

**University of Calgary
Department of Communication, Media and Film**

**Communication and Culture CMCL 303, L01
Roads to Modernity**

Winter 2015

Tuesday, Jan 13 – Tuesday April 14

TR 11:00- 12:15; Tutorials F 9:00 – 14:00

Instructor: Ronald Glasberg
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Web Page: NA
Office Hours: T/R 1:00-2:00

Course Description

The course is a critical and interdisciplinary examination, via classic texts, of Western, Oriental, and Islamic civilizations in terms of their fundamental cultural assumptions as these have evolved from the formative period (1500 B.C to 400 A.D) covered in CMCL 301 toward the threshold of the modern world explored in CMCL 501 (17th to 20th centuries). The time span of the course is thus centered on the Medieval and Early Modern epochs (6th to 16th centuries), and the goal is to understand how and why civilizations transform themselves in the direction of a 'modernist identity' characterized by a loss and/or revision of foundational traditions. The key themes by which the texts will be explored are as follows: life-death, freedom-slavery, wisdom-folly, and good-evil.

Additional Information

Lecture Schedule and Assignment Guide at end of this syllabus.

Objectives of the Course

- (a) Learn how to read and interpret classic texts in a comparative manner;
- (b) Gain a synthetic overview of world civilizations;
- (c) Improve writing skills in the context of developing and supporting arguments;
- (d) Explore how 'culture' is 'communicated' into existence via discourse pertaining to fundamental questions.

Textbooks and Readings

The following texts are all required and have been 'bundled together to reduce costs.

Donald S. Gochberg, Sujit Singh Dulai, Edward. D. Graham, Kenneth W. Harrow, Priscilla Melendez, Anibal, Gonzalez, *World Literature and Thought*, Vol. II, The Middle Periods (Mason, Ohio: Cenage Learning, 2012)

Karl F. Thompson, ed. *Classics of Western Thought*, Vol. II, 4th Edition, Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Reformation (Boston: Wadsworth, 1988)

Internet and electronic communication device information

No restriction on use of laptops in class if they are used to take notes and there is no disturbance of other students by visiting inappropriate web sites.

Assignments and Evaluation

(A) Reflective Journal:

1 st Submission	10% (Jan. 30)
2 nd Submission	10% (Feb. 27)
3 rd Submission	15% (Mar. 20)
4 th Submission	15% (Apr. 10)

(B) Group Project 25%

(C) Final Exam (Registrar scheduled) 25%
100%

For details, please see Assignment Guide at end of Syllabus. All assignments must be completed or a grade of F may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

Note: Please hand in your essays directly to your tutor or instructor if possible. If it is not possible to do so, a daytime drop box is available in SS320; a date stamp is provided for your use. A night drop box is also available for after-hours submission. Assignments will be removed the following morning, stamped with the previous day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: Yes

Submission of Assignments: Please hand in your essays directly to your tutor or instructor if possible. If it is not possible to do so, a daytime drop box is available in SS320; a date stamp is provided for your use. A night drop box is also available for after-hours submission. Assignments will be removed the following morning, stamped with the previous day's date, and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

Please include your name and ID number on all assignments, and be prepared to provide picture ID to pick up assignments or look at final exams in SS 320 after classes have ended. Personal information is collected in accordance with the *Freedom of*

Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment. For courses in which assignments are submitted electronically, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that the correct copy of the assignment is submitted. (Including the version date or version number in your file name may help you avoid submitting the wrong version of your written assignments.)

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Student Accessibility Services (220-8237, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of the course.

Writing Skills Statement

Department policy directs that all written assignments (including, to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. For details see <http://comcul.ucalgary.ca/needtoknow>. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. If you need help with your writing, you may use the Writing Centre. Visit the website for more details: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

Grading System & Dept of Communication and Culture Grade Scale

Work in this course will be graded using letter grades. The following grade scale percentage equivalents are used in Communication and Culture:

Grade Point Value	Description	Grade	Department grade scale equivalents	Letter grade % equivalent for calculations
4.00	Outstanding	A+	96 - 100%	98.0%
4.00	Excellent—superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.	A	90 - 95.99%	93.0%
3.70		A -	85 - 89.99%	87.5%
3.30		B+	80 - 84.99%	82.5%
3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.	B	75 - 79.99%	77.5%
2.70		B-	70 - 74.99%	72.5%
2.30		C+	65 - 69.99%	67.5%

2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.	C	60 - 64.99%	62.5%
1.70		C-	55 - 59.99%	57.5%
1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	D+	53 - 54.99%	54.0%
1.00		D	50 - 52.99%	51.5%
0.00	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.	F	00 - 49.99%	0%

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. In-text citations must be provided, and readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. Wording taken directly from a source must be enclosed within quotation marks (or, for long quotations, presented in the format prescribed by the documentation style you are using). Paraphrased information must not follow the original wording and sentence structure with only slight word substitutions here and there. These requirements apply to all assignments and sources, including those in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media.

For information on citation and documentation styles (including APA, Chicago, IEEE, MLA, and others), visit the links provided at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/node/208> . If you have questions about how to document sources, please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (3rd Floor TFDL, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>).

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Research Ethics

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e. surveys, interviews, observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research. For more information about your research ethics responsibilities, see <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/research/research/research-ethics>

If this course requires (or allows) students to conduct (or act as participants in) primary research involving surveys, interviews, or observations, state that here, describe the nature of students' participation, and indicate whether you have received course-based ethics approval from the Faculty Research Ethics Committee or if you expect students to apply for ethics approval themselves. **NOTE: If you have not received course-based ethics approval and do not expect your students to apply on their own for**

research ethics clearance, then your course outline should not include any assignments requiring surveys, interviews, or other research with people. (One approved exception is for usability studies in COMS 363 in which students may conduct anonymous online usability surveys to get their classmates' opinions on the usability of a website. [Delete this paragraph if your course will not require research with people.]

Important information, services, and contacts for students

For information about . . .	Visit or contact . . .
ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING (PIC)	SS 102 403-220-3580 picarts@ucalgary.ca
CAMPUS SECURITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calgary Police Service • Emergency Text Messaging • Emergency Evacuation & Assembly • Safewalk Program 	http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/ 403-220-5333 403-266-1234 Emergency: call 911 http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/textmessage http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints If you feel uncomfortable walking alone at any time, call Campus Security for an escort (220-5333). For more information, see http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/
DESIRE2LEARN (D2L) Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IT help line 	http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students 403-220-5555 or itsupport@ucalgary.ca
STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Support Services • Student Services Mobile App 	http://ucalgary.ca/ssc http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support http://ucalgary.ca/currentstudents
STUDENTS' UNION CONTACTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Arts Reps • Student Ombudsman 	http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/governance/elections/home.html http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds
SU WELLNESS CENTRE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counselling Services • Health Services • Distress centre 24/7 CRISIS LINE • Online resources and tips 	403-210-9355 (MSC 370), M-F, 9:00–4:30 pm http://ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/counselling http://ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/health 403-266-HELP (4357) http://ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/healthycampus If you're concerned about a friend or your own well-being, it is important to seek help early. Call or visit the SU Wellness Centre or the 24-hour crisis line.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

CMCL303 L01 2015

Abbreviations: WLT II = *World Literature and Thought*, Vol. II
CWT II = *Classics of Western Thought*, Vol. II

Jan.13: Introduction: What This Course Is About – Key Concepts

Life and Death

Jan. 15: *Everyman*: CWT,II, 183-200

Jan. 14: Roland/De Troyes: CWT,II, 14-51

Jan. 20: Chaucer: CWT, II, 140-182

Jan. 22: Petrarch, Castiglione: CWT,II, 231-251, 294-315

Jan. 27: Mu'Allaqat: WLT,II, 72-88

Jan. 29: Lady Nijo, *The Confessions*: WLT,II 383-392

(First Set of Entries Due in Tutorial – Jan. 30)

Freedom and Slavery

Feb. 3: Benedict, *The Rule*: CWT,II, 1-13; *The Lady Who Loved Insects*: WLT,II, 377-382

Feb. 5: Christine de Pisan, *The Book Of The Duke of True Lovers*: CWT,II, 201-214; Murasaki Shikibu, *The Tale of Genji*: WLT,II, 338-357

Feb. 10: Pico Della Mirandola: CWT,II, 252-262

Feb. 12: More and Machiavelli: CWT,II, 278-293; 316-328

Reading Break: Feb. 15-22

Feb, 24: Po Hsing-chien, *The Courtesan Li Wa*: WLT,II, 249-260

Feb. 26: Ibn Khaldun: WLT,II,670-682

(Second Set of Journal Entries Due in Tutorial – Feb. 27)

Wisdom and Folly

Mar. 3: St Thomas Aquinas: CWT,II, 78-84

Mar. 5: Erasmus: CWT,II, 263-277

Mar. 10: Montaigne: CWT,II, 371-387

Mar. 12: Han Yu and Wang An-Shih: *The Confucian Revival*: WLT,II, 415-425

Mar. 17: Kamo no Chomei, *Life In A Ten Foot Square Hut*: WLT,II, 369-376

Mar. 19: Al-Maari, *Meditations*: WLT,II, 128-134

(First Tutorial Presentation)

(Third Set of Entries Due in Tutorial – March 20)

Good and Evil

Mar. 24: Dante: WLT, II, 510-546

Mar. 26: St. Catherine: CWT,II, 128-135

(Second Tutorial Presentation)

Mar. 31: Luther: CWT,II, 518-534

(Third Tutorial Presentation)

Apr. 2: Calvin: CWT,II, 535-549

(Fourth Tutorial Presentation)

Apr. 7: *The Koran*: WLT,II, 89-116

(Fifth Tutorial Presentation)

Apr. 9: Al-Hallaj, *The Crucifixion of A Mystic*: WLT,II, 117-127

(Sixth Tutorial Presentation)

(Fourth Set of Entries Due in Tutorial April 10)

April 14: Review and Discussion of Exam

Assignment Guide:

Assignments and Evaluation

(A) Reflective Journal:	
1 st Submission	10% (Jan. 30)
2 nd Submission	10% (Feb. 27)
3 rd Submission	15% (Mar. 20)
4 th Submission	15% (Apr. 10)
(B) Group Project	25%
(C) Final Exam (Registrar scheduled)	<u>25%</u>
	100%

(A) Reflective Journal:

For each submission: For at least 3 of the readings in each section, you are expected to write a one and a half page (single-spaced) entry that discusses the fundamental cultural assumptions in the text. The discussion should relate the FCAs to the theme of the submission unit (i.e., life-death, freedom-slavery, etc.), illustrate with quotes how the assumption appears and is articulated, and offer some kind of personal and/or critical response to that assumption. Only one of your three entries will be marked.

(B) Group Project:

Each tutorial will present (within 20 minutes max.) to the entire class what they think is the most important thing they have learned so far in the course. Any kind of media or mode of presentation will be allowed, and all students of the tutorial will get the same mark except for those who made no viable contribution. A written summary is also expected.

Examples: the light shed on some contemporary issue by way of a course text or set of texts, the source of current cultural tensions or misunderstandings, how current culture has been foreshadowed by course texts, etc.

(C) Registrar Scheduled Exam:

Time: 2 hours

Format: The exam will consist in writing two essays from a list of three, given before the exam. Students can take into the exam their reflective journals.