

HONORS 202

Inquiries in the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment

Fall 2013, MWF 9:00 – 9:50 a.m. BB 102

Dr. Matthew Hartman

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REQUIRED TEXTS

The Bedford Anthology of World Literature, Compact Edition, Volumes 1 & 2, Davis, et al.

Note: I will be using Vol. 2 again for HONRS 203, so hang onto that volume for next semester if you take the course with me.

COURSE DESCRIPTION & GOALS

Honors Humanities 2 explores the major intellectual and cultural movements of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment. We will focus primarily on works from Western civilization with occasional forays into regions beyond the West. We will attempt to put key texts and ideas from this period into conversation with each other as we consider and reflect on different cultural and historical perspectives. By attending to voices from the past, from different parts of the world, we will ask, what can we learn about others and about ourselves?

HONRS 202 fulfills the UCC Humanities Tier 2 requirement. It is also considered a “writing intensive” course. Upon completing the course, students should be able to

- critically read texts from the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment, isolating elements relevant to the study of major ideas, philosophies, and modes of thought of this period
- knowledgeably examine works of art of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment, recognizing their inherent form and their relevance to the study of major ideas, philosophies, and modes of thought of this period
- critically analyze the impact of context, source, and theory in the development of new information and insights
- synthesize elements from various sources to formulate new understandings of core ideas and attitudes of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment
- critically analyze competing hypotheses to form a judgment supported by a substantiated rationale, and evaluate the judgments and rationales of others
- critically analyze the impact of the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment upon today’s society
- solve problems and make decisions both independently and collaboratively
- demonstrate effective, refined writing skills
- further develop their lifelong learning skills in critical analysis and effective communication

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

- Two Essays (20% each)
- Museum artwork essay (10%)
- Artwork Presentation (10%)
- Attendance, participation, and quizzes (10%)
- Online response journal (15%)
- Final exam (15%)

Grade Scale

A+	97-100	B-	80-82	D+	67-69
A	93-96	C+	77-79	D	63-66
A-	90-92	C	73-76	D-	60-62
B+	87-89	C-	70-72	F	0-59
B	83-86				

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance

Regular attendance is required.

1. **You are allowed three absences** free and clear, no excuses necessary. You don't need to provide any documentation to explain your absence, but you only get three, so use them wisely.
2. **After your three absences, any and all absences, regardless of the reason, will adversely affect your grade** as follows. For each absence after the third, your attendance and participation grade (15% of the total course grade) will be lowered by 10 percentage points.
3. If you are absent, you are responsible for submitting the assigned homework, for screening any film shown in class, for making arrangements to get the materials for the next class, and for coming prepared to discuss the next class materials. Students whose illness or family responsibilities require a long absence should contact me as soon as possible (NOT after an unexplained absence of several weeks).

Late Assignments

Keep in mind:

- In-class writing cannot be made up.
- Absence is not an excuse for late work: assignments must be turned in the day they are due. If you will be absent when an assignment is due, arrange to have someone turn in the assignment for you. If you cannot make such arrangements, contact me before the due date.
- Technology is not an excuse for late work. Plan ahead for the inevitable problems with printers, flash drives, etc.
- A late essay will be penalized one full letter grade (e.g., from a B to a C) for each class day it is late (e.g., the essay is due Friday but not turned in until Monday).

Academic Dishonesty & Plagiarism

All work submitted for this course must be your own and must be written exclusively for this course. Using someone else's ideas or words as your own on any assignment is plagiarism. It is a violation of the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities as defined in the student handbook (www.bsu.edu/sa/dean/stucode/) and will be treated as such. In addition, recycling your own work from previous courses is a form of academic dishonesty. If you are concerned about inadvertently violating this policy, please see me before completing the assignment.

Accommodations

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact me as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Below is a tentative outline of the course readings and assignments, which may be modified to suit the needs of the class.

8/19: Introductions	9/27: Chaucer, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>
8/21: Introduction to art	The Renaissance
8/23: Introduction to art	9/30: More, <i>Utopia</i>
The Medieval World	10/2: Presentation 5; More, <i>Utopia</i>
8/26: Augustine, from <i>The Confessions</i>	10/4: Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i>
8/28: Boethius, from <i>The Consolation of Philosophy</i>	10/7: Renaissance art and culture
8/30: <i>The Qu'ran</i>	10/9: Presentation 6; Renaissance art and culture
9/2: Labor Day	10/11: Renaissance art and culture
9/4: Presentation 1; <i>The Conference of the Birds</i>	10/14: Film: <i>Aguirre: The Wrath of God</i>
9/6: <i>The Conference of the Birds</i>	10/16: Film: <i>Aguirre: The Wrath of God</i>
Museum artwork essay due	10/18: Film: <i>Aguirre: The Wrath of God</i>
9/9: Dante, <i>Inferno</i>	Essay #1 due
9/11: Presentation 2; Dante, <i>Inferno</i>	10/21: Fall Break
9/13: Dante, <i>Inferno</i>	10/23: Presentation 7: "In the World: O Brave New World!"
9/16: Dante, <i>Inferno</i>	10/25: Montaigne, "Of Cannibals"
9/18: Presentation 3; Dante, <i>Inferno</i>	The Enlightenment
9/20: Dante, <i>Inferno</i>	10/28: Moliere, <i>Tartuffe</i>
9/23: Chaucer, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>	10/30: Presentation 8; Moliere, <i>Tartuffe</i>
9/25: Presentation 4; Chaucer, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>	11/1: Pope, <i>An Essay on Man</i>
	11/4: Voltaire, <i>Candide</i>

11/6: Presentation 9; Voltaire, *Candide*

11/8: Voltaire, *Candide*

11/11: “In the World: Enlightenment and the Spirit of Inquiry”

11/13: Presentation 10; “In the World: Enlightenment and the Spirit of Inquiry”

11/15: “In the World: Enlightenment and the Spirit of Inquiry”

11/18: Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative . . .*

11/20: Presentation 11; Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative . . .*

11/22: Basho, *Narrow Road through the Backcountry*

11/25: Basho, *Narrow Road through the Backcountry*

Essay #2 due

11/27: Thanksgiving

11/29: Thanksgiving

12/2: Classical music

12/4: Classical music

12/6: Classical music

12/9: Exam Review

Final Exam, Friday, Dec. 13, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.