

University of Calgary
Department of Communication and Culture

Communication and Culture CMCL 303, L01
Roads to Modernity

Fall 2014

September 9-December 4, 2014
TuTh 11.00am-12.15pm

Instructor: Glenn Wilkinson
Office: SS 646
Office Phone: 403.220.6405
E-Mail: grwilkin@ucalgary.ca
Web Page: D2L available through MyUofC portal
Office Hours: TuTh 12.30-1.30pm

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: Cengage 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.

(A) Assignments and Evaluation

Study Guides: Due on the class immediately after each course thematic section.

1 st Submission (Oct 2)	10%
2 nd Submission (Oct 21)	10%
3 rd Submission (Nov 18)	10%
4 th Submission (Dec 4)	10%

(B) Mid-Term Exam (Oct 21) 20%

(C) Final Exam (Reg.Sch.) 40%
100%

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: Yes 3 hour

All assignments and exams must be completed or a course grade of F may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

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 and percentage 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>

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/healthy-campus 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

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

September 9: Introduction: What This Course Is About – Key Concepts

Life and Death

September 11: *Everyman*: CWT, II, 183-200

September 16: Roland/De Troyes: CWT, II, 14-51

September 18: Chaucer: CWT, II, 140-182

September 23: Petrarch: CWT, II, 231-251

September 25: Castiglione: CWT, II, 294-315

September 30: Ko Hung, *The Philosopher Who Embraces Simplicity*: WLT, II, 43-50; Lady Nijo, *The Confessions*: WLT, II 383-392

Freedom and Slavery

October 2: Benedict, *The Rule*: CWT, II, 1-13; *The Lady Who Loved Insects*: WLT,II, 377-382

(First Set of Study Guides)

October 7: Christine de Pisan, *The Book Of The City of Ladies*: CWT,II, 201-214;
Murasaki Shikibu, *The Tale of Genji*: WLT,II, 338-357

October 9: Pico Della Mirandola: CWT,II, 252-262

October 14: More: CWT,II, 278-293

October 16: Machiavelli: CWT, II 316-328

October 21: Mid-term Exam
(Second Set of Study Guides)

Wisdom and Folly

October 23: St Thomas Aquinas: CWT,II, 78-84

October 28: Erasmus: CWT,II, 263-277

October 30: Montaigne: CWT,II, 371-387

November 4: Chu Hsi *The Confucian Revival*: WLT,II

November 6: Kamo no Chomei, *Life In A Ten Foot Square Hut*: WLT,II, 369-376

November 11: No Lectures

November 13: Al-Maari, *Meditations*: WLT,II, 128-134

Good and Evil

November 18: Dante: WLT, II, 510-546
(Third Set of Study Guides)

November 20: St. Catherine: CWT,II, 128-135

November 25: Luther: CWT,II, 518-534

November 27: Calvin: CWT,II, 535-549

December 2: Loyola: CWT II, Selections from Loyola's *The Spiritual Exercises*

December 4: *The Koran*: WLT,II, 89-116

(Fourth Set of Study Guides)

Assignments and Evaluation

(A) Study Guides: Due on the class immediately after each course thematic section.

1 st Submission (Oct 2)	10%
2 nd Submission (Oct 21)	10%
3 rd Submission (Nov 18)	10%
4 th Submission (Dec 4)	10%

(B) Mid-Term Exam (Oct 21) 20%

(C) Final Exam (Reg.Sch.) 40%
100%

(A) Study Guides:

For all of the readings in each section, you are expected to write a one and a half to two page (single-spaced) entry that discusses the fundamental cultural assumptions (FAC's) 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, offer some kind of personal and a critical response to that assumption. A detailed guide will be posted on D2L.

(B) Mid-Term Exam:

There will be a mid-term exam that will encourage the careful reading of texts through an examination of quotations and ask brief short answer questions. The structure of the mid-term will be reflected in part of the final exam.

(C) Registrar Scheduled Exam:

Time: 3 hours

Format: The exam will consist of quotation identification, and either two short essays or one large one.