HUMANITIES 1301: Introduction to Humanities  

Professor:  
Dr. Paul Pedisich: Room B-210; phone 230-3323  
e-mail: paul.pedisich@brazosport.edu

Course Requirements  
Regular attendance and participation in class.  
Chapter Tests: Week Four, Week Eight, and Week Eleven.  
Reading Assignment and Four Page Essay: Week Thirteen.  
Final Exam: Week Fifteen in accordance with Brazosport College published final exam schedule.  

Students must read the material assigned in this syllabus prior to attending class and must be prepared to participate in classroom discussions.

Course Summary  
This course introduces the cultural legacy of humankind’s accomplishments, surveying expressions and reflections from the ancient world to the early twentieth century. Students will observe human expressions in architecture, art, dance, drama, literature, and music, and also become aware of human reflections seeking the truth in religion, philosophy, and government. The course emphasis will be mostly, but not exclusively, on western civilization.

Reading Requirement  
As the course progresses students shall complete a Reading Assignment, consisting of an appropriate book of their own choosing. Using this book as a sole source, students shall submit a four page essay discussing the contents of that book.

Students shall select the reading assignment book from the Humanities 1301 - Selected Bibliography and not use any other reference or research material for the four-page essay.

Course Grades: I will calculate grades as follows:  
Chapter Test #1…………………….15%  
Chapter Test #2…………………….15%  
Chapter Test #3………………….15%  
Class Participation and Attendance….15%  
Reading Assignment Essay…………20%  
Final Exam………………………..20%

If you miss more than 3 weeks of classes (six sessions) you will get an “F” in Participation and Attendance, and I may withdraw you from the course.

CLASS SCHEDULE, SUBJECT MATTER, and HOMEWORK:

Week One:
Introduction to the course, a discussion of human “expressions” and “reflections,” and a cursory survey of Chapter 1: The Humanities: An Introduction to the Adventure.

Week Two:

Week Three:

Week Four:
Ancient Rome: The Spirit of Empire. Required Reading: Chap. 4, pp. 82-94.
CHAPTER TEST #1 (Chapters 2, 3, and 4)

Week Five:
Spirit of Monotheism: Judaism, Christianity, Islam. Required Reading: Chap. 5, pp. 95-111.
Spirit of Monotheism: Judaism, Christianity, Islam. Required Reading: Chap. 5, pp.112-127.

Week Six:
The Early Middle Ages: The Feudal Spirit. Required Reading: Chap. 6, pp. 128-142.
The Early Middle Ages: The Feudal Spirit. Required Reading: Chap. 6, pp. 143-155.

Week Seven:
The Late Middle Ages: Gothic Awakening. Required Reading: Chap. 7, pp. 156-170.
The Late Middle Ages: Gothic Awakening. Required Reading: Chap. 7, pp. 171-184.

Week Eight:
Chapter Test #2 (Chapters 5, 6, and 7)
The Renaissance Spirit in Italy. Required Reading: Chap. 8, pp. 185-201.

Week Nine:
The Renaissance Spirit in Italy. Required Reading: Chap. 8, pp. 202-218.
Reformation and Late Renaissance. Required Reading: Chap. 9, pp. 219-237.

Week Ten:
Reformation and Late Renaissance. Required Reading: Chap. 9, pp. 238-253.

Week Eleven:
Chapter Test #3 (Chapters 8, 9, and 10)

Week Twelve:
The Spirit of Enlightenment. Required Reading: Chap. 11, pp. 308-319.

Week Thirteen: Essay Paper Due
Revolution and Romanticism. Required Reading: Chap. 12, pp. 320-333.
Revolution and Romanticism. Required Reading: Chap. 12, pp. 334-345.

Week Fourteen:

Week Fifteen: FINAL EXAMINATION

Learning Objectives: Introduction to Humanities 1301

Objective 1: Understand the works of individual expressions and human values within a historical and social context.
Measure: Students will demonstrate this knowledge by achieving a score of 70% or greater on chapter test #1 covering this objective.

Objective 2: Respond critically to works in the arts and in epistemological developments.
Measure: Students will demonstrate this knowledge by achieving a score of 70% or greater on chapter tests #2 and #3 covering this objective.

Objective 3: Articulate an informed personal reaction to human endeavors in the arts and humanities.
Measure: Students will demonstrate this knowledge by achieving a score of 70% or greater on a graded written assignment of the student’s choice covering this objective.

Objective 4: Demonstrate overall knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and the arts as cultural experiences.
Measure: Students will demonstrate this knowledge by achieving a score of 70% or greater on the final exam.
**Humanities 1301 – Selected Bibliography**

**Early Civilization:**


Johnson, Anthony. *Solving Stonehenge: The Key to an Ancient Enigma.*

Watterson, Barbara. *Women in Ancient Egypt.*

Andreu, Guillemette. *Egypt in the Age of the Pyramids.*

Lehner, Mark. *The Complete Pyramids: Solving the Ancient Mysteries.*

McDermott, Bridget. *Decoding Egyptian Hieroglyphs: How to Read the Secret Language of the Pharaohs.*

MacQueen, J.G. *The Hittites and their Contemporaries in Asia Minor*


Moseley, Michael E. *The Incas and Their Ancestors: The Archaeology of Peru.*

**Classical Greece and Rome:**

Strauss, Barry. *The Trojan War.*

Martin, Thomas R. *Ancient Greece: From Prehistory to Hellenistic Times.*

Cavander, Kenneth (translator). *The Struggle for Greece* by Herodotus

Miller, Stephen G. *Ancient Greek Athletics.*

Pollitt, Jerome J. *Art and Experience in Classical Greece.*

Boardman, John and David Finn. *The Parthenon and Its Sculptures.*

Blundell, Sue. *Women in Ancient Greece.*

Cantarella, Eva. *Pandora's Daughters: The Role and Status of Women in Greece and Roman Antiquity.*

Yenne, Bill. *Alexander the Great: Lessons from History's Undefeated General.*

Green, Peter. *The Hellenistic Age: A Short History.*


Strauss, Barry. *The Spartacus War*
Carcopino, Jerome. *Daily Life in Ancient Rome: The People and the City at the Height of the Empire.*

Deiss, Joseph Jay. *Herculaneum: Italy’s Buried Treasure.*


**Judaism, Christianity, and Islam:**

Feiler, Bruce. *Abraham: A journey to the Heart of Three Faiths.*


Malone, Mary T. *Women and Christianity: The First Thousand Years.*

Malone, Mary T. *Women and Christianity: From 1000 to the Reformation.*


Rubenstein, Richard E. *When Jesus Became God – The Struggle to Define Christianity during the Last Days of Rome.*


Dunn, Marilyn. *The Emergence of Monasticism: From the Desert Fathers to the Early Middle Ages.*

Armstrong, Karen. *Islam: A Short History.*


Sells, Michael. *Approaching the Qur’an: The Early Revelations.*


**Middle Ages:**

Brownworth, Lars. *Lost to the West: The Forgotten Byzantine Empire That Rescued Western Civilization.*

Todd, Malcolm. *The Early Germans.*

Wells, Peter S. *Barbarians to Angels: The Dark Ages Reconsidered.*

Kerr, Julie. *Life in the Medieval Cloister.*
Gies, Joseph and Frances Gies.  *Life in a Medieval Castle.*


Wilson, Derek.  *Charlemagne.*

Fagan, Brian.  *The Great Warming: Climate Change and the Rise and Fall of Civilizations.*

Howarth, David.  *1066: The Year of the Conquest.*

Madden, Thomas F.  *A Concise History of the Crusades.*


Nicolle, David.  *Knights of Jerusalem: The Crusading Order of Hospitallers 1100-1565*

Boyle, David.  *The Troubadour’s Song: The Capture and Ransom of Richard the Lionhearted.*

Gallagher, Joseph.  *A Modern Reader’s Guide to Dante’s The Divine Comedy.*


Rossabi, Morris.  *Khubilai Khan: His Life and Times.*

**Renaissance and Baroque:**


Fernandez-armento, Felipe.  *Amerigo: The Man Who Gave His Name to America*


Franklin, David.  *Painting in Renaissance Florence, 1500-1550.*


King, Ross.  *Michelangelo and the Pope’s Ceiling.*

Jones, Roger and Nicholas Penny.  *Raphael.*


Hillerbrand, Hans J.  *The Protestant Reformation.*


Predmore, Richard L.  *Cervantes.*
Nicolson, Adam. *God’s Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible.*

Norberg-Schulz, Christian. *Late Baroque and Rococo Architecture.*


Chevalier, Tracy. *Girl with a Pearl Earring.* (a novel)

Sidky, H. *Witchcraft, Lycanthrope, Drugs and Disease: An Anthropological Study of the European Witch Hunts*

**Enlightenment, Romanticism, and Materialism:**

Gleick, James. *Isaac Newton.*

Becker, Carl. *Heavenly City of the Eighteenth-Century Philosophers.*

Honour, Hugh. *Neo-Classicism.*

Shelley, Mary and Walter J. Miller (foreword). *Frankenstein: Or the Modern Prometheus.*

Wilson, James D. *The Romantic Heroic Ideal.*


Conradi, Peter J. *Fyodor Dostoevsky.*

**20th and 21st Centuries:**


Hemingway, Ernest. *Death in the Afternoon.*

Hemingway, Ernest. *A Farewell to Arms.* (a novel)

Heyerdahl, Thor. *Kon-Tiki: Across the Pacific.*


Skloot, Rebecca. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks.* (20th century cell research)

De Rosnay, Tatiana. *Sarah’s Key.* (a novel –Paris roundup of Jews, World War II and after)


Michener, James. *Caravans: A Novel of Afghanistan.* (Post-World War II novel)

Loyn, Davis. *In Afghanistan: Two Hundred Years of British, Russian, and American Occupation.*

Zoya with John Follain and Rita Cristofari. *Zoya’s Story: An Afghan Woman’s Battle for Freedom.* (Afghanistan)


Oufkir, Malika and Michele Fitoussi. *Stolen Lives: Twenty Years in a Desert Jail.* (Morocco)

Bhutto, Benazir. *Reconciliation: Islam, Democracy and the West.* (Pakistan)

Bozai, Agota. (David Kramer – translator) *Too Err Is Divine.* (Communist Hungary)

**Miscellaneous:**

Crosby, Alfred W. *Throwing Fire: Projectile Technology through History.*

Battles, Matthew. *Library: An Unquiet History.*


Saramago, José. *Death with Interruptions.* (a novel – no one can die)