



Mini Syllabus

HUM 260 Twentieth Century Culture, 3 credits

Instructor – David H. McGee

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Course Description

Explores literature, visual arts, philosophy, music, and history of our time from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Prerequisites

None

Textbook

Gloria Fiero. *The Humanistic Tradition. Book 6: Modernism, Globalism, and the Information Age.* 5th ed. McGraw Hill.

Technical Requirements

Usual online skills

Typical Course Components and Activities

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

The classroom of this course is an electronic one in which active participation through online discussion forums and group projects is not only encouraged but required. Student participation is measured in the number and quality of contributions to discussion forums and group projects in the Communication section of the course. Individual writing assignments and tests make up the other parts of the course.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Discussion Forums - 30% of total grade. Students must participate in each of the discussion forums (usually one, although sometimes two discussions for each module) available in the Discussion Board component of the Communication. Students should share ideas and react to prompts and responses from the instructor and classmates. **Remember, these are supposed to be informed discussions--just simply saying "I agree" or "That's a great idea" will not get you any points.** The Icebreaker listed in the Assignments section should help you get used to this type of communication activity.

Map Quizzes (2) - 10% of total grade. Understanding the where and when of history is important. There will be three map quizzes during the semester. (Note: this will be one of the easier parts of your grade).

Individual Writing - 15% of total grade. Students will complete **ONE** writing assignments. These will be thought-piece essays. The instructor will specify which types of writing assignments for each module. **You will have choices as to which essay you wish to write. As a result, there will be different due dates depending on which ones you choose.** The "History Grab Bag" in the "How This Course Works" folder in this Course Information section contains

useful information for writing about history. You will be well advised to read this document to assist you in your writing assignments. Also, be sure to check the writing section in the "Assignment Completion Guide" in the Assignments section for advice on document format. Guides for using Microsoft Word® are also available in the Libraries section at the top of the External Links section.

Group Project -- 15% of total grade. Students will work in teams to select model websites that can be used to further an interested person's knowledge of history. Each team will be responsible for locating and then selecting a set of websites dealing with a particular topic.

Multiple Choice/Objective Question Tests - 30% of total grade. Each student will take 4 multiple choice/objective question (usually matching) tests during the semester. These tests will be online and will be submitted via Blackboard. All quizzes or examinations will be available during the period listed in the Schedule of Assignments in the Tests folder located in the Assignments section of the course. **Caution:** The quizzes folder contains electronic tests taken online. As soon as you open the Tests folder and click on a "Take Test" button, the test begins. If you then close the test before taking or completing it, a grade of "0" will be recorded in the instructor's electronic grade book. Do not take a test until you are ready and can work at your computer without interruption. If you have one line for telephone and computer, unplug your telephone before beginning your quiz. See the Announcements Section for critical information about taking a test in Blackboard.

Additional Information

OUTLINE

You will have approximately two weeks to complete each module.

Module 1: Birth of the Modern World

Module 2: Early 20th Century Modernism

Module 3: Psychology and Culture

Module 4: Total War and Totalitarianism

Module 5: Searching for Meaning in a Nuclear Age

Module 6: Liberation and Equality Create a World-Wide Culture

Module 7: Birth of the Information Age

Module 8: It's the End of the World as We Know It (Do You Feel Fine)

*Course syllabi are tentative and subject to change.