order for this to actually happen, however, you must dedicate substantial time, effort, and attention to it. Also, you must avoid procrastination!
- ✚ **This class concerns the human condition** (i.e., the human experience; what it “means” to be human). As far as I know, you are human. Therefore, this is unquestionably one of the most important classes that you will ever take. You are urged to approach it accordingly, in a serious and mature fashion.
- ✚ **All of the material in this course is important, being designed to help you both better learn about and understand the humanities.** Just because information does not show up on a quiz, test, or exam does not mean that its role is not significant in your positive development as a student and human being.
- ✚ **I do not “give” you grades – you EARN grades based solely on YOUR work.** The grades that you earn are NOT automatic, but are based on how much effort you invest in this class. The main purpose of this class, however, is NOT to earn grades, but to become better educated. This is key to your success.
- ✚ **Effort is important, but so is quality.** You won’t earn an “A” by simply completing this class, no matter how many hours of work you put into it. Instead, you must demonstrate through product excellence that you have learned and critically considered the material in order to become more culturally aware.
- ✚ **I will always do my absolute best to show you respect.** By the same token, I expect you to always do your absolute best to show me and your classmates respect. Intolerant attitudes, rude comments, sighs, loud yawns, eye-rolls, etc., are NOT respectful, NOT conducive to learning, and NOT acceptable.
- ✚ **I am your professor, NOT your employee.** I am well-educated and experienced. I sincerely care about your success. I will always give you my best and do everything I legitimately can to help you succeed. Actually achieving success, however, depends ultimately upon YOU! You are responsible for yourself!
- ✚ **If you have any questions, please do NOT hesitate to ask them.** If you have any comments, please do NOT hesitate to make them. If you have any concerns, please do NOT hesitate to share them. The only way that I can help you is if I know that you need and/or want my help. Communication is crucial!
- ✚ **Your continued enrollment in this course implies your understanding and acceptance of this syllabus, including the included policies and requirements.** If necessary to improve the course and promote student success, however, I reserve the right to make changes to this document with adequate notice.

Best wishes for a great semester!

Course Calendar

- The below calendar includes all of the broad topics, textbook readings, and homework assignments for this course. Crossed-out dates (e.g., ~~11/26~~) denote college holidays on which we will not have class.

WEEK: DATES	TOPIC	NON-GRADED ASSIGNMENTS	GRADED ASSIGNMENTS
1: 08/18 & 08/20	Introductory Material	Course Syllabus, Library Users Guide, Writing About the Arts, etc.	Reading Quiz One [IN-CLASS ON 08/20]
2: 08/25 & 08/27	Studying the Arts	Textbook Chapter 1	Reading Quiz Two [DUE 08/25 BEFORE CLASS]
3: 09/01 & 09/03	Categorizing the Arts	Styles and Themes Presentations	Reading Quiz Three [DUE 09/03 BEFORE CLASS]
4: 09/08 & 09/10	Analysis Essay One	TBA	Analysis Essay One [DUE 09/10 BEFORE CLASS]
5: 09/15 & 09/17	The Visual Arts	Textbook Chapters 2 and 3	Reading Quiz Four [DUE 09/15 BEFORE CLASS]
6: 09/22 & 09/24	Architecture	Textbook Chapter 4	Reading Quiz Five [DUE 09/22 BEFORE CLASS]
7: 09/29 & 10/01	Analysis Essay Two	TBA	Analysis Essay Two [DUE 10/01 BEFORE CLASS]
8: 10/06 & 10/08	Literature	Textbook Chapter 6	Reading Quiz Six [DUE 10/06 BEFORE CLASS]
9: 10/13 & 10/15	Music	Textbook Chapter 5	Reading Quiz Seven [DUE 10/13 BEFORE CLASS]
10: 10/20 & 10/22	Analysis Essay Three	TBA	Analysis Essay Three [DUE 10/22 BEFORE CLASS]
11: 10/27 & 10/29	Performing Arts	Textbook Chapters 7, 9, and 5	Reading Quiz Eight [DUE 10/27 BEFORE CLASS]
12: 11/03 & 11/05	Photography & Film	Textbook Chapters 2 and 8	Reading Quiz Nine [DUE 11/03 BEFORE CLASS]
13: 11/10 & 11/12	Analysis Essay Four	TBA	Analysis Essay Four [DUE 11/12 BEFORE CLASS]
14: 11/17 & 11/19	Current Events in the Arts	Various Websites	Reading Quiz Ten [DUE 11/17 BEFORE CLASS]
15: 11/24 & 11/26	Final Project	TBA	Final Project [DUE 12/02 AT 11:59 P.M.]
FINAL EXAM PERIOD Wednesday, 12/03, 8:30-11:15 a.m.			
FALL 2014 HOLIDAYS 09/01: Labor Day 11/11: Veterans Day 11/26-28: Thanksgiving			