

Humanities 5: Modern Culture (1848-Present) Spring, 2018

Instructor: Dr. Amy Zroka

Lecture: MWF, 10-10:50am, Center 216

Email: azroka@ucsd.edu

Office hours: Wed., 1pm-3pm, or by appointment, GH 186

Course Description:

In this course, we will examine some of the most important intellectual, political, and literary developments of the modern era. This era witnessed major challenges to traditional Western thought, as both scholars and ordinary individuals encountered the problems wrought by industrialization, imperialism, racism, and war. They sought answers to these problems, and their proposed solutions altered the way people thought about class, gender, individuality, race, politics, and personal responsibility. Through an examination of major works, we will trace the emergence of ideologies and movements which have indelibly left their mark on today's world.

Required Texts:

All texts are available for purchase at the PC Bookstore.

- Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (Bamtam)
- John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty* (Dover Thrift)
- Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (Dover Thrift)
- Sigmund Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents* (Norton)
- Albert Camus, *The Plague* (Knopf Doubleday)
- Martin Luther King Jr., *Strength to Love* (Augsburg Fortress)
- Betty Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique* (Norton)
- *Humanities Custom Handbook—1st Edition*

Course Requirements:

- Section: 15%
- Essay 1: 20% (Due May 4th)
- Essay 2: 30% (Due May 25th)
- Final Exam: 35%

Students must fulfill *all* of the requirements in order to pass the course.

Course Website: I will post lecture slides, assignments, and other relevant information on TritonEd.

Email Policy: I encourage you to email me with questions about the course. However, I will not respond to emails sent *after 5pm* the day before an assignment is due.

Class Schedule

Week 1

Mon. April 2: Course Introduction

Wed. Apr. 4: An Introduction to Marxism

Reading: Begin Marx & Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*

Fri. Apr. 6: “Living in a Material World”—A Critique of Capitalism

Reading: Finish Marx & Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*

Week 2

Mon. Apr. 9: Envisioning a Communist Revolution

Wed. Apr. 11: Modern Liberalism—A Primer

Reading: Begin Mill, *On Liberty*

Fri. Apr. 13: The Proper Limits of Human Freedom (1)

Reading: Continue Mill, *On Liberty*

Week 3

Mon. Apr. 16: The Proper Limits of Human Freedom (2)

Reading: Finish Mill, *On Liberty*

Wed. Apr. 18: Casting our Gaze Afar: Modern Imperialism

Reading: Begin Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

Fri. Apr. 20: Going Upriver, Looking into Ourselves

Reading: Continue Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

Week 4

Mon. Apr. 23: Envisioning Humanity: The Problem of Inclusion and Exclusion

Reading: Finish Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*

Wed. Apr. 25: Signs of a Modern World in Crisis

Fri. Apr. 27: The Modern World Continues to Decline: The Great War

Reading: Begin Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents*

Week 5

Mon. Apr. 30: Diagnosing Civilization

Reading: Continue Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents*

Wed. May 2: Feeling Guilty in the Modern World
 Reading: Finish Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents*

Fri. May 4: Alternative Reactions: Art and Film in the Postwar Era
Essay One Due

Week 6

Mon. May 7: Dark Continent—The Second World War

Wed. May 9: An Introduction to Existentialism
 Reading: Begin Camus, *The Plague*

Fri. May 11: Reacting to an Absurd World (1)
 Reading: Continue Camus, *The Plague*

Week 7

Mon. May 14: Reacting to An Absurd World (2)
 Reading: Continue Camus, *The Plague*

Wed. May 16: The Algerian Question
 Reading: Finish Camus, *The Plague*

Fri. May 18: Generational Upheavals

Week 8

Mon. May 21: Confronting Racism & Conformity (1)
 Reading: King, *Strength to Love*, Sermons 2, 7

Wed. May 23: Confronting Racism & Conformity (2)
 Reading: King, *Strength to Love*, Sermons 10, 13, 14

Fri. May 25: Confronting Racism & Conformity (3)
 Reading: King, *Strength to Love*, 14, 15
Essay Two Due

Week 9

Mon. May 28: Memorial Day Holiday, No Class

Wed. May 30: Gender and Modern Culture
 Reading: Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique*, Chapters 1, 2

Fri. June 1: Confronting “The Problem that Has No Name”
 Reading: Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique*, Chapters 6, 8, 10

Week 10

Mon. June 4: Can We Solve “The Problem that Has No Name”?

Reading: Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique*, Chapters 12, 13, 14

Wed. June 6: Living in the Modern World

Fri. June 8: Course Conclusion

FINAL EXAM: Mon. June 11, 8am-11am

Academic Integrity Policy and Additional Information:

The UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship must be observed for this course. For the full honor code see the following link: <http://infopath-1.ucsd.edu/catalog/front/AcadRegu.html>.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to the following: turning in another student’s paper as if it was your own; collaboration with another student in writing the paper; quoting, paraphrasing, or borrowing ideas from published or unpublished material written by someone other than yourself, without specific acknowledgment of the source. In the Humanities Program, you are to write papers entirely on your own study of the assigned materials, NOT on secondary sources of any kind.

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.

If you need accommodation for disability or religious reasons, please see me as soon as possible so that the appropriate arrangements can be made.

For information about Revelle College’s Humanities Program, including help with writing, administrative information, and schedules, please visit the program’s website:

<http://revelle.ucsd.edu/humanities/index.html>