

Introduction To Humanities HUM 1020.027: Spring 2023

Instructor: Angsumala Tamang, Ph.D.

Class Meetings: Mondays and Wednesdays – 11:00 am to 12:15 pm

Location: CPR 120

Office Hours: TBA

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Course Description: This course explores how the humanities, through various creative works, showcase and comment on human experiences to raise questions of value and meaning. Through a combination of daily lectures, online comment boards, and private study, students will explore a range of artworks from different culture regions in different genres. Students will learn to approach and understand works of literature, visual arts, music, and film studies based on questions applicable within a larger socio-cultural framework. The course will be interactive with online discussion comments based on artworks being explored and analyzed in class. It will provide a good foundation for future studies in humanities via interdisciplinary methods that stimulate creativity and awareness without which democracy and humanity cannot flourish.

Course Objectives: The aim of this course is to provide an introduction of the range of human creativity. At the end of the course, you will know about the following subjects:

- 1) The range of genres in which human creativity finds expression.
- 2) The different topics which art can address.
- 3) The relationship between art and society.
- 4) Art is Political.

In addition, you will have the chance to develop a set of skills essential to all courses at the University of South Florida, include reading, writing, listening, and critical thinking. More importantly, you will broaden and deepen your appreciation for the arts, which will serve you not only in your future classes, but in your life beyond the university as well.

Subject Matter: The course is divided into three geographical units. In each unit you will explore the diversity of arts by contrasting two works from the same genre. These are the primary course materials:

- 1) Flannery O' Connor – “The Life You Save May be Your Own”
- 2) James Baldwin – “Sonny’s Blues”
- 3) Bob Dylan – *The Times They Are A-Changin’*
- 4) Gloria Anzaldúa – *La Frontera*/Borderlands
- 5) Duccio – *Maestà*
- 6) Michelangelo – *Sistine Chapel Ceiling*
- 7) Classical Era – Beethoven’ *Symphony No. 5*
- 8) Romantic Era – Berlioz-*Symphonie Fantastique*, Schubert-*Lied*, Chopin-*Mazurka*
- 9) Premchand – *Thakur Ka Kuan* (Headman’s Well)
- 10) Premchand – *Shatranj Ki Khilari* (The Chess Players)
- 11) Satyajit Ray film – *Shatranj Ke Khiladi*
- 12) Aditya Chopra film – *Dilwale Dulhaniya Le Jayenge*

*Disclaimer – Students should note this course involves a number of potentially uncomfortable and controversial topics including, but not limited to, the following: nudity, war, racism, slavery, imperialism, misogyny, drug use, and obscene language. Students who desire more information are encouraged to contact the instructor.

Textbook: Not required.

Requirements:

Reflection Notes	15%
Test 1	10%
Opening Contrast Paper	15%
Test 2	10%
Art Project + Summary	15%
Contrast Paper Assignment	25%
Test 3	10%

Grading: The object of the grading system is to reward and to motivate learning. Once your first assignment has been completed, Canvas will track your grade. At the end of the term, letter grades will be derived from numeric grades on the following basis.

Grading Scale:

A+ = 100-97	A = 93-96	A- = 90-92	
B+ = 87-89	B = 83-86	B- = 80-82	
C+ = 77-79	C = 73-76	C- = 70-72	
D+ = 67-69	D = 63-66	D- = 60-62	F = 0-59

Important Dates Assignment Schedule List:

- February 13, Monday – Test 1
- February 24, Friday – Contrast Opening Paper due by midnight
- March 20, Monday – Test 2
- April 24, Monday – Art Project due by midnight
- April 26, Wednesday – Contrast Paper due by midnight
- May 3, Wednesday – Final Exam

Instructions for Written Assignment: All writing assignments must be paginated and typed in 12-point Times New Roman with one inch margins. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** Plagiarism, double submission, and academic dishonesty will not be acceptable.

Writing Style: Carefully check for errors in grammar, spelling, format, and flow. Errors in these areas will carry penalties. Sentence structure should be clear and concise. Avoid stylistic pitfalls including:

- Overuse of “to be” verbs and passive voice
- Lack of singular-plural agreement
- Avoid ending sentences with prepositions and avoid using too many commas
- Overuse or confusing use of that, which, how, why, etc.
- Sentence fragments.

Use formal language. Avoid slang and colloquialisms. You should NOT write the same way you speak in a casual conversation. I encourage you to visit the Writing Center if needed. All assignments are to be typed double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman with one inch margins.

The Writing Studio: The Writing Studio is a free resource for USF undergraduate and graduate students. A trained writing consultant will work individually with you, at any point in the writing process. For more information visit <http://www.lib.usf.edu/writing/>, stop by LIB 2nd Floor, or call 813-974-8293.

Assignments:

Reflection Notes – 15%

This is part of your regular participation via the online discussion board. Your participation grade is assessed at the middle of the term, after your first six comments, and again at the end of the term, after you have completed the last six comments. Consistent, detailed, on-topic comments, **250/300 words**, based on close reading of the course materials and class discussions will receive an **A**. For example, mention artist's name, title of artwork, specific details from the artwork, time and place, genre, etc. Points will be deducted for incorrect English and grammar.

Test 1– 10%

Monday, February 13

Test 1 will take place during regular class hours.

Opening Contrast Paper – 15%

Friday, February 24

To make an effective start for your final contrast paper, you will write a short opening paper. Begin by articulating the important differences between any **one pair** of artworks. Your choices:

Flannery O' Connor – James Baldwin OR Bob Dylan – Gloria Anzaldua

The assignment must be at least **500 words** (2 pages approx.), but not more than 550 words.

Test 2 – 10%

Monday, March 20

Test 2 will take place during regular class hours.

Art Project + Summary – 15%

Monday, April 24

The subject of **ORIGINAL art project** may be chosen from the list of genres below:

- Painting/Sketch
- Collage
- Music Performance
- Play/Theater/Skit
- Dance
- Story-telling
- Recitation
- Digital Art (only graphic painting/design using stylus with a graphics tablet)

However, if you wish to use another genre not mentioned here, you may do so in consultation with the instructor. Art Projects are to be exhibited on the day of the class presentations. All art

projects must be accompanied by a 500-words artist's statement. The assignment must be uploaded as a single document comprising the image of the artwork + artist statement.

Contrast Paper Assignment – 25%

Wednesday, April 26

For this assignment you will contrast any **three pairs** of artwork (**one from each culture area**) out of the following choices:

Section 1/Culture Area 1 – Americas – United States

- 1) Flannery O' Connor – James Baldwin
- 2) Bob Dylan – Gloria Anzaldua

Section 2/ Culture Area 2 – Europe – Italy OR Austria and France

- 3) Duccio – Michelangelo
- 4) Classical Era – Romantic Era

Section 3/ Culture Area 3 – South Asia – India

- 5) Premchand 1 – Premchand 2
- 6) Indian Independent Cinema – Bollywood Cinema

This assignment is to be paginated, typed double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman with one inch margins and uploaded on CANVAS as Microsoft Word document. Thoroughly check for grammatical errors, spelling, and format. Points will be deducted for incorrect English.

Test 3 – 10%

Wednesday, May 1

The final exam will take place on **May 1 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.**

Additional Course Policies

Technology: In this classroom, personal technology, including laptops, tablets, and mobile phones will be used only when appropriate. At the beginning of class, students are expected to put away all digital devices and take notes on paper. Students who would like to be excepted from this policy must contact the instructor to establish an exception.

Academic Dishonesty & Plagiarism: Students are responsible to familiarize themselves with the university's guidelines on academic integrity. Students are specifically reminded that **plagiarism**, which includes **using others' words or ideas without proper attribution or submitting the same assignment in two courses**, is a serious academic offense. For more information on USF policies concerning academic dishonesty and plagiarism specifically, please consult the following link: <http://ugs.usf.edu/policy/AcademicIntegrityOfStudents>

Class Etiquette: It is important to maintain a learning environment in the lecture hall. Students are expected to arrive on time for class, to turn off cell phones and audible pagers, and end conversations by the start of class. **Personal conversations may not be conducted during lectures, since they are distracting to both the instructor and other students.**

Disability Services: Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) in order to receive academic accommodations. SDS encourages

students to notify instructors of accommodation needs at least 5 business days prior to needing the accommodation. A letter from SDS must accompany this request. For more information regarding USF's policy on disabilities, please consult the following link:

<https://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-disabilities-services/>

Telephone: 813-974-4309; e-mail: sa-sds-information@usf.edu

Please meet with the instructor during the first two weeks of classes to discuss accommodations. Each student must bring a letter from the office of student disability services (SVC1133) which is a prerequisite for receiving accommodation. Accommodated exams through the office of student disability services require two weeks' notice. Please inform me if there is a need for alternative document format or a note taker.

Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Harassment Reporting: USF is committed to providing an environment free from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence ([USF System Policy 0-004](#)). The USF Center for Victim is a confidential resource where you can talk about incidents of sexual harassment and gender-based crimes including sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship violence. This confidential resource can help you report your situation to either the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSSR) or the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equal Opportunity (DIEO), unless you request that they make a report. Please be aware that in compliance with Title IX and under the USF System Policy, educators must report incidents of sexual harassment and gender-based crimes including sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship violence. If you disclose any of these situations in class, in papers, or to me personally, I am required to report to OSSR or DIEO for investigation. Contact USF Center for Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention: (813) 974-5757.

Extensions, Lateness, Makeup Exams, and Incomplete Grades: Extensions and make-up exams may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. Except in the case of unforeseen emergencies, these must be requested at least one week in advance. Where applicable, appropriate documentation must be included. Students who foresee an absence due to a major religious observance must provide written notice at the beginning of the term. When exceptional circumstances render it appropriate, students who have completed most of the required coursework will receive an 'I' grade and submit remaining work after the deadline.

In the event of an emergency: It may be necessary for USF to suspend normal operations. During this time, USF may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to Canvas, Microsoft Teams, and email messaging or an alternate schedule. It's the responsibility of the student to monitor Canvas for course specific communication, and the main USF, College, and department websites, emails, and GoBull messages for important general information.

Class Schedule:

WEEK 1 – January 9, Monday – Module 0
Introduction and Course Overview

WEEK 1 – January 11, Wednesday – Module 1 Section 1– North America
Reading: a) Flannery O’ Connor, 1992. “The Life You Save May be Your Own.” In *A Good Man Is Hard To Find And Other Stories*. Orlando, FL: Harcourt Brace and Co.

WEEK 2 – January 16, Monday – **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**

WEEK 2 – January 18, Wednesday – Module 1
Reading: a) Flannery O’ Connor, 1992. “The Life You Save May be Your Own.” In *A Good Man Is Hard To Find And Other Stories*. Orlando, FL: Harcourt Brace and Co.

*1) O’ Connor reflection notes due January 18, 2023, by midnight.

WEEK 3 – January 23, Monday Module 2
James Baldwin, 1965. “Sonny’s Blues” in *Going to Meet the Man*. New York: Dial Press.

WEEK 3 – January 25, Wednesday – Module 2
James Baldwin, 1965. “Sonny’s Blues” in *Going to Meet the Man*. New York: Dial Press.

*2) Baldwin reflection notes due January 25, 2023, by midnight.

WEEK 4 – January 30, Monday – Module 3
Bob Dylan – *The Times They Are A-Changin’* – NYC: Columbia Studio

WEEK 4 – February 1, Wednesday – Module 3
Bob Dylan – *The Times They Are A-Changin’* – NYC: Columbia Studios

*3) Dylan reflection notes due February 1, 2023, by midnight.

WEEK 5 – February 6, Monday – Module 4
Gloria Anzaldua, 2007. *Borderlands/La Frontera : The New Mestiza*. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Books.

WEEK 5 – February 8, Wednesday – Module 4
Gloria Anzaldua, 2007. *Borderlands/La Frontera : The New Mestiza*. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Books.

*4) Anzaldua reflection notes due February 10, 2023, by midnight.

WEEK 6 – February 13, 2023, Monday

Test 1 – Section 1: Americas – USA

Duccio – *Maestà* – Module 5

Section 2: Europe

WEEK 6 – February 15, Wednesday – Module 5

Duccio – *Maestà* – Module 5

*5) Duccio reflection notes due February 15, 2023, by midnight.

WEEK 7 – February 20, Monday – Module 6

Michelangelo – *Sistine Chapel Ceiling* paintings

WEEK 7 – February 22, Wednesday – Module 6
Michelangelo – *Sistine Chapel Ceiling* paintings
*6) Michelangelo reflection notes due February 22, 2023, by midnight.

WEEK 7 – February 24, Friday – Module 7
Opening Contrast Paper due by midnight

WEEK 8 – February 27, Monday – Module 8
Classical Era Music (1750-1820) Beethoven – *Piano Sonata No. 14*

WEEK 8 – March 1, Wednesday – Module 8
Classical Era Music (1750-1820) Beethoven – *Symphony No.5* in C minor
*7) Classical Era reflection notes due March 1, 2023, by midnight.

WEEK 9 – March 6, Monday – Module 9
Romantic Era Music (1820-1910) Berlioz – *Symphonie Fantastique*

WEEK 9 – March 8, Wednesday – Module 9
Romantic Era Music (1820-1910) Schubert – *Gretchen am Spinnrade* Chopin – *Mazurka*
*8) Romantic Era Music reflection notes due March 11, 2022, by midnight.

WEEK 10 – March 13, Monday & March 15, Wednesday
Spring Break!

WEEK 11 – March 20, Monday
Test 2 – Section 2: Europe – Italy, Austria, France

WEEK 11 – March 22, Wednesday – Module 10
Premchand 1– *Thakur Ka Kuan* (The Headman’s Well)

Section 3: South Asia

WEEK 12 – March 27, Monday – Module 10
Premchand 1 – *Thakur Ka Kuan* (The Headman’s Well)
*9) Premchand 1 reflection notes due March 27, 2022, by midnight.

WEEK 12 – March 29, Wednesday – Module 11
Premchand 2 – *Shatranj Ke Khiladi* (The Chess Players)

WEEK 13 – April 3, Monday – Module 11
Premchand 2 – *Shatranj Ke Khiladi* (The Chess Players)
*10) Premchand 2 reflection notes due April 3, 2022, by midnight.

WEEK 13 – April 5, Wednesday – Module 12
Indian Independent Cinema – Satyajit Ray’s *Shatranj Ke Khiladi* (The Chess Players)

WEEK 14 – April 10, Monday – Module 12
Indian Independent Cinema – Satyajit Ray’s *Shatranj Ke Khiladi* (The Chess Players)
*11) Indian Independent Cinema reflection notes due April 10, 2022, by midnight.

WEEK 14 – April 12, Wednesday – Module 13

Bollywood Cinema – Aditya Chopra's *Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge* (The Big-Hearted Will Take Away the Bride)

WEEK 15 – April 17, Monday – Module 13

Bollywood Cinema – Aditya Chopra's *Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge* (The Big-Hearted Will Take Away the Bride)

*12) Bollywood reflection notes due April 17, 2022, by midnight.

WEEK 15 – April 19, Wednesday

In-class Art Project Presentations

WEEK 16 – April 24, Monday – Module 14

In-class Art Project Presentations & Artist Statement Due on CANVAS by midnight

WEEK 16 – April 26, Wednesday

Contrast Paper Due by midnight – Module 15

WEEK 17 – May 3, Wednesday – Module 16

***Test 3 – Section 3: South Asia – India Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

(Class Schedule may be subject to minor revisions as needed.)