

Humanities 103.01, Exploring Cultures in Modern and Contemporary Societies, Fall Quarter 2009

Topic: World War One and Cultural Change: The Creation of the Modern

Instructor: Ken Munsell, **Time:** 10:00 to 10:50 P.M. in L&L 314

Office Hours: 11: 00 to 11: 50 A. M. daily (or by appointment) in L&L 100-H. **Phone:** 963-1459. **Email:** munsellk@cwu.edu

Books: *The Sun Also Rises*, by Ernest Hemingway,
The First World War: A Very Short Introduction, by Michael Howard,
World War One British Poets, by Rupert Brooke, Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, Robert Graves and others,
Dada: The Revolt of Art, by Marc Dachy,
Selected Writings and Speeches of Marcus Garvey, by Marcus Garvey,
Humanities 103 World War I Course Pack, available at the University Bookstore (Wildcat Shop).

Welcome to Humanities 103. This course has a topical focus and may cover different topics, depending on the quarter and the teacher. This quarter, we will look at the explosive changes that occurred in the philosophical and artistic world in the 14 years from 1900 to the beginning of World War I (The Great War) in 1914. It will then briefly show how the war intensified many of these changes. Lastly, the course will examine the first decade after the war and how the horrors of the World War determined new paths for the arts, philosophy and the humanistic pursuits. The course will take a world perspective and look not just at Europe, but also, the United States, Revolutionary Russia, the May 4th Movement in China and the war's impact on the African Diaspora.

Course Description and Grading

You must read the course pack and books thoroughly and are responsible for the material contained in them. You are also responsible for the material given in lectures. Lectures often cover *different* subjects than the books. In order to pass, you must be familiar with both the lectures and the readings. It is important that you attend each class, participate in discussions and ask questions. This is basically a lecture course. Feel free, however, to ask questions and make comments during any class.

There are 400 total points in the class and each assignment is worth 100 points. Grades include two in-class tests and a comprehensive final over all of the material presented. Each test counts 25 percent (100 points), for a total of 75 percent (300 points) of the grade. Tests consist of essay questions and short answer identification. ***You must use bluebooks and write in pen.*** I also assign one 100 point paper for a total of 25 percent (100 points) of the final grade. ***Students must complete all assignments in order to pass the class.*** There is no extra credit.

The first in-class test is October 26th and the second is November 24th. The final is Tuesday December 8th, from 12:00 to 2:00 P.M. It covers material from the entire course. Remember to bring bluebooks and many pens for your tests. Students with special needs or disabilities are encouraged to contact the instructor or the office of Disability Services at (509) 963-2171 for additional disability-related educational accommodations. **Use of electronic devices such as blackberries, phones, etc. is not permitted in class.**

Class Writing Project

Term paper. Students must write a five page essay: **due on November 30th** during class (**see the back of this page for further instructions**). Late papers drop one letter grade for each day late. For example, a B+ paper turned in two days late receives a D+ grade. **IMPORTANT:** In all cases, students must turn in their paper, if it is late, within one week of the original deadline and make a good faith effort in order to receive credit for it and to pass the class.

Course Outcomes

At course completion students should be able to 1) reconstruct the chronology and give the significance of important events and people in the history of the modern humanities; 2) reconstruct patterns of change and understand how the arts and humanities influence interpretations of events; 3) interpret historical documents, artistic artifacts and literary works in the perspective of their time; 4) use historical facts, metaphors and interpretations to analyze current trends in their historical context. 5) Understand the meaning of cultural artifacts and their effect on the modern world.

Instructions for the Term Paper for Humanities 103.01 Fall Quarter, 2009

The five to seven page course paper will be based on the material that we will cover during our class on "World War I and Cultural Change." We will be looking at a diverse selection of readings that explain some of the changes that occurred as a result of the First World War. The paper is an argument paper and you should develop a thesis, find information that supports your argument in both the readings and individual research and then come to defensible conclusions.

In all cases, you must talk to me about your thesis and how you will develop it and you must receive my approval. This should be done by the third week of class. You must provide good, thorough analysis of the material. **Good papers are papers that emphasize analysis over narration.** In all cases, you must evaluate and analyze the material found in the book and you must convince the instructor that you have read it.

Paper Topic

Since the course material is diverse, there are many directions that you can go with the paper. I would like you to look at the assigned books and course pack readings and then decide which area of thought art, literature, etc., that you want to investigate further. Some general topics could include the thought of Nietzsche and Freud, the impact of new technologies such as the automobile and the airplane, the poetry of World War I, how the Russian Revolution impacted art, how the Chinese May 4th Movement affected that country, why the Lost Generation developed, the impact of the African American Great Migration on American culture, among many others. Building on the readings in the area that you select, develop a topic and thesis that will illuminate some aspects of the arts and humanities in the years between 1900 and 1930. Then write a five to seven page paper that develops the thesis and comes to a defensible conclusion about how your subject impacted society.

You must support your opinions **and use material from both the readings and your outside research to back them up.** Note that cited material from both are required. Advocate something if you think the readings and research support your conclusion. If you strongly disagree with something, say so. However, all of your arguments must be backed up by facts. **I expect you to cite the information that you use.** Do not use the internet, Wikipedia, etc. for your cited research. Instead, use books such as found in the library, journals, articles, etc. Electronic format articles such as those on JSTOR are permitted. If you have access to material that does not fall under the guidelines, ask about them and we can discuss them. **Use Chicago Style** (sometimes called "Turabian") for footnotes or endnotes. Do not use MLA style. You should use the style book, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations* by Kate L. Turabian as a guide. It is available from any local bookstore.

Grading and Format

The paper is due during class on November 30th, and is 25 percent of the total class grade. The paper must be turned in within one week of the due date and a good faith effort made in order to complete the assignment. Students who do not complete the assignment will fail the course. For every day late after the due date that the paper is late, it will lose one letter grade. In other words, a B+ paper turned in two days late, will receive a D+ grade. **Do not plagiarize. All paragraphs, sections, phrasing, etc., must be in your own words.** Plagiarized papers receive an automatic failing grade and students who plagiarize or engage in any form of academic dishonesty fail the course. If you have *any* questions about whether something is plagiarized, ask *before* turning in the paper. Remember: always use your own words, not the author's.

Since this assignment is part of the university's Writing Across the Curriculum program, the grade will involve an evaluation of a combination of good writing, good spelling, grammar and intellectual content. Please give an analysis of the material presented—don't just relate strings of facts. Be sure to proofread and check your spelling. Grammar, spelling and correct sentence structure are very important and are evaluated.

The paper must be typewritten and doublespaced. Handwritten papers are not accepted. The paper must also have standard margins and **feature a cover page with your name, date and class section number.** For those of you who are computer whizzes, use standard fonts, standard type sizes (not larger than 12

point), standard kerning, etc. Since I do much typesetting and page layout, I know the tricks. If you have any questions about these requirements, remember to ask **before** you turn in the paper.