Humanities 5:
Modern Culture, 1848 - Present

Course Description:
A lecture-discussion course on historical, literary, and philosophical trends of 19th and 20th century. Focuses on crisis of Western Culture; challenges to liberalism posed by such movements as socialism and nationalism; and the growth of new forms of self-expression and new conceptions of individual psychology.

Required Texts:
- Mill, *On Liberty*
- Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*
- Wagner, *The Ring of the Nibelung*
- Nietzsche, *A Nietzsche Reader*, edited by Hollingdale
- Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents*
- Kafka, *The Metamorphosis*
- Sartre, *No Exit and Three Other Plays*
- Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*

Course Requirement: Student must fulfill all course requirements in order to receive a grade.
- Essay #1 – 25%
- Essay #2 – 25%
- Final exam – 40%
- Course Participation – 10%

SYLLABUS

Week I
31 March: **Course Introduction: The Long Nineteenth Century Revolutions**
- Mill, *On Liberty*
2 April: **Mill’s Freedom**

Week II
7 April: **Marx on the Three Great Revolutions**
- Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*
9 April: **Marxism**

Week III
14 April: **Wagner and the Germanic Ideology**
- Wagner, *The Ring of the Nibelung*
16 April: **The Ring Cycle, Part I**

Week IV
21 April: **Wagner on the Will and the Renewal of Civilization**
23 April: **The Ring Cycle, Part II**

Week V
28 April: **Nietzsche as Educator**
Nietzsche, *A Nietzsche Reader*, edited by Hollingdale
pp 71-148, 167-262

**Due: Essay #1**

30 April: *Nietzsche’s Critique of Western Civilization*

**Week VI**
5 May: *Freud and the Mind*
Freud, *Civilization and its Discontents*

7 May: *Constraint of Civilization*

**Week VII**
12 May: *Kakania 1900*
Kafka, *The Metamorphosis* and *Conversation with the Supplicant*

14 May: *It’s a Bug’s Life*

**Week VIII**
19 May: *Crisis in Western Civilization, Part I*

21 May: *Crisis in Western Civilization, Part II*

**Week IX**
26 May: *Freedom, Choices, and Responsibility*
Sartre, *The Flies*

**Due: Essay #2 – Final Hum Essay!**

28 May: *Those Pesky Flies*

**Week X**
2 June: *Freedom for Women*
De Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*

Introduction (pp 3-17), Part One (pp 21-75), Part Four (pp 721-751), and Conclusion (pp753-766)

4 June: *The Final Hum Lecture!*

9 June: Final Exam, Tuesday 11:30-2:30

**Important Information**

Students are expected to submit only their own work on papers and examinations. While you may discuss the assignments with others in the class, collaboration on the preparation of a paper is not permitted. Unless the assignment specifically directs otherwise, papers should be based entirely on your own study of the assigned material and not on secondary sources of any kind.

Turning in someone else’s work, whether from printed sources or material available electronically, as if it were your own constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism is an act of intellectual dishonesty. The academic consequences of plagiarism range from failure for the tainted assignment to failure for the course, depending on the seriousness of the offense. All such offenses are reported to the college dean, who will impose additional administrative consequences, which can include suspension or expulsion from the university.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to the following: turning in another student’s paper as if it were 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.

If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, you should consult with your section instructor.