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University of Texas at Dallas
School of Arts & Humanities
Tues. /Thurs. 10:00-11:15 a.m.
Fall 2013

HUMA 1301.HN1: Exploration of the Humanities

This general education core course serves as an introduction to the humanities in the western tradition. We will read and discuss works of philosophy, literature, and cultural criticism. Our readings will lead us to discuss some of the central questions of the humanistic tradition: What does it mean to be human? How are we to order our experience, our interactions with others, and our society? What is the relation between art and life? Our ultimate goal will be to achieve an understanding of the value of the humanities for both a liberal arts education and our culture.

Required Texts:

Jane Austen, *Lady Susan*
Charles Baudelaire, *Paris Spleen*
Jenny Erpenbeck, *Visitation*
Sigmund Freud, *On Dreams*
Plato, *The Trial and Death of Socrates*
Seneca, *On The Shortness of Life*
William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*

Course Requirements/Evaluation Criteria:

Class participation (includes attendance)	20%
Informal writing assignments	10%
Paper 1	10%
Paper 2	10%
Paper 3	15%
Paper 4	15%
Paper 5	20%

- NOTE:**
- More than 3 absences, persistent tardiness, or failure to participate in discussions will lower your final grade.
 - Late assignments will **NOT** be accepted.
 - All course work must be completed in order to pass the course.
 - No electronic devices permitted in classroom.
 - Be sure you understand the University's policy on academic honesty because plagiarism will have serious consequences.

*** Electronic Reserve**

+ eLearning

August 27: Introduction
August 29: Menand, Patterson
September 3: Plato
September 5: Plato
September 10: **First paper due in class**
September 12: Seneca
September 17: Seneca, della Mirandola
September 19: Shakespeare
September 24: Shakespeare
September 26: Shakespeare
October 1: **Second paper due in class**
October 3: *Dangerous Liaisons*
October 8: Austen
October 10: Gogol
October 15: Baudelaire
October 17: Baudelaire, Simmel
October 22: **Third paper due in class**
October 24: *The Importance of Being Earnest*
October 29: Freud
October 31: Freud
November 5: Kafka, Woolf, Sayers
November 7: Camus, Cortázar
November 12: **Fourth paper due in class**
November 14: Erpenbeck
November 19: Erpenbeck
November 21: Erpenbeck
December 3: *Nine Lives*
December 5: *Nine Lives*
December 10: Individual conferences

Fifth paper is due by December 17th at 11:59 p.m.