

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

**CMCL 305 L01: Modernity**  
**FALL 2019: September 5 to Dec. 6 (excluding Nov. 10-16)**  
**Lecture: M/W 3:00-3:50**  
**Tutorials: F 1:00-1:50; 2:00-2:50**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Ronald Glasberg
<b>Office:</b>	SS314
<b>Office Phone:</b>	(403)-220-7124
<b>Email:</b>	rglasber@ucalgary.ca
<b>Web Page:</b>	N/A
<b>Office Hours:</b>	M/W 4:00-5:00

**Course Description:**

A critical and inter-disciplinary examination, via classic texts (e.g., Locke, Marx, Camus), of the meaning of Modernity in Western and non-Western contexts. Focus is on the major ideas, principles and implications as these have evolved from 16<sup>th</sup> Century to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

**Additional Information**

The weekly schedule of topics and readings can be found at the end of this outline or on D2L.

**Objectives of the Course**

The objectives of the course are to...

- (1) identify fundamental cultural assumptions within a variety of classic texts;
- (2) relate these fundamental cultural assumptions to your own fundamental personal assumptions;
- (3) draw comparisons between the fundamental cultural assumptions of different cultural units;
- (4) identify the problems of modernity and develop a constructive critique

**Textbooks and Readings**

Required: Max O. Hallman, *Traversing Philosophical Boundaries*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. has been packaged with sections of A.J. Andrea and J.H. Overfield, *The Human Record – Sources of Global History*, Vol. II, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. and is available at the bookstore.

**Policy on the use of Electronic Communication Devices**

Laptops, tablets, and mobile phones may be used in class and tutorials only for course-related purposes and only if their use is not distracting others or negatively impacting the learning environment. No audio or video recording is allowed in any class without the instructor's permission.

## Assignments and Evaluation

Please see assignment guide at end of syllabus for details

Weight	Assessed Components	Due
20%	Identification and Comparison of FCAs as well as FPAs	Sept. 30
30%	2nd Identification and Comparison	Nov. 6
15%	Participation via class and tutorial presentation.	N/A
35%	Final Exam	N/A

### Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: Yes

If your class is held in the evening, the Registrar's Office will attempt to schedule the final exam during the evening; however, there is no guarantee that the exam will NOT be scheduled during the day.

Note: You must complete all assignments and exams or a course grade of F may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

If you miss a required course component, please contact your instructor as soon as possible.

### Submission of Assignments

Please include your name and ID number on all assignments and hand in your essays directly to your instructor or tutor. If you are unable to do so, please use the drop box 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. Note: It is your responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that you submit the proper version (particularly in courses requiring electronic submission).

Be prepared to provide photo ID to pick up assignments in SS 320. Private information related to individual students is treated with the utmost regard by University of Calgary faculty. Student assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty, and personal information is collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. Please note that instructors may use audio or video recorded for lesson capture, assessment of student learning, and self-assessment of teaching practices.

### Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of 5% or a partial letter grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.

### Student Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS); SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Students seeking accommodation for transient illnesses (e.g., the flu) or another legitimate reason should contact their instructors. Whenever possible, students should provide supporting documentation to support their request; however, instructors may not require that a medical note be presented. For the policy on supporting documentation the use of a statutory declaration, see Section M.1 of the University Calendar: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>. Also see FAQs for Students: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals/student-faq>

### Expectations for Writing

Department policy directs that all written assignments and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization and proper documentation of research sources. For further information, please refer to the University of Calgary Calendar section on writing across the curriculum: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

### Grading & Department of Communication, Media and Film Grade Scale

The following table outlines the grade scale percentage equivalents used in the Department of Communication, Media and Film. Final grades are reported as letter grades. For components graded using percentages or numerical scores, those values will be used directly in calculating the final course grade, while for components graded using letter grades, the letter grades will be converted to the midpoint values listed in the final column of the table below in calculating the final course grade.

All assignments will receive letter grades.

Grade Point Value	Description	Grade	Dept of CMF grade scale equivalents*	Letter grade % equivalent for calculations*
4.00	Outstanding performance	A+	96 - 100%	98.0%
4.00	Excellent performance	A	90 - 95.99%	93.0%
3.70	Approaching excellent performance	A -	85 - 89.99%	87.5%
3.30	Exceeding good performance	B+	80 - 84.99%	82.5%
3.00	Good performance	B	75 - 79.99%	77.5%
2.70	Approaching good performance	B-	70 - 74.99%	72.5%
2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance	C+	65 - 69.99%	67.5%
2.00	Satisfactory performance	C	60 - 64.99%	62.5%
1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance	C-	55 - 59.99%	57.5%
1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	D+	53 - 54.99%	54.0%
1.00	Minimal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	D	50 - 52.99%	51.5%
0.00	Failure. Did not meet course	F	0 - 49.99%	0%

	requirements.			
--	---------------	--	--	--

\* Column 4: If percentages are used to calculate final grades, then grades falling within these ranges will be translated to the corresponding letter grades. Column 5: These percentage equivalents will be used for calculating final grades unless an alternative method of final grade calculation is outlined above.

### **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. These requirements apply to all assignments and sources, including those in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media.

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.

For information on citation and documentation styles (MLA, APA, Chicago, IEEE, etc.), visit the Student Success Centre resource links at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support> or the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) Research and Citation Resources at [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/resources.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/resources.html)

If you need help with your writing or have questions about citing sources, please consult your instructor or visit the Student Success Centre, 3rd floor, Taylor Family Digital Library. To book an appointment, go to [https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success?utm\\_source=ssc&utm\\_medium=redirect&utm\\_campaign=redirect](https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success?utm_source=ssc&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=redirect)

### **Instructor Intellectual Property & Copyright Legislation**

Course materials created by the instructor (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the same course section and term may be allowed under fair dealing. Check with the instructor if you have any questions about sharing materials with classmates.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **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, including surveys, interviews, or observations as part of your university studies, you are responsible for obtaining research ethics approval and for following university research ethics guidelines. In some cases, your instructors may apply for course-based research ethics approval for certain assignments, and in those cases, they must review and approve your research plans and supervise your research. For more information about your research ethics responsibilities, please see <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/research/arts-researchers/resources-researchers-and-instructors/ethics>

### **Deferrals of Course Work and Requests for Reappraisal**

For university regulations and procedures related to deferrals of exams and course work, requests for reappraisals, and other matters, please see the relevant sections in the University Calendar: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html>

### **Student Support Services and Resources**

Please visit <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information about student support services and resources, including Wellness and Mental Health Resources, Student Success programs and services, the Student Ombuds Office, the Student Union, and Safewalk. For resources on D2L, visit <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students>. IT support is available at [itsupport@ucalgary.ca](mailto:itsupport@ucalgary.ca) or by calling 403-220.5555.

### **Schedule of Lecture Topics and Readings**

Lecture Schedule CMCL 305 – Fall 2019

Abbreviations: HR = The Human Record – Sources of Global History, Vol II [sections, not page numbers]

TPB =Traversing Philosophical Boundaries [sections, not page numbers]

Sept. 6 – no tutorial

Sept. 9: Introduction – Key Concepts, Structure of Course

Part I – Life and Death

Sept. 11: Gender Issues – HR 6 (Alberti) & 8 (Dodd and Cleaver)

Sept. 16: The Life of the Self in Ancient India and the Modern West – TPB 1.1 Upanishads; 1.2 Locke; 1.4 Hume

Sept. 18: Reformed Life in East Asia and ‘Deformed’ Life Colonized Mexico – HR 23 [‘Meritorious Deeds at No Cost’], 24 (Ekiken), 21 (Gonzalo Gomez De Cervantes)

Sept. 23: Life as Progress and Purity – HR 30 (Condorcet), 32 (Smith), 48 (Mabuchi)

Sept. 25: Modernity and the Existentialist Turn in the West – TPB 1.16 Sartre; 1.17 de Beauvoir

## Part II – Freedom and Slavery

Sept. 30: Revolutionary Freedom in the West – TPB 5.2 Rousseau; 5.3 Declaration of Independence; HR 34 (English Bill of Rights), 35 (Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen)

Oct. 2: Modernity and Revolution in the West – TPB 5.5 Marx; 5.10 Mill; 5.11 Camus

Oct. 7: Civil Disobedience and Anarchism – TPB 5.16 Thoreau; 5.17 Goldman

Oct. 9: Unfreedom in a the Context of Race and Gender -- HR 17 (Mbemba & Joao), 40 (Equiano), 14 (Ramli), 59 (Pankhurst)

Oct. 14 – no class

Oct. 16: Cultural Clash and the Response to Imperialism: TPB 2.7 Diamond; HR 20 (De Vries), 66 (Azamgarh Proclamation), 67 (Naoroji), 74 (Boxer Documents)

Oct. 21: Response to Racism – TPB 5.13 King, 5.15 Carmichael

## Part III – Wisdom and Folly

Oct. 23: Non-Western Ways of Viewing Reality – TPB 2.4 Cherokee Storytelling; 2.9 Lao Tzu

Oct. 28: Modernist Knowledge in the West – HR 9 (Galileo); TPB 3.1 Descartes; 3.2 Locke

Oct. 30: Technological Upheaval In the West and some Non-Western Responses – HR 51 (Guest); 53 (Howard); 65 (Roy); 69 (Shozan)

Nov. 4: Pragmatic Wisdom in the West and East – TPB 3.5 James; 2.14 Nishida

Nov. 6: Intuitive Wisdom – TPB 2.13 Bergson; 3.8 Benally

Nov. 10-16 – no classes

## Part IV – Good and Evil

Nov. 18: The Search for Purity – HR 4 (Luther); 53 (Selim, Ismail); 43 (Wahhab);

Nov. 20: Rational Morality – HR 29 (Voltaire); TPB 4.3 Kant; 4.4 Bentham

Nov. 25: Spiritual Struggle in a Modernist Mode – TPB 6.4 Kierkegaard; 4.9 Nietzsche

Nov. 27: Modernist Morality and Mysticism –TPB 4.6 Radhakrishnan; 4.10 Ed McGaa; 6.7 Starhawk

Dec. 2: Modernist Morality and Protest – TPB 4.12 Daly; 6.6 Gutierrez

Dec. 4: Summary and Review

### **Assignment Guide:**

Assignment #1 due Sept. 30 (20%):

Identify 2-4 FCAs (Fundamental Cultural Assumptions) from text quotes that express them.

Draw creative comparisons between them and your own FPAs (Fundamental Personal Assumptions).

Explore which FCA needs alteration in terms of contemporary challenges and which should be maintained.

Assignment #2 due Nov. 6 (30%):

Do the same with a focus on texts from Parts II and III (given above). This assignment may be done as a group project (with the maximum number in a group being 5 individuals).

### **Key Course Terms:**

Fundamental Cultural Assumptions

The presuppositions (sometimes unconscious) by which a culture interprets the world and understands the purpose of life.

Fundamental Personal Assumptions

The presuppositions (sometimes unconscious) by which an individual interprets the world and understands the purpose of life.

Internal and External

Internal is that sphere of reality pertaining to consciousness in all its aspects, while the external pertains to a non-conscious sphere of reality.

Life-Death

These are assumptions associated with a person's life narrative, which ends in death. Assumptions pertaining to that latter evolve over time and are different in the context of specific world civilizations.

Freedom-Slavery

These relate to the inter-personal power relations between people.

Wisdom-Folly

Wisdom is associated with valid interpretation of what is real while folly is associated with a flawed or incorrect understanding. Naturally these change over time and cultural context.

Good-Evil

Good is associated with positive valuation whereas evil is linked to devaluation.