

Humanities 3: Renaissance, Reformation, and Early Modern Europe

Dr. Kristina Markman | Fall 2018

Course Information

MWF 1:00-1:50pm

Center 115

Instructor Information

kmarkman@ucsd.edu

Galbraith Hall 186

OH: W, 2:00–3:00pm; TH, 12:00–
1:00pm, & by appointment

TA Information

Carolin Boettcher

Kailey Giordano

Christine Payne



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

Francis Bacon, *The Essays*, ed. John Pitcher (Penguin) 9780140432169

Niccoló Machiavelli, *The Prince*, trans. Tim Park (Penguin) 9780143105862

Christopher Marlowe, *Dr. Faustus* (Dover Publications) 9780486282084

Michel de Montaigne, *The Essays: A Selection*, trans. M.A. Screech (Penguin) 9780140446029

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 in order to pass the course.*

Section Participation: 15%

Essay #1: 20%

Essay #2: 35%

Final Exam Essay: 30%

Course Outline

Week 0

F, Sep. 28: Introduction

Week 1

M, Oct. 1: Humanism and the Humanities

Read: Francesco Petrarch, [Letter to Boccaccio](#) & Pico della Mirandola, [On the Dignity of Man, Paragraphs 1–7](#)

W, Oct. 3: Medieval-Renaissance Crossover: Europe in the 15th Century

Read: Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Chapter 1-13 (different kinds of principalities; how to get and retain power)

F, Oct. 5: Humanists as Social Theorists

Read: Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Chapters 14–26 (how to use power and other aspects of political rule)

Week 2

M, Oct. 8: Secularization and Self-Criticism

W, Oct. 10: Religion in the Renaissance

Read: Marsilio Ficino, "[The Soul of Man](#)" from *Platonic Theology*

F, Oct. 12: The Renaissance Goes North: Christian Humanism

Read: Desiderius Erasmus, [Praise of Folly \(excerpts\)](#) – need TritonEd log-in

Week 3

M, Oct. 15: A Vision for Reform and Renewal: Equality and Freedom

Read: More, *Utopia*, Book 1

W, Oct. 17: The Individual and the State; Wealth and Property

Read: More, *Utopia*, Book 2

F, Oct. 19: 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," & "On the inconstancy of our actions,"

Review: Machiavelli, *The Prince*, Chapters 16–18

Week 4

M, Oct. 22: Humanism and the Self: Embracing Human Nature

Read: Montaigne, "To philosophize is to learn to die" & "On the resemblance of children to their fathers"

DUE: ESSAY #1

W, Oct. 24: An Exploration of Human Nature

Read, Marlowe, *Dr. Faustus*, all

F, Oct. 26: An Exploration of Human Nature, cont'd

Week 5

M, Oct. 29: Dr. Faustus as a Man of His Times

W, Oct. 31: The Age of Convergence and Encounter

Read: [Letter of Dr. Chanca on the Second Voyage of Columbus](#)

F, Nov. 2: Encounters in the "New World"

Read: Montaigne, "On the Cannibals" & Bartolomé de Las Casas, [In Defense of the Indians \(excerpt\)](#) – need TritonEd log-in

Week 6

M, Nov. 5: Luther and the New Challenge

Read: Luther, [Freedom of a Christian \(excerpts\)](#)

W, Nov. 7: From Western Church to Churches

Read: excerpts from [Ignatius of Loyola](#) – need TritonEd log-in

F, Nov. 9: A Reformation Debate: John Calvin and Jacopo Sadoleto

Read: [Sadoleto's letter to the Genevans & Calvin's reply to Sadoleto](#)

Week 7

M, Nov. 12: No Class! Happy Veterans Day!

W, Nov. 14: The Scientific Revolution

Read: Bacon, "Of Truth," "Of Goodness and the Goodness of Nature," "Of Wisdom for a Man's Self," & "Of Innovations"

F, Nov. 16: The Scientific Revolution, cont'd

Read: Bacon, "Of Unity in Religion," "Of Atheism," "Of Superstition," "Of Suspicion," "Of Discourse," & "Of the Vicissitude of Things"

Week 8

M, Nov, 19: The Crisis of Modernity: Science and Religion

Read: Galileo Galilei, [Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina](#)

W, Nov, 21: The Crisis of Modernity: Magic and the Witch Craze

DUE: ESSAY #2

F, Nov. 23: No Class! Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 9

M, Nov. 26: War and Politics c. 1600: Religious Wars, 1524–1618 & Thirty Years' War, 1618–1648

W, Nov. 28: *King Lear*: Cruelty and Injustice
Read: Act I & II

F, Nov. 30: No class! Prof. Markman at symposium in UCLA

Week 10

M, Dec. 3: *King Lear*: Chaos and Authority
Read: Act III & IV

W, Dec. 5: *King Lear*: Redemption
Read: Act V

F, Dec. 7: What is modernity?

FINAL: Monday, Dec. 10, 11:30am-2:29pm

This course complies with the **UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship**

<http://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/process/policy.html>.

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/>