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University of Texas at Dallas
School of Arts & Humanities
Tues. /Thurs. 10:00-11:15 a.m.
Fall 2016

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 and literature. 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, <i>Lady Susan</i>	Melville House	978-1935554356
Charles Baudelaire, <i>Paris Spleen</i> (trans. L. Varèse)	New Directions	978-0811200073
Sigmund Freud, <i>On Dreams</i> (trans. J. Strachey)	Norton	978-0393001440
Plato, <i>The Symposium</i> (trans. A. Nehamas & P. Woodruff)	Hackett	978-0872200760
Françoise Sagan, <i>Bonjour Tristesse</i> (trans. I. Ash)	Harper Perennial	978-0061440793
Seneca, <i>On The Shortness of Life</i> (trans. C. D. N. Costa)	Penguin	978-0143036326
William Shakespeare, <i>The Tempest</i>	Pelican Shakespeare	978-0140714852

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 all relevant University policies:
< <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> >

Descriptions and timelines in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

August 23:	Introduction
August 25:	Menand, Ben Jelloun
August 30:	Plato
September 1:	Plato
September 6:	First paper due in class
September 8:	Seneca
September 13:	Seneca, Montaigne
September 15:	Shakespeare
September 20:	Shakespeare
September 22:	Shakespeare
September 27:	Second paper due in class
September 29:	TBA
October 4:	Austen
October 6:	Gogol
October 11:	Baudelaire
October 13:	Baudelaire, Simmel
October 18:	Third paper due in class
October 20:	<i>Babette's Feast</i> (1987)
October 25:	Freud
October 27:	Freud
November 1:	Mansfield, Kafka
November 3:	Sartre, Weil
November 8:	Fourth paper due in class
November 10:	Sagan
November 15:	Sagan
November 17:	Cortázar, Munro
November 29:	TBA
December 1:	TBA
December 6:	Individual conferences

Fifth paper due to turnitin.com by noon on December 13th