

Course Syllabus

Course Information

HUMA 1301 003
MWF 9-9:50 AM
Jo. 4.614

Exploration of the Humanities

Professor Contact Information

Dr. Joan E. Mortensen
Office Hours: W 10:30-11:30 in my office Jo 5.708 and by appointment
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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 19th 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.

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- **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 Readings:

Books:

Joan Mortensen, *East Asia: Individual and Society*. (online coursebook)

Ha Jin, *In the Pond*

Eji Yoshikawa, *Musashi* – **optional purchase** through Amazon (there is a kindle version available-Required sections will also be available online and hard copies are on reserve in library.)

Electronic Reserve: (link available through Elearning as well as UT-Dallas, Library Website)

Ha Jin, “After Cowboy Chicken Came to Town”, *The Bridegroom*

Eji Yoshikawa, *Musashi*, (If you do not purchase text)

Niall Murtagh, *The Blue Eyed Salaryman*

Higuchi Ichiyo, “*Troubled Waters*”

Edgar Snow, *Red Star over China*, pp. 172-181

Benjamin Hoff, *The Tao of Pooh*, pp. 1-7, 67-90

Euny Hong, *The Birth of Korean Cool*, excerpts

The electronic course reserves page for HUMA 1301 003 can be found at the following link:

<http://utdallas.docutec.com/eres/coursepass.aspx?cid=2374>

- 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

ASSIGNED READING IS TO BE DONE BEFORE CLASS

UNIT 1: The Emperor

Week 1:

Jan 14. Class Introduction -

Jan 16. Cross cultural communication;

Assignment. *East Asia: Individual and Society* Coursebook; Introduction,

Jan 18 The Political Ideal of Emperor

Assignment. Coursebook. Begin Unit 1.

Week 2:

Jan 21. No Class – Holiday

Jan 23. The First Emperor.

Assignment: Continue in Coursebook for Unit 1. Watch Discovery Channel video on the First Emperor. Before class-download pdf file on film *Hero* and bring it to class.

Jan 25. Film *HERO*. *Hero* worksheet-in class assignment

Week 3

Jan 28 Film *Hero* – Worksheet-in class assignment.

Jan 30. Finish Film *Hero*. **Turn in *Hero* worksheet**

Feb 1. *Analysis of Hero*.

Assignment. Read Review of Film *Hero*: “Is *Hero* a Paeon to Authoritarianism?” from *Asia Media* –Print Handout. *Read excerpts from Tao of Pooh, pp. 1-7, 67-90 – Library course reserve.*

Unit II: THE WARRIOR

Week 4.

All activities in Coursebook should be complete for Introduction and Emperor Unit by midnight on February 3.

Feb. 4 The Samurai: Historical Background- Japan as a Borrowing Nation

Assignment:

Begin Coursebook for Unit 2.

Feb. 6. The Art of War.

Assignment: Read Sections in Coursebook on Art of War.

Library Reserve: *Musashi*: “The Little Bell,” “The Comb,” “The Flower Festival”

Feb. 8. **Assignment:** Library Reserve. *Musashi*, “The Dowager’s Wrath,” “The Art of War”

Coursebook. Read section on Taoism and Buddhism and Art of War.

Week 5.

Feb. 11. Zen and Bushido

Feb. 13. Yoshikawa’s *Musashi* as an allegory for Zen Enlightenment.

Assignment. *Musashi*, “The Old Cryptomeria Tree,” “The Rock and the Tree,” “The Birth of Musashi,”

Feb. 15.

Assignment: Coursebook link to “The 10 Oxherding Pictures”.

Week 6

Watch online film *Yojimbo*. Access film through Kanopy utility on Library Website. Download *Yojimbo* worksheet from Coursebook. Complete *Yojimbo* worksheet while watching film. .

Feb. 18. Finish discussion of *Musashi*.

Assignment: *Musashi*, “The Soul of the Deep”

Feb. 20. Discussion of *Yojimbo* in class.

Feb. 22. Complete discussion of *Yojimbo*. ***Yojimbo* Worksheet due in class.**

UNIT III. THE WIFE/MISTRESS

Week 7

All activities in Coursebook for Warrior Unit should be complete by midnight on Feb. 24.

Feb. 25. **MIDTERM EXAM**

Feb. 27. Mulan/ Confucianism and Women
Assignment: Begin Unit 3 in Coursebook. Use Coursebook link to the poem "Ode to Mulan."

Mar. 1. Women's roles in China. **Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon.**

Week 8.

Mar 4. Discussion of The Story of "Cui Ying Ying"
Assignment (Coursebook link to "Cui Ying Ying")

Mar. 6. Women in Korea

Mar. 8. Discussion of Ch'unhyang story.

Assignment. Coursebook link to Ch'unhyang.

Week. 9

Mar. 11. Women in Japan-

Assignment: "Troubled Waters" Library Reserve

Mar. 13. *Memoirs of a Geisha* film clips. (In class worksheet)

Mar. 15. Discussion of *Geisha Girl*,

Assignment: Watch video *Geisha Girl* via Coursebook link.

Week. 10. March 18-22 Spring Break –NO CLASS

UNIT IV. THE REVOLUTIONARY

Week. 11

Coursebook on Wife Unit should be complete by midnight on March 24.

Mar, 25. **Birth of the Revolutionary Ideal: Mao and the Chinese Revolution.**
Excerpt from *Red Star over China*, pp. 172-181. Library Reserve.

Begin Coursebook on Unit 4.

Mar. 27. Chinese Revolution

Assignment: Print novel *In the Pond*: Chapters 1-4

Mar. 29.

Assignment: Print novel *In the Pond*: Chapters 5-9

Week. 12

April 1. Discussion *In the Pond*

Assignment: Complete *In the Pond*

April 3-5. Film: *Never Sorry*;

Assignment Download pdf on *Never Sorry*. Worksheet will be done in class.

Week 13

April 8. North Korea: History

Assignment: Keep reading Coursebook on Unit 4.

April 10. North Korea: History

April 12. North Korea: Kim Jung-un and Dennis Rodman Discussion.

Assignment: Coursebook link to video on Dennis Rodman in North Korea.

UNIT V. THE BUSINESSMAN

Week 14

Coursebook on Revolutionary Unit should be complete by Midnight on April 14.

April 15. Confucian Capitalism

Assignment: Begin Coursebook on Unit 5

April 17. South Korea; Economic Growth & Social Consequences

Assignment: Library Reserve: excerpts from Eunyoung Hong, *The Birth of Korean Cool*

April 19. South Korea: K-pop.

!!!!Project Paper due!!!!

Week. 15.

April 22. The Salaryman (South Korea)

Library Reserve: Krys Lee, "The Salaryman" in *Drifting House*.

April 24. Confucian Capitalism in Post-war Japan.

Assignment: Library Reserve: excerpt from *The Blue Eyed Salaryman*

April 26. Japanese Pop culture

Week 16

April 29. China after Mao

May. 1. The Rise of China as an Economic Superpower.

Assignment: Coursebook link to "The Land That Failed to Fail."

May 3. *China* Discussion of story "After Cowboy Chicken Came to Town"

Assignment: Library reserve: "After Cowboy Chicken Came to Town."

Coursebook on Businessman Unit should be complete by midnight on May.

4th.

Final examination Time Available on UTD's Coursebook

Grading Policy

Two In-Class tests (Midterm and the Final) and one written project. All required elements must be completed by student in order to pass the class.

If you miss the midterm, you may take two exams during the final exam time slot.

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. **No participation points will be awarded to anyone missing 10 or more classes.**

Work completed in online Coursebook and worksheets will count for 25 percent of the course grade.

Midterm Exam 20%

Final Exam 25%

Project: 25 %

Online Coursebook 15%

Worksheets – 10 %

Class participation 5%. (attendance, class discussion etc)

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 59 and below

Course & Instructor Policies

Much of the material covered in the lectures is not in the reading.

Hence, class attendance is important and will be noted. If you cannot attend class, you should ask someone to take notes for you and pick up the class handouts. **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.**

Points will be deducted from final grade for non-class related use of electronics.

Please bring the books we are studying to class with you.

If you wish to speak in class, raise your hand.

ONLINE COURSEBOOK. This Coursebook complements the lectures and films. The online quizzes and reading responses in the Coursebook for a unit should be

done by the last day of that unit. Any online activities for a unit completed after the last date of the unit will not count.

Late worksheets are only eligible to receive 5 of the possible 10 points. Worksheets are due in class.

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.

[You will not be able to submit your papers with turnitin.com after class start time on the due date.].

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

Late project paper: 10 points will be deducted if either the hardcopy or the turnitin.com copy of the paper is late. 25 points will be deducted if both copies are turned in late. The last day a late paper will be accepted is May 1.

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

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.