

Hum 2250

20th Century Humanities

Everything is becoming science fiction. From the margins of an almost invisible literature has sprung the intact reality of the 20th Century.

– G. Ballard

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Valencia College
Fall Term 2014
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:

Credits -3

This course is an examination and integration of dominant ideas in 20th century Western culture as expressed in historical novels and films of the period. This course covers the period from pre-World War I to the present. It will focus on the creative forces that have shaped contemporary consciousness from the pioneering works of several world famous authors of fiction and films from several different cultures and countries. The requirement is that **every assignment MUST** be completed and submitted for a grade regardless of its lateness. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in removal from the class with either a F.

Required Texts:

"The Humanities: Culture Continuity, Change" Book 6 – Henry M. Sayre

Required Film Viewing:

You are to choose **three (3)** films from the following list. Following your viewing, you are to write a **one and one half (1 ½ - 2) two** page typed and double-spaced paper explaining how the film represents a piece of the 20th century.

Life is Beautiful, Rosewood, The Thin Red Line, Gandhi, Lawrence of Arabia, The Grapes of Wrath, The Whale Rider, Frida, Crash, Memoirs of a Geisha, Hotel Rwanda, Syriana, Lord of War, The Fountainhead, Boy'z N the Hood, Joy Luck Club, Full Metal Jacket, Wag the Dog, Mississippi Burning, Bend It Like Beckham, The Crying Game, Ray, A Clockwork Orange, The Endless Summer, City of God, Hair, West Side Story, Babel, Sand Pebbles, Juice, Shutter Island, Fried Green Tomatoes, The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, Eraser head, The Help, The Sound of Music.

Group Presentations:

Group work is an essential part of this class. If you have an ethical, philosophical, or work related problem with meeting outside of class to complete specific assignments, you should opt out of this class for one that does not rely as heavily on group work. Students will be assigned or choose groups for preparing a presentation, including visual and/or audio aids, based on different decades in the 20th Century. The presentation is to be 15 – 20 minutes in length and focus on the salient points of the groups assigned decade of the 20th century. Outside sources are strongly recommended to enhance the presentations.

Prerequisites:

ENC 1101, ENC 1101H or IDH 1110 with a C or better grade.

Course Objectives:

Students will develop an awareness of those issues at the forefront of world humanities from pre-World War I to the present. You will also acquire an understanding of those skills necessary to reach valid and insightful conclusions concerning material covered. From the assigned readings, class discussions, interviews, research, and observations, students will gain insights into the historical, philosophical, social, psychological, and political contexts that have brought us to our present place in society. Students will demonstrate an acceptable competency in oral and written work including use of MLA research skills.

Valencia Community College Competencies:

1. To think critically and make reasoned choices by acquiring, analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating knowledge,
2. To read, listen, write, and speak effectively,
3. To clarify personal strengths, values, and goals in relations to cultural values,
4. To have the knowledge and skills necessary for effective citizenship,

Withdrawal Deadline:

October 24, 2014

Attendance Policy:

Attendance in class is very important. Lateness is rude and inconsiderate and may result in the loss of valuable information. It is also a disruption to the class and the instructor. Absence from class is the loss of information that cannot be duplicated. The first **TWO** absences are given without any explanation. On the **THIRD** absence, you will be dropped from the course and receive a grade of **W**, **or at the teacher's discretion, remain in class but lose one letter grade on your final average for each absence after FOUR. In addition, every three times that you are late to class will be recorded as one absence.** When you are absent from class, it is **your responsibility to contact a group member and acquire all information necessary to proceed when you return to class. This includes having any assignments complete and prepared to be submitted or presented.**

Classroom Policies:

Late assignments will lose 10 points per day including weekends. Make-up tests will be given in only the most extraordinary circumstances. **Group work is an important part of this class and will require time outside of class for meetings. If you do not feel that you are capable of meeting these requirements, you should make another choice of class. Absence on the day of a presentation will mean a recorded grade of zero or, with a doctor's note, no grade.**

Student Conduct:

Valencia College is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge and learning as well as the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia College, a student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. For further detail, refer to the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.

Classroom Behavior:

Valencia College is dedicated to promoting honorable personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia, a student assumes the responsibility for knowing and abiding by the rules articulated in the Student Code of Conduct (6Hx28:10-03). The instructor reserves the right to refer students who engage in activities that are disruptive to the learning environment to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. The following list, though not exhaustive, includes things that are disruptive to the learning environment:

- Use of any electronic devices including but not restricted to Cell phones, iPods, and laptop computers (documentation from OSD will be taken into consideration). Students are not allowed to audiotape or videotape lectures.
- Preparing homework for other courses during class.
- Engaging in private conversations with classmates while class is in session.
- Being disruptive and/or being disrespectful to others.
- Excessive tardiness
- Leaving and re-entering the classroom while the class is in session.

In addition, Valencia College strives to provide a drug-free learning environment for all those involved in the academic experience. Our policy is as follows:

Policy:

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, Valencia College will take such steps as are necessary in order to adopt and implement a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by Valencia College students or employees on college premises or as part of any college activity.

Grades and the Format for Written Work:

All assignments and tests will be essays and require paragraph writing. **All papers not written in class must be typed and double-spaced.** The MLA format is the acceptable form for all documentation in any paper. Papers will be evaluated using the following scale:

- A = 100 – 90
- B = 89 – 80
- C = 79 – 70
- D = 69 – 60
- F = 59 and below.

Grade Breakdown:

- 20% Quiz Average
- 20% Participation Average
- 20% Film Summaries
- 20% Group Project
- 20% Final

Academic Honesty:

PLAGIARISM is the acknowledged use of another writer's words or ideas. This includes intentional stealing as well as ignorant borrowing, including high tech acquisitions from any computer source. Receiving excessive assistance from someone else is also **PLAGIARISM**. However, it is encouraged and permissible to seek advice and assistance from members of the class, online writing labs, other instructors, or I.

Examinations:

All exams will be multiple choice and essay/composition in nature. You will be required to write your responses in paragraph form using your best writing skills. Exams will be based on class lectures, discussions, presentations, research, and assigned readings. All tests will be evaluated with the same weight as all other written or oral assignments or projects. They will be based on 100 pts.

Disclaimer:

All information and assignments found in this syllabus are subject to oral or written change at the discretion of the instructor.

Thesis Paper:

Each individual will produce a 1500 word thesis paper based on a topic or idea presented in the book. The purpose of this project is to use your opinions, feelings, beliefs, and ideas to discover information that offers insights into the specific issue that you have identified. It is strongly suggested that you use specific examples and comparisons and contrasts from your research to support your statements. Your paper is to include an historical foundation, should go beyond the information in the specific novel or the assigned chapters in Sayre, and class discussions, and demonstrate how your topic applies to the contemporary consciousness of today's society. There will be no duplication of topics. This means that only one person may choose a topic. In order to secure your first choice, see me for clearance as soon as you decide. **I must approve all topics.**

Directions: For this research paper, you are to submit a 1500 word thesis paper using MLA format and a Works Cited page that is typed and uses MLA format. The paper must include **at least five outside sources including at least one real book.**

20th Century Humanities Tentative Course Schedule

Day 1	Introduction to the course. Review course syllabus
Day 2	Review MLA style of writing. Presentation of paper and presentation examples
Day 3	Library Research Visit
Day 4	Lecture: The Era of Invention: Paris and the Modern World
Day 5	Continue Lecture on The Era of Invention; Group Decades Presentations
Day 6	Continue Group Decades Presentations
Day 7	Lecture: The Great War and its Impact: A Lost Generation and a New Imagination Film: <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i>
Day 8	Continue Lecture on The Great War and its Impact. Continue Film: <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i>
Day 9	Quiz 1
Day 10	Lecture: New York, Skyscraper, Culture, and the Jazz Age
Day 11	Lecture: The Age of Anxiety: Fascism and Depression Holocaust and the War
Day 12	Continue Lecture on “The Age of Anxiety” Film: <i>Fog of War</i>
Day 13	Quiz 2
Day 14	Lecture: After the War: Existential Doubt, Artistic Triumph, and the Culture of Consumption
Day 15	Lecture1: Multiplicity and Diversity: Cultures of Liberation and Identity in the 1960s and 1970s Lecture 2: Environmental Racism and the Civil Rights Era Begin Student Presentations
Day 16	Lecture: Without Boundaries: Multiple Meanings in a Post Modern World Student Presentations
Day 17	Student Presentations
Day 18	Finish Student Presentations
Day 19	Review for Final Exam
Day 20	Final Exam