Humanities 3: Renaissance, Reformation, and Early Modern Europe

Dr. Kristina Markman | Fall 2019

Course Information
TuTh 11:00am–12:20pm
Peter 108

Course Information
Instructor Information
TuTh 11:00am–12:20pm
Peter 108

kmarkman@ucsd.edu

Galbraith Hall 186
OH: Th, 12:3–2:30pm

Instructor Information

TA Information

Matt Crum
Rosie Dwyer
Tom Kirkpatrick
Katie Neipris
Stacie Vos

Course Description
This course examines the dynamic transformation of Western culture across three centuries of social, religious, political, and commercial change. We begin in the Renaissance and the revival of classical learning and values. Then we look at the intellectual and political consequence of the age of Global Convergence, the Protestant Reformation, and the Scientific Revolution. Throughout the course we will pay special attention to the development of new forms of cultural expression in art, literature, and philosophy. At the same time, through a close examination of critical texts we will consider emerging conceptions of selfhood, society, nature, and God.

Course Objectives
Through close reading of seminal texts from the Western humanistic tradition, students will

• engage key issues relating to the human experience from a variety of perspectives, including but not limited to history, philosophy, religion, literature, and art.
• develop analytical and critical reading skills.
• learn to craft an informed and persuasive written argument.

Required Texts
Niccolò Machiavelli, The Prince, trans. Tim Park (Penguin) 9780143105862
Christopher Marlowe, Dr. Faustus (Dover Publications) 9780486282084
Thomas More, Utopia, trans. Paul Turner (Penguin) 9780140449105
William Shakespeare, King Lear, eds. Barbara A. Mowat and, Paul Werstine (Simon & Schuster Paperbacks) 9781501118111

Humanities Program Writing Handbook with Digital Copy, 1 Edition, 9780100729582
Course Requirements: Students must fulfill all course requirements to pass the course.
Section Participation: 15%
Essay #1: 20%
Essay #2: 35%
Final Exam Essay: 30%

Course Outline

Week 0
Th, Sep. 26: Introduction

Week 1
Tu, Oct. 1: Humanism and the Humanities

Th, Oct. 3: Humanists as Social Theorists
Read: Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Chapters 14–26

Week 2
Tu, Oct. 8: The Renaissance Goes North
Read: Erasmus, *Praise of Folly (excerpts) – on Canvas* & More, *Utopia*, Book 1

Th, Oct. 10: A Vision for Reform
Read: More, *Utopia*, Book 2

Week 3
Tu, Oct. 15: Humanism and the Self: Confronting Human Nature
Read: Montaigne, “To the Reader,” “On idleness,” “That it is madness to judge the true and the false from our own capacities”

Th, Oct. 17: Humanism and the Self: Embracing Human Nature
Read: “On the inconstancy of our actions,” & “To philosophize is to learn to die”

Week 4
Tu, Oct. 22: The Age of Convergence and Encounter
Read: excerpt from Cortes’ Second Letter to King Charles V
DUE: ESSAY #1

Th, Oct. 24: Encounters in the “New World”

Week 5
Tu, Oct. 29: Luther and the New Challenge
Read: Luther, *Freedom of a Christian (excerpts)*

Th, Oct. 31: The Reformation
Read: Calvin, *excerpts from Calvin’s theological treatises – on Canvas*
Week 6
Tu, Nov. 5: From Western Church to Churches
Read: Montaigne, “On cruelty”

Th, Nov. 7: The Scientific Revolution
Read: Bacon, New Organon (excerpts), “Of Studies,” and “Of Innovations”

Week 7
Tu, Nov. 12: The Crisis of Modernity: Science and Religion
Read: Bacon, “Of Atheism,” & Galileo Galilei, Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina (excerpt) – on Canvas

Th, Nov. 14: The Crisis of Modernity: Magic and the Witch Craze
Read: Montaigne, “On the lame”

Week 8
Tu, Nov. 19: Renaissance Theater
Read, Marlowe, Dr. Faustus, all
DUE: ESSAY #2

Th, Nov. 21: Dr. Faustus as a Man of His Times

Week 9
Tu, Nov. 26: King Lear: Introduction
Read: Act I & II

Th, Nov. 28: No Class! Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 10
Tu, Dec. 3: King Lear: Themes
Read: Act III & IV

Th, Dec. 5: King Lear: Conclusion
Read: Act V

FINAL: Wednesday, Dec. 11, 11:30am–2:30pm

This course complies with the UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to: cheating on an exam, plagiarism (borrowing words or ideas without proper attribution), working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one’s identity for the purpose of enhancing one’s grade. Academic dishonesty of any type by a student provides grounds for disciplinary action.

Students agree that by taking this course all required essays will be subject to text-similarity review on www.turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted essays will be included as source documents in the turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of essays. Use of the service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on its website.

Accommodations will be provided with written request in accordance with OSD: https://students.ucsd.edu/well-being/disability-services/