

Communication and Culture CMCL 501 L02
Modernity
Fall 2012
Mon/Wed 12:30 - 1:50 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Linda Vennard
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Office Hours: Mon/Wed 11:00-12:00 noon

Additional Information

Instructor is also available by appointment.

Course Description

“Modernity” encompasses the time from the scientific revolution of the Baroque period to just after World War I (i.e. approximately 1600 – 1921). While there is obviously an historical chronological series of important events during that time period, this course is concerned with the ‘thought history’ – the intellectual, social, philosophical, religious and scientific thought, discovery and insights of the era. “Modernity” is typically associated with industrialization and the rise of capitalism, and we will expand our inquiry beyond this to include other elements comprising and weaving the rich tapestry of “Modernity”. Our focus will be the ideas, thoughts, insights and discoveries of key figures – the thinkers, scientists, artists and political figures – and include Descartes, Hobbes, Galileo, Locke, Diderot, Rousseau, Kant, Darwin, Marx, Freud, as well as Carvaggio, Rubens, Rembrandt, Bernini, Milton, Goya, Goethe, Mozart and Bach, to name several. Our inquiry begins with the Baroque world, and we will move through the Eighteenth Century, the Romantic Era, as well as India China, Japan and the Western World. Our examination of the scientific, philosophical, religious and artistic thought of the past includes a close examination of art and architecture. We will view these artifacts as ancestral voices continuing to speak across time and space, communicating and expressing the values, beliefs and life worlds of the past.

Students will discover and learn to appreciate our past and examine perspectives on basic issues that have always confronted humanity – the meaning of life, death, morality, justice and social order, knowledge and knowing, religion and science, work, economics and politics - and integrate these major influences comprising the period known as “Modernity”. Our inquiry will be structured around four streams: (1) Religion; (2) Philosophy; (3) Science and Technology; and (4) Art, each of which will be emphasized at different times, and all of which will be integrated into an overall understanding of “Modernity”.

Objectives of the Course

- To develop and demonstrate understanding of the intellectual, social, philosophical, religious and scientific thought and discoveries of key figures contributing to “Modernity”.
- To develop and demonstrate ability to comprehend, evaluate and meaningfully comment on assigned readings.
- To develop and articulate conceptual understanding of interdisciplinary relationships.
- To reflect on personal insights and relevance of foundational theoretical thought and intellectual frameworks.
- Situate their own thoughts and viewpoints within “Modernity”
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of our cultural past
- Share and appreciate the diverse viewpoints and perspectives of their colleagues
- Develop written, oral and presentation skills.

Internet and electronic communication device information

Students are encouraged to bring their laptops, the use of which will be during designated times in class and only for purposes of the class, and otherwise not permitted. No texting or cell phone use permitted in class.

Textbooks and Readings:

Required:

Lawrence S. Cunningham and John J. Reich, *Culture and Values - A Survey of the Humanities*, Vol. II, 7th Edition, With Readings, Boston: Wadsworth 2010, ISBN 978-0-495-56926-8.

Edgar. E. Knoebel, ed. *Classics of Western Thought*, Vol. III, 4th Edition, Toronto: Nelson Thomson Learning, 1992, ISBN-13: 978-0-15-507684-6; ISBN-10: 0-15-507684-1.

Donald S. Gochberg, ed., *World Literature and Thought*, Vol. III, *The Modern World to 1900*, Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1980, ISBN 0-15-500921-4.

Additional online reading/resources will be posted.

Assignments and Evaluation:

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| • Take Home Assignments (3 X 10%) (see below for dates): | 30% |
| • Concept Map and Essay (due November 26): | 25% |
| • Paired Key Reading Presentation and Enrichment: | 10% |
| • Small Group Project: | 35% |
| • Proposal/Outline and Annotated Bibliography (October 3): | 5% |
| • Research Paper (December 5): | 25% |
| • Project Presentation (December 3/5): | 5% |

Take Home Assignments - Connections and Insights (3 X 10%) = 30%

There are three Take-Home Essay Assignments (each worth 10%, for a total of 30%). Each Assignment involves analyzing and integrating assigned readings and lecture material into a maximum three (3) (double-spaced) page essay addressing a specific question posed by the Instructor. The Instructor will make the Take Home Assignments available on Blackboard on the dates below and a hard copy of each is due at the beginning of class one week later. No late Assignments will be accepted. Students will be invited (but not required) to briefly present their essays in class. Further details and an example will be given the first day of class.

	Assignment Availability Date	Assignment Due Date
Take Home Assignment #1	October 3, 2012	October 10, 2012
Take Home Assignment #2	October 24, 2012	October 31, 2012
Take Home Assignment #3	November 7, 2012	November 14, 2012

Concept Map and Essay (25%) due: November 26, 2012

Students will create a concept map over the length of the course. The concept map is an individual learning tool for Students to map and visualize their personal and formal connections between key concepts they identify as particularly important or relevant to them in their intellectual development. Students will map at three levels: (1) historical 'facts', figures and concepts; (2) connections between the concepts; and (3) their personal insights and connections. Near the end of the course Students will have class time to review and synthesize their concept maps into a 5-8 (double-spaced) page essay summarizing their intellectual journey through the course, and highlighting key insights and connections they made. Students will be invited (but not required) to briefly present their concept maps in class. Further details and an example will be provided on the first day of class.

Paired Key Reading and Enrichment Presentation (10%)

Working in pairs, Students will select from a list of assigned readings and prepare and deliver a 15 minute presentation and submit a two (double-spaced) page summary (hard copy). Students are expected to highlight the main points of the readings, and 'enrich' the reading/topic. For this component Students are encouraged to draw on their own cultural heritages, background, personal experiences and interests. Advance Instructor approval of the 'enrichment' is required. Sign-up for dates and topics is the second week of class, and presentations will be distributed throughout the course. Further details and an example will be provided the first day of class.

Small Group Project (35%)

Working in small groups of 4, Students will prepare an 8-10 (double-spaced) page essay, addressing a major theme and integrating relevant course material. The Instructor will provide a preliminary list of topics the first day of class, and invite Students to suggest topics. The Instructor will prepare a final list and in the second week of class Students will form groups and select topics. Further details and the preliminary topic list will be provided the first day of class. The Project comprises three components:

- **Proposal/Outline and Annotated Bibliography (5%)** – due October 3, 2012

Each group will prepare a two page (double-spaced) Proposal/Outline specifying their topic and outlining the initial steps taken and resources accessed, and an Annotated Bibliography (including 4-6 academic sources beyond the assigned texts, which should take an additional 1-2 pages).

- **Final Paper (25%)** - due December 5, 2012

Students will prepare an essay of 8-10 (double spaced) pages, addressing their chosen topic and connecting their analysis with course material. Additional research and reading beyond assigned texts is required. Further details will be provided the first day of class.

- **Project Presentation (5%)** – final week of class (December 3 and 5, 2012)

Students will present their Final Papers in a presentation during the last week of the course (estimated to be 15 minutes in length but will depend on number of Students enrolled).

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: No

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.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam from SS320 after classes have ended.**

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Writing Skills Statement

Department policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. For details see <http://www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/needtoknow>. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc) but also general clarity and organization. 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: www.efwr.ucalgary.ca

Grading System

The following grading system is used in the Department of Communication and Culture:

(Revised, effective September 2008)

	Grading Scale
A+	96-100
A	90-95.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	65-69.99
C	60-64.99
C-	55-59.99
D+	53-54.99
D	50-52.99
F	0-49

Where a grade on a particular assignment is expressed as a letter grade, it will normally be converted to a number using the midpoint of the scale. That is, A- would be converted to 87.5 for calculation purposes. F will be converted to zero.

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. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources.

Please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (MacEwan Student Centre 4th floor, efwr.ucalgary.ca) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Academic Misconduct

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

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237) and discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of the course.

Students' Union

For details about the current Students' Union contacts for the Faculty of Arts see <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/governance/elections/home.html>

Student Ombudsman

For details on the Student Ombudsman's Office see <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

Emergency Evacuation and Assembly points

For information on the emergency evacuation procedures and the assembly points see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

"SAFEWALK" Program -- 220-5333

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot booths.

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

The Department of Communication and Culture Research Ethics site:
<http://www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/ethics>

or the University of Calgary Research Ethics site:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/cfreb>

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

A schedule of lectures and readings, as well as detailed assignment descriptions, will be provided on the first day of class.