The 20th Century

**Valencia College**

**HUM2250**

**CRN 23491**

**MW 2:30-3:45**

**Building 5 Room 229**

**This class is for three credit hours**

**Prerequisite: ENC 1101**

**To withdraw with a “W,” 4/1/2016**

**Please consult advisors about the effect of withdraw on your student loans, etc.**

**Professor Bob G. Warren**

The Twentieth Century is the precursor of the time in which we presently find ourselves. The complex mixture of ideas in science and the arts is heavily influenced and rooted in the heady times of modernity’s birth, with some of the ideas going even further back to the dawn of history, perhaps even further. For the purposes of this class, we will start with the Enlightenment precursors and move forward through time into the Twentieth Century to see how the intellectual climate of today’s world became manifested. In this class we will be looking at some big ideas and following their intellectual history through time. Though historical context is necessary, this is not a history class, this is a class about how humanity defines itself, how society and the individual are valued. Toward this aim, it is my interest to foster critical thinking and to make you more aware of your own thought process. This is a discussion based class with emphasis on textual readings and meanings. I use PowerPoint, lecture, discussion, and documentaries along with lecture in order to foster a deeper understanding of these big ideas of which we shall speak.

**Email Rules:**

I will not answer an email that does not identify the class (prefix and CRN) and the time and the day, as well, of course, the issue. You should write your email using full grammatical rules and sign it respectfully. I will never answer an email regarding material you missed in class due to absence. I repeat, I will not answer email with no prefix, CRN, subject or with questions about what you missed if you were absent, so if you are wondering why you are not getting answers to your email, I will know you have not looked at the syllabus. If there is a credible reason, make an appointment to come by and ask me in person. I will be more than happy to discuss it with you in that manner.

***Do not******submit assignments via E-mail without prior approval!***

**Office Hours**

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| **Professor Warren Office Hours**  **Bwarren11@valenciacollege.edu ext 1250 Office: 5-248** | **Making an appointment is always a better idea, but you are welcome to drop by my office any time I am available.** |
| **M:11:00-1:00;T:1:00-2:00,4:00-6:00;W:11:00-1:00;R:1:00-2:00;F: 6-8pm(email)** | **If you need to make a special appointment or need to talk to me for any reason, please feel free to approach me and make arrangements.**  **If I am here, and you have a question of any kind, please feel free to drop in** |

**Required Texts & Materials:**

***Anxiety and The Prospect of Hope: Readings in the Twentieth Century and Beyond***

**Behavior and other rules:**

**How you could potentially get withdrawn from the class….make sure you read.**

**You, the student, are responsible for withdrawing yourself, but I may withdraw you for other reasons, depending on the situation; being interruptive, annoying, or disrespectful to your peers or your instructor are all valid reasons. Overtly racist or bigoted comments about sexual orientation, race, gender, nationality, religion or creed, politics, etc, may, upon my discretion, get you withdrawn, or your grades may suffer dramatically. This typically will only happen if you are intentionally rude. I encourage critical thinking and academic questioning. Legitimate critical thinking is absolutely not considered rude or disrespectful, but it must be done within an academic framework for the purposes of this classes academic goals. Mere personal opinion, while important to each of us, is not particularly valuable in academics, though it may help inspire your critical drive. Keep this in mind …we must all work together in the class discussions, and while I want there to be open honest discussion, I do not want you to forget your manners and your ethics when dealing with other people. If you do not reflective on the ethics of your approach to social interaction, now would be as good a time to start. When in doubt, feel free to ask.**

**Attendance and Tardiness:**

**Every student is expected to attend every class.**  Students **arriving late** or **leaving early** will be documented; two tardies/self-dismissals will result in an absence. **Excessive absences mean I can withdraw you from the course; missing a week or more of instruction in a fifteen-week class greatly reduces your chances of being successful. I reserve the right to fail anyone who misses more than a week and turns in only seventy-five percent of their work, rather than drop you from the class, so please keep this in mind. It is your responsibility to show up for a class and know what is happening in a class. If you have challenges at any point in the semester please bring this to my attention so we can work out what is the best alternative for you as a student. If you are proactive about possible problems, that is much better. Waiting until after there is a problem may end up costing you points or worse, depending on the scenario.**

“We [empiricists] never prove a theory right; we merely fail to prove it wrong.” Karl Popper:

**Other class protocol: You may lose points, be counted as not present, be asked to leave if you do not keep these rules in mind. What I will do is at my discretion.**

* **Please avoid getting up in the middle of class to use the restroom, make/answer a call etc., unless you have a medical condition documented in writing by the OSD. If we watch a documentary, you may not go to the restroom unless it is an emergency, or you may be asked to stay outside, wait till the documentary is over and be counted absent.**
* **There will be NO general NEED, for you to have an iPod, recorder, phone, or computer (laptop) in class. IF YOU PLAN TO USE A LAPTOP, YOU BETTER ASK FIRST. I make exceptions for anyone that turns in a contractual understanding that is signed and dated about tech usage. This contract should state that you understand that you are to only use tech for the sole purposes of taking notes in class and that you understand that if you are caught doing something else, you automatically may fail the class outright.**
* **Please turn off or silence all cell phones BEFORE you get to class. Policy: Let’s vote! (Actually we didn’t vote, but you must dance for thirty seconds, either beside your desk, or in front of the class.)**
* **Falling asleep = absence. See above policy. If you fall asleep, you may be asked to leave the class.**
* **Students with disabilities/special needs should contact me with OSD forms for appropriate adjustments and/or accommodations in class. This is up to you. If you do not inform me that you have special needs, I officially do not know and do not have to accommodate you. I will try of course, but I need to know what you need to make the class work for you,.**

**If you miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to know what you missed and to make up the work. If you miss: I mentioned this earlier, but it cannot help but repeat….DO NOT CONTACT ME THE NEXT DAY AND ASK WHAT YOU MISSED!!!!**

**✓Notes and discussion: get highlights from a classmate; please do not count on me to fill you in.**

**✓ In-class activities: Only students who are PRESENT count.**

**✓Turning in an essay/written assignment:**  These papers **must** be submitted in person **and** **at the start of class** on the day they are due, UNLESS I SAY DIFFERENT. Any assignment turned in after this time will likely lose points. If you know you will miss one of these days, **turn it in early in class, or turn it in to the Fine Arts Office, 5-146, to have it time/date stamped and put in the appropriate mailbox…just tell them my name.** If these options are impossible, you must **get permission FROM ME, BEFORE THE DUE DATE, to send your assignment(s) via Atlas. I do not use blackboard at this time. *Do not leave work anywhere else, especially under my office doors.***

***All late work is subject to losing a letter grade at my discretion (10%) per day, including weekends. I do take into consideration that life is not fair and that things can get in the way, but it better be good. I sometimes have to follow these rules, but in the end I try my best to facilitate your learning.***

**Course Requirements & Grades:**

My rubric is professionally subjective in relation to the topic, grammatical in the sense that you either clearly communicate or not, and stylistic in the sense that you have a thesis and support it, but if you are eloquent while doing so, even better. Every support of your thesis is subject to point loss. Your thesis is subject to point loss, your conclusion is subject to point loss.

Here is the breakdown:

*100% = A*

Thesis = 30%

Body (support) = 30%

Conclusion = 30%

Grammar and style = 5% (If grammar clouds the thesis, body, Conclusion, etc., in a way that makes your paper impossible to understand, then you may still lose points in those areas if grammar is bad enough. This 5% ONLY REFERS TO: Comma splices, Fragments, run-ons, misused semi-colons, verb tense shifts, subject verb agreement, and titles properly addressed MLA if used, etc. If all of these above aspects are running badly though it could easily change the way in which the other parts of the paper work and will bleed over into that aspect of the grade.)

**Properly finished (stapled, class info, etc.) = 5% You come to class with the essay stapled, no folding corners, tearing corners, etc., although I will take paper clips. NO FOLDERS OR JACKETS ON THE ESSAYS, the thought is nice, but it simply a waste of money, material, and the cases slip around and are annoying when in a stack with other papers.**

Total = 100%

This is the basic rubric by which I will determine the grade of an essay. I will comment on each aspect of your essays. Since I am not teaching this as a composition instructor, I will be focusing my rubric on the four main aspects mentioned above: 1.Thesis construction 2. The Body paragraphs, specifically the effectiveness of your support, must work in conjunction with your thesis 3.Conclusion paragraph 4. Do you effectively use MLA 7 to show from where you information comes. This is essential, and if you do not remember you absolutely must understand what parenthetical documentation is. You must understand this, look it up, go ask about it at the writing lab, but it is essential to tell your reader on what authority you back up your thesis, and that requires you understand MLA rules.

**Each paper’s length is subject to change, though there will be an average length on most papers of four pages double-spaced.** I accept a maximum of fifty pages per essay in case you are a budding writer and would like to try to go for a larger more ambitious work. I support you in that, but make sure, if the paper is that long, that you have some idea of what you are doing, and please talk to me about your intentions before committing to a length of that nature.

I do look for **proofread papers** that strive to communicate ideas with an eye towards analysis. Though I stress that the ultimate source of your analysis is you, the student, **you must rely on supporting evidence from the analytical tools as well as the primary source material for your opinion to retain any validity.** In many ways you will be constructing a point of view out of preexisting ideas, but this is natural. You are students, non-professionals at mythology, etc., and there will be times when you merely need to show you understand. Novel thesis ideas are far and few in between, and must be supported with evidence, but if you think you have a novel idea, come see me and let’s find out. For you it is important to understand this is an ***exercise***; this is school, this is not a professional paper because you have no authority on your own, which means that support is non-optional.

In other words, though I respect you as students, and I respect your opinions in general, **I cannot accept your opinion academically unless you understand how exactly you have come to have your opinion and why you can have your opinion. This takes some amount of research and reading, taking clues from the class and the textbook, and any further reading you may elect to do on your own.** I always can suggest further reading on many topics.

Grammar may not be stressed, but it will be noticed if sloppy and bumpy when I am reading the paper and certainly if your grammar or your style is particularly bad, this will be reflected in your grade. When in doubt, go work on your skills in the writing lab, though please do not expect them to do your proofreading; they are there to help you help yourself with grammatical and conceptual difficulties, not to proofread.

**Revision Policy:**

Within two weeks of getting your essay back, if you feel you want to revise it for a better grade, or just to promote better writing, you have two weeks. Please do not push me on this. You may not revise a paper unless you meet the minimum requirement.

\*Please turn in the previously graded paper with the revision.

***Response papers, in-class work and the research paper, if there is one, MAY NOT be revised.***

**Academic Dishonesty:**

**Quite simply, all work that you turn in MUST be your own, original work. Any and all outside sources MUST BE documented, or you are committing plagiarism, an offense punishable by a failing grade on the assignment and/or a failing grade in the course. Ignorance of MLA citation is no defense; even inadvertent plagiarism subjects the writer to these consequences. Note that MLA is now in its seventh addition and many aspects have changed, which you should look up if you are in doubt.**

**Format for assignments:**

**All assignments written outside of class need to be word processed.**

**The Four Main Essays**

**The four main essays are equally 25% of your final grade, which may or may not be further affected by other factors mentioned in this syllabus. Each essay follows the section of lecture within that period of the class and will be using all the relevant information in their construction.**

**The following are the loose topics:**

**Essay One: The Birth of the Modern**

**Essay Two: Philosophy and Biology**

**Essay Three: Social Structure and the self**

**Essay Four: Into the Contemporary**

**Specific and well detailed prompts will be provided to you as we get within two weeks of each essays due date, as that is the time I allow you to construct each writing.**