

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

Course Information:

HUMA 1301.014
Exploration of the Humanities
Fall 2016
MW 4:00 – 5:15 p.m.
JO 4.102

Instructor's Contact Information:

Dr. Shazia Ali
shazia@utdallas.edu
972-391-1067
Office: JO 5.109
Office Hours: Monday 3:00 – 4:00
(Please email me to make an appointment)

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Description:

[HUMA 1301](#) - ([HUMA 1301](#)) Exploration of the Humanities (3 semester hours) An introduction to the concept of cultural tradition through the study of selected works of literature, philosophy, music, and visual art. Emphasis on the relations among various forms of cultural expression and developing students' ability to interpret complex artistic works in their historical, cultural, and intellectual contexts. General education core course. (3-0) S

HUMA 1301.014 Description: This class explores the cross cultural interpretations of the identity of a hero and a heroine by studying the historical origins and significance of heroes as cultural icons. Students will compare the evolving identity of a hero through history with the contemporary definition of “heroism.” This comparison will include an in-depth study of both genres of literature and film.

General Education Core Objectives: Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate competency in the following core objectives:

- **Critical thinking skills** – Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts and constructing solutions.
- **Communication skills** – Students will demonstrate effective written, oral and visual communication.
- **Social responsibility** – Students will demonstrate intercultural competency and civic knowledge by engaging effectively in local, regional, national and global communities.
- **Personal responsibility** - Students will demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions and consequence to ethical decision-making.

HUMA 1301.014 Course Objectives: Students will learn:

- **Critical thinking skills;** to examine and analyze a variety of works from the humanities, particularly those connected to literature and philosophy (assessed via the analysis paper)
- **Communication skills;** to apply and respond to works in the humanities as an example of human expression and aesthetic and philosophical principles (assessed via the required discussion boards and class participation)
- **Social responsibility;** to analyze and critically evaluate humanistic works in the context of culture and society (assessed via the analysis paper and midterm exam)
- **Personal responsibility;** to compare and contrast the works with each other in terms of personal ethics and values (assessed via the analysis paper and final exam)

Required Textbooks and Materials:

- 1). Foster, *Epic of Gilgamesh*, W. W. Norton & Co.
- 2). Ovid, *Heroides*, Penguin
- 3). Shelley, *Frankenstein*, Bedford St. Martin's

***Please do not purchase the books until after first class meeting.

Requirements and Assignments:

- (20% each) Midterm and Final exam
- (20%) Analysis paper
- (20%) eLearning Discussion Boards
- (10%) Quizzes
- (10%) Class participation, attendance

Grading Policy:

98 – 100 A+
93 – 97 A
90 – 92 A-
88 – 89 B+
83 – 87 B
80 – 82 B-
78 – 79 C+
73 – 77 C
70 – 72 C-
68 – 69 D+
63 – 67 D
60 – 62 D-
Below 60 F

UT Dallas Policies and Procedures: It is every student's responsibility to review UTD's policies and procedures, including academic integrity, attendance, copyright, disability services, email use, religious holy days, and withdrawal from class. See <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

NOTE : Course syllabus, requirements, and calendar are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.

Comet Creed:

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Fall Schedule

08/22 – Classes Begin
09/05 – Labor Day Holiday
09/07 – Census Day
09/07 – Last day to drop a class without a “W”
10/15 – Midterm Grades available
11/21 – 11/23 – Fall Break
11/24 – 11/26 – Thanksgiving Holiday
12/7 – Last day of classes
12/08 – Reading Day
12/09 – 12/15 – Final Exams

Week	Date/Day	Schedule
1	Monday 08/22	Introduction The value of Humanities Heroes and Heroines
1	Wednesday 08/24	<i>Epic of Gilgamesh</i> History and Tablets 1 & 2
2	Monday 08/29	Discussion Board # 1 Due <i>Epic of Gilgamesh</i> Tablets 3 – 7
2	Wednesday 08/31	<i>Epic of Gilgamesh</i> Tablets 8 - 12
3	Monday 09/05	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
3	Wednesday 09/07	<i>Epic of Gilgamesh</i> Influences and Identities

4	Monday 09/12	Discussion Board # 2 Due Ovid's <i>Heroides</i> I and V
4	Wednesday 09/14	<i>Heroides</i> VII, IX, XII
5	Monday 09/19	Discussion Board # 3 Due <i>Heroides</i> XVI and XVII
5	Wednesday 09/21	<i>A Thousand and One Nights</i>
6	Monday 09/26	Discussion Board # 4 Due <i>A Thousand and One Nights</i>
6	Wednesday 09/28	<i>A Thousand and One Nights</i>
7	Monday 10/03	<i>A Thousand and One Nights</i>
7	Wednesday 10/05	MIDTERM EXAM
8	Monday 10/10	Discussion Board # 5 Due <i>The Tale of Genji</i>
8	Wednesday 10/12	<i>The Tale of Genji</i>
9	Monday 10/17	Discussion Board # 6 Due Film Week – TBA
9	Wednesday 10/19	Film Week - TBA
10	Monday 10/24	Discussion Board # 7 Due Paine's <i>The Rights of Man</i>
10	Wednesday 10/26	Paine's <i>The Rights of Man</i>
11	Monday 10/31	ANALYSIS PAPER DUE Wollstonecraft's <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Women</i>

11	Wednesday 11/02	Wollstonecraft's <i>A Vindication of the Rights of Women</i>
12	Monday 11/07	Discussion Board # 8 Due Shelley's "Ozymandias"
12	Wednesday 11/09	<i>Frankenstein</i>
13	Monday 11/14	Discussion Board # 9 Due <i>Frankenstein</i>
13	Wednesday 11/16	<i>Frankenstein</i>
14	Monday 11/21	FALL BREAK
14	Wednesday 11/23	FALL BREAK
15	Monday 11/28	<i>Frankenstein</i>
15	Wednesday 11/30	<i>Frankenstein</i>
16	Monday 12/05	Discussion Board # 10 Due Heroism and its cultural significance
16	Wednesday 12/07	Review for the Final Exam

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

<http://coursebook.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies/>

Decorum, Classroom Citizenship, and Extra-curricular matters: All written work and class discussion for this course must employ gender-neutral, nonsexist language, and rhetorical constructions. Such practice is part of a classroom environment according full respect and opportunity to all participants by all others.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.