

## Course Syllabus

---

### Course Information

**HUMA 1301** 004 Fall 2017  
MWF 11:00-11:50 AM JO 4.102

Exploration of the Humanities

---

### Professor Contact Information

Dr. Joan E. Mortensen

Office Hours: M: 12:15-1:30; W 9:15 till 9:45 (my office Jo 5.708) and by appointment

Phone: 972-883-6780 (Arts and Humanities)

E-mail: [jmorten@utdallas.edu](mailto:jmorten@utdallas.edu)

**Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**  
None.

---

### Course Description

EAST ASIA: INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY

In Western society, the rights of the individual are held to be of the utmost importance. The Declaration of Independence extols the value of “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” for each person. In East Asia, there was not even a word for “individual rights” until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The interests of the individual were subordinated to the group. One’s social role reflected a concern with place in a social hierarchy. This class will explore the relationship of the individual to society in China, Japan, and Korea by focusing on five “cultural ideals”: the ideal of the Emperor, the warrior, the wife, the revolutionary and the businessman.



### Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students will explore the theme of individual and society in East Asia by discussing literary works, films and autobiographical materials from China, Japan and Korea. Students will also explore the ramifications of the subordination of the individual to the group in language and “high context” communication styles in East Asia.

Students will analyze and critically evaluate such works in the context of culture, society and values as well as be able to compare and contrast the works with each other.

- 
- **Critical thinking skills;** to examine and analyze a variety of works from the humanities, particularly those connected to literature and philosophy (assessed via the journals, class participation, midterm and final)
  - **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 journals 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 project paper, midterm, and final exam)

---

### Comet Creed

The UT-Dallas student body voted on this creed 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.”

---

### Required Textbooks and Materials

#### Required Reading

##### *Books:*

Daniel Tudor, *A Geek in Korea*

Ha Jin, *In the Pond*

John Allyn, *The 47 Ronin Story*.

##### *Library Electronic Reserve:*

Iharu Saikaku, “A Courtesan of Middle Rank” and “Lady Etiquette Teacher and Letter Writer”

Ha Jin, “After Cowboy Chicken Came to Town”

Higuchi Ichiyo, “*Troubled Waters*”

Ai Weiwei, *Ai Weiwei’s Blog*

Niall Murtagh, *The Blue Eyed Salaryman*

Barbara Demick, “*Holding Hands in the Dark,*” “*Tainted Blood,*” in *Nothing to Envy*

The electronic course reserves page for HUMA 1301 can be found at the following link:

<http://utdallas.docutek.com/eres/coursepage.aspx?cid=2176>

search under Mortensen. This link will also be available on Elearning.

This page is only accessible with a password. The password will be distributed in class and on Elearning.

Selected class handouts will also be available on Elearning.

---

### Assignments & Academic Calendar

**!!!The assignments are listed under the day they are due. !!!!!**

#### UNIT 1: The EMPEROR

##### Week 1:

Aug. 21 Class Introduction -

Aug. 23. Cross cultural communication

**Assignment for Aug. 23.** Handout: "Communicating Across Cultures", "The Art of the Deal, East and West". "24 Stories of Filial Piety."

Aug. 25. Emperors and Dragons:

**Assignment for Aug. 25:** Handout (also available in Elearning Emperor Folder: "The Yellow Emperor", "The Qin Dynasty".

##### Week 2:

Aug. 28. Film: *HERO* –*Hero worksheet*

**Assignment for Aug. 28: Elearning link: Read Original Sources on Emperor Qin.**

Aug. 30. Film *HERO* Hero worksheet

Sept. 1. Film *HERO*- *Hero worksheet*

##### **Assignment :**

Watch the Youtube video on the First Emperor-elearning link

##### Week 3

##### **Sept. 4 Labor Day – No Class**

Sept. 6. Finish film *Hero*.

Sept. 8 **Turn in Hero Worksheet.** Discuss *Hero* and film review in class.

##### **Assignment:**

Read Review of Film *Hero*: "Is *Hero* a Paean to Authoritarianism?" –link on Elearning.

**Journal due before class. (in elearning folder Journals)**

#### Unit 2: THE WARRIOR

##### Week 4.

Sept. 11. Sun Tzu, *The Art of War* (Elearning) Excerpts from *Tao of Pooh* (handout)

Sept. 13. Warrior Ideal of the Samurai: Historical Background

Sept. 15. Warrior Ideal of the Samurai: Historical Background

**Assignment:** John Allyn, *The 47 Ronin Story*. Chapters 1-5.

##### Week 5.

Sept. 18. The 47 Ronin Story,

**Assignment: Chapters 6-10**

Sept. 20. The 47 Ronin Story

**Assignment: Chapters -11- 14**

Sept. 22. The 47 Ronin Story –in Film

**Journal Due before Class**

**Assignment.** Finish reading *The 47 Ronin Story*

**Week 6**

Sept. 25. 47 Ronin in Film

Sept. 27. Discussion of film Yojimbo in class

**Assignment: Watch online film Yojimbo. \*\*\*\*Access through LIBRARY Website on Kanopy NOT elearning.** Complete *Yojimbo* worksheet while watching film.

**Sept. 29. Turn in Yojimbo Worksheet.** Discuss Yojimbo in class.

**UNIT 3. THE WIFE: CULTURAL IDEALS for Women**

**Week 7**

**Oct. 2. MIDTERM EXAM**

Oct. 4. Mulan

**Assignment:** Mulan poem, link on elearning

Oct. 6: China, Confucianism and Women

**Assignment:** "The Story of Ying Ying," a famous Chinese love story. Link on Elearning.

**Week. 8**

Oct. 9, Women in Korea:

**Assignment:** *A Geek in Korea*, Parts 1 and 2.

Oct. 11 **In Class Worksheet.**

**Assignment:** "Chun'hyang" Story: Link on Elearning

Oct. 13 Women in Japan

**Week 9**

**Oct. 16.** Geisha Ideal

**Assignment,** Saikaku, "A Courtesan of Middle Rank," and "Lady Etiquette Teacher and Letter Writer"; Higushi Ichiyo, "Troubled Waters" Waters"-**These readings are on library course reserve. Go to UT-Dallas Library and search under Mortensen.**

Oct. 18. *Memoirs of a Geisha*: Film Analysis –In class worksheet.

Oct. 20. Conclusion to Wife Unit

**Assignment:** Watch BBC "Geisha Girl" –link on Elearning  
**Journal Due before class**

**UNIT 4. THE REVOLUTIONARY**

**Week. 10**

**Oct. 23** Birth of the Revolutionary Ideal: Mao and the Chinese Revolution

**Assignment: turn in 1 page –project topic/thesis statement**

**Oct. 25** Chinese Revolution-History of Chinese Revolution: Mao's Mistakes

Oct. 27. Chinese Revolution-Post-Mao era

**Assignment:** In *the Pond*: Chapters 1-9

**Journal Due Before Class**

**Week. 11**

Oct. 30. The Post Mao Era in China

**Assignment:** Complete *In the Pond*

Nov. 1. Ai Weiwei: The Artist in Contemporary China

**Assignment.** Course Reserve excerpt from Ai Weiwei's Blog

Nov. 3. ***In class- Film Worksheet on Never Sorry.***

**Week 12**

Nov. 6. **Turn in *Never Sorry Worksheet.*** Revolution in North Korea: History

Nov. 8. North Korean Society.

**Journal Due Before Class**

**Assignment.** *Nothing to Envy.* "Holding Hands in the Dark," "Tainted Blood" on Library course reserve.

**UNIT V. THE BUSINESSMAN**

Nov. 10. Confucian Capitalism

**Week. 13**

Nov. 13 South Korea; Economic Growth & Social Consequences

Nov. 15. South Korea con't.

**Assignment:** *A Geek in Korea*, parts 3-6

**Nov. 17\*\*\*\*\*Project Paper Due\*\*\*\*\*** South Korea, continued.

**Week 14 THANKSGIVING BREAK.****Week 15.**

Nov. 27 Discussion. *Korean Pop-culture*

**Assignment:** *A Geek in Korea*, parts 7-10.

Nov. 29 Japan, Inc.

Dec. 1. The Fate of the Salaryman in Japan.

**Assignment:** Course Reserve: excerpt "Go Ni Itte Wa..." from *The Blue Eyed Salaryman*.

**Journal Due Before Class**

**Week 16.**

Dec. 4. Dismantling the Iron Rice Bowl. China Inc.

Dec. 6. Discussion of story "After Cowboy Chicken Came to Town"

**Assignment:** Course reserve: "After Cowboy Chicken Came to Town."

*Final examination* To Be Announced.

**Class Assignments and Grading Policies.**

**TWO IN CLASS TESTS (INCLUDING THE FINAL) AND ONE WRITTEN PROJECT** are the major requirements. The student must complete these elements to pass the class.

**ATTENDANCE** will be taken at each class. 5 percentage points are awarded for class participation (attendance, discussion, etc.) You must be present when role is taken.

**SIX ELEARNING ONLINE JOURNALS** (each 1 page) to complete during the semester. Students must complete 5 of them. If you complete 6 of them, one will count as extra credit, and you may receive up to 3 percentage points added to your final grade average. **THIS IS THE ONLY EXTRA CREDIT OPTION IN THE CLASS.**

**FIVE WORKSHEETS** to complete during the semester.

**Late Assignments:**

**NO LATE JOURNALS** will be graded.

**LATE WORKSHEETS CANNOT RECEIVE MORE THAN 5 out of 10 points.**

**MIDTERM:** If you miss the midterm, you may take a make up examination along with the final examination in the final examination period at the end of the semester. No other make up option is available, unless your absence is due to military service or a mandatory event sponsored by UT-Dallas (i.e you are on the basketball team, debate team etc. and are at a competition) and have the proper documentation from the university.

**LATE PROJECT PAPER: TURN THE PAPER IN ON TIME.**

For a paper to be considered on time, **BOTH** the hardcopy and the turnitin.com version must be submitted on time.

**Late project paper: 15 points will be deducted if either the hardcopy or the turnitin.com copy of the paper is late. (Make sure your printer works. Make sure you have printer paper. ) 30 points will be deducted if both copies are turned in late. The last day a late paper will be accepted is Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Grades**

Midterm Exam 20%

Final Exam 25%

Project: 25 %

Class participation 5%.

Worksheets 10%

Journals: 15 %

A 93-100; A- 90-92; B+ 87-89; B 83-86; B- 80-82; C+ 77-79; C 73-76; C- 70-72; D+ 67-69; D 63-66; D- 60-62; F 0-59.

---

**Course & Instructor Policies**

**CLASS PARTICIPATION IS IMPORTANT.** Attendance will be noted. If you cannot attend class, you should ask someone to take notes for you and pick up the class handouts.

**BE ON TIME.** When you attend class, you are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire class. If you need to leave early, I need to know before the beginning of class.

**BRING THE BOOKS** we are studying to class with you.

**RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU WANT TO SPEAK** in class.

**NON-CLASS RELATED USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES** will result in points being subtracted from your grade.

**SUBMITTING JOURNALS:** Journals will be submitted online through Elearning. No hardcopy need be submitted.

**SUBMITTING PROJECT PAPER:** You must submit your project paper online using the turnitin.com utility as well as submit a hardcopy at the beginning of class on the due date. Turnitin.com searches the web and a library of all of papers previously submitted by students in my classes for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

---

**NO PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED WORK OR WORK WRITTEN FOR ANOTHER CLASS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

**EMAIL** will not be used to transmit information on grades.

---

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>. The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.