

**University of Calgary
Department of Communication and Culture**

**Communication and Culture CMCL 501 L02
Modernity**

Fall 2014

**September 8 to December 5, 2014
(Excluding October 13 and November 8-11, 2014)
T/Th: 12:30-13:45**

Instructor: Dr. Linda Vennard
Office Location: SS214
Office Phone: TBA
E-Mail: vennard@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Monday 12:00-2:00, or by appointment

Course Description

A critical and interdisciplinary examination, via classic texts, of the meaning of Modernity in Western and non-Western contexts. Focus will be on the major ideas and principles, and their implications within the time-frame of the 17th to early 20th centuries.

Additional Information

This course is designed to encourage and include substantial class discussion and activities to illustrate and reinforce content; regular attendance is expected.

Objectives of the Course

- (1) Gain an overview of the cultural configuration known as 'Modernity';
- (2) Develop and demonstrate understanding of the intellectual, social, philosophical, religious and scientific thought and discoveries of key figures contributing to "Modernity".
- (3) Learn how to interpret classic texts in an inter-cultural context;
- (4) Understand Modernity from a critical perspective and come up with cultural strategies that may help to heal some of the dysfunctions associated with modernity;
- (5) Explore Modernity from a variety of perspectives;
- (6) Develop writing and presentation skills.

Textbooks and Readings:

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

D. Gochberg, Surjit Dulai, Anibal Gonzalez. Edward Graham, Kenneth W. Harrow and P. Melendez, eds. *World Literature and Thought, Vol. III, The Modern World to 1900* (Fort Worth: Harcourt, 2001).

E. Knoebel, ed., *Classics of Western Thought, Vol. III, The Modern World* (n.p.: Wadsworth, Thomson Learning, 1988).

L.S. Cunningham and John J. Reich, *Culture and Values, Vol. II, 7th ed. With Readings* (Boston: Wadsworth, 2010).

Additional online readings will be posted on D2L.

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.

Assignments and Evaluation:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Small Group Project Proposal: | September 23 (5%) |
| • Reflective Journal Submission #1: | September 30 (10%) |
| • Test #1): | October 7 (15%) |
| • Reflective Journal Submission #2: | October 28 (10%) |
| • Test #2: | November 4 (15%) |
| • Reflective Journal Submission #3: | November 18 (10%) |
| • Small Group Project Paper | December 2 (20%) |
| • Small Group Project Presentation: | December 2 (5%) |
| • Participation: | Ongoing (10%) |

About the Reflective Journal

The purpose of the Reflective Journal is to ensure students do the readings and reflect on each reading with a 1-2 page entry (single-spaced) that touches on some of the following themes:

- (1) How does the text embody fundamental culture assumptions? What are they?

- (2) How does the text embody its unit theme (fate/freedom, reason/passion, etc.)?
- (3) What quotation best exemplifies the message of the text?
- (4) What is your personal reaction to the text in view of lectures, class discussions, your own life experience, etc.?
- (5) What piece of music, film, ad (etc.) reflects the essence of the text, and why?
- (6) What cultural differences between the text and your culture are particularly striking to you, and why?
- (7) How could you express the message of the text in a medium in which you like to work (e.g. photography, rap, haiku, graphic art, etc.?)

The grade for each submission will be based on entries randomly chosen by the Instructor (which will include any clearly indicated entry the student wishes to have examined), and how comprehensive the journal actually is. Marks will be deducted if the journal contains less than 75% of the readings assigned up to the point of submission. While comprehensiveness is crucial, originality and depth, according to the aforementioned criteria, are also important.

Students will be encouraged to share journal entries with the class in class time, and on D2L.

Students will submit the entire journal at three points during the course:

- Reflective Journal Submission #1: September 30 (10%)
- Reflective Journal Submission #2: October 28 (10%)
- Reflective Journal Submission #3: November 18 (10%)

About the Tests:

- **Test #1** (15%) on October 7 will contain multiple choice and/or short answer or short essay questions. It will cover the required readings, lecture material and all other material covered to that point in the course.
- **Test #2** (15%) on November 4 is noncumulative and will contain multiple choice and/or short answer or short essay questions. It will cover the required readings, lecture material and all other material covered to that point in the course (after Test #1).

About the Group Project:

Working in groups of four (4), students will prepare a 10-12 (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. The project comprises 30% of the mark in the course, and has three components:

- Part 1: Paper Proposal (5%, due September 23)
 - Each group will prepare a 1-2 (double-spaced) page Paper Proposal for their research project stating their topic and outlining their preliminary views.
- Part 2: Final Paper (20%, due December 2);
 - Students will prepare an essay of 10-12 (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.
- Part 3: Presentation (5%, December 2 and 4)
 - During the last week of classes each group will present their project to the class in a presentation of approximately 10 minutes

Further details of each component will be provided the first day of class.

About Participation (10%): ongoing

Participation (10%) through regular attendance and participation in class discussion and activities is an essential component of the course. Students are expected to attend classes and participate; “participation” is not only attendance per se but contributing to each other’s learning and participating in the creation of a positive atmosphere and learning environment.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: NO

You do not need to complete all assignments and exams in order to receive a passing grade in the course.

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 the following grading system used in the Department of Communication and Culture.

| Grade | Department grade scale equivalents | Letter grade % equivalent for calculations |
|--------------|---|---|
| A+ | 96 - 100% | 98.0% |
| A | 90 - 95.99% | 93.0% |
| A - | 85 - 89.99% | 87.5% |
| B+ | 80 - 84.99% | 82.5% |
| B | 75 - 79.99% | 77.5% |
| B- | 70 - 74.99% | 72.5% |
| C+ | 65 - 69.99% | 67.5% |
| C | 60 - 64.99% | 62.5% |
| C- | 55 - 59.99% | 57.5% |

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|-------|
| D+ | 53 - 54.99% | 54.0% |
| D | 50 - 52.99% | 51.5% |
| F | 00 - 49.99% | 0% |

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. 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>

This course does 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

Posted on D2L