Humanities (HUM) 1500 Introduction to the Humanities (3 Units) CSU:UC
[formerly Humanities 5]

Prerequisite: Eligibility for English 1000 and Reading 1005

Prerequisite knowledge/skills: Before entering the course the student should be able to:
1. determine inferences by drawing conclusions,
2. evaluate arguments, and
3. analyze and synthesize appropriate information in the library for a basic research assignment,
4. apply punctuation and capitalization rules to writing,
5. use a computer to write coherent, unified essays containing an introduction, body, and a conclusion,
6. compose three or more essays,
7. edit and revise work.

Total Hours: 48 hours lecture

Catalog Description: This course introduces the student to the variety of media and themes depicting universal human experiences presented in the humanities (painting, sculpture, architecture, theatre, music, dance, and film). Attendance at a live performance or a visit to an art museum during the semester is required.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit


Additional Required Materials: None

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to

1. explain the different disciplines within the "humanities",
2. define the elements and explain the various techniques of visual arts and architecture,
3. define the elements of, and name the instruments of, musical arts,
4. identify sacred and secular musical forms in non-western and western art,
7. explain the significant differences between non-western dance and ballet, and modern dance,
8. compare and contrast between non-western and western dramatic forms,
10. identify the process and techniques of still and motion film making
11. analyze how traditional indigenous philosophies and religions have influenced and shaped global artistic production,
12. analyze how myth is depicted in the various media in non-western and western arts, and
13. identify major universal themes depicted in the humanities.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I  Introduction to the Humanities
  A. Continuity and diversity of ideas and themes in global arts
  B. Patrons and censorship

Unit II  Painting, Printmaking, and Sculpture
  A. Religious Art
  B. Mythical arts
  C. Depictions of society and culture
  D. Environmental Scenes
  E. Abstraction as concept, reaction, and stimulus
  F. Visual language

Unit III  Camera Arts
  A. Origins
  B. Definitions
  C. Social and Cultural History
  D. Catastrophic and Conscience
  E. Love and Admiration
  F. Suspense and Fantasy
  G. Camera Arts Language

Unit IV  Architecture
  A. Monuments
  B. Sacred Places
  C. Secular Structures
  D. Domicile
  E. Architectural Language

Unit V  Music
  A. Perspectives on Music: East and West
  B. Performers and their musical instruments
  C. Society and Culture: Composers, Performers, and Music
  D. Musical Language
  E. Musical Compositions

Unit VI  Drama and Dance
A. Drama and Dance  
B. Heroism: East and West  
C. Portraits of Evil  
D. Comic Portraits  
E. Perspectives on Love: East and West  
F. Victims and Survivors  
G. Dramatic Arts Language

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students in this class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of regular class time doing the following:

1. Completing required reading  
2. Written work  
3. Preparation for examinations  
4. Attending live performance(s) of concerts, dance or plays  
5. Viewing tapes of live performances of concerts dance or plays

Methods of Instruction:

1. Lecture and discussion based on reading assignments in the text  
2. Discussion on supplemental reading assignments as appropriate  
3. Guest lecturers when appropriate  
4. Listening and discussing tapes of selected musical compositions discussed in the text  
5. Viewing of and discussion of tape(s) of selected example of dance  
6. Viewing of and discussion of videotape portions of film  
7. Required field trip to one or more live performances of drama, music or dance  
8. Reading and discussing written evaluations of the event  
9. If possible, view one or more art exhibits  
10. Reading and discussing written evaluations of art exhibit

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Written assignments  
2. Objective, short answers and essay exams