

Humanities 1301: INTRODUCTION TO HUMANITIES

Instructor: Dr. Alisa ("Doc" Petrovich)

Spring, 2024 Online

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Welcome to the **HAPPY** part of the human experience: Humanities! I am so glad to have you for one of my favorite courses. This course looks at human creativity, expression of the fine arts, and moments of genius that affect us even today. It is not history. It is not about society, war, politics, or who killed whom. It is about the **beauty** that people create, the **inventions**, and the **fine arts** that come out of the human spirit.

Table of Contents:

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- Desire to Learn (D2L),
- Kindness and Respect
- Important Phone Numbers
- Closing Comments

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Part 1---

. Welcome Information:

- **1.Our Book**
- **2.My Contact Information**
- **3.My Office Hours**
- **4.A Few Rules**

1. Our Required Book :

Philip Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit* (ANY edition) ISBN-13:978-0-205-88147-5 (for the 7th edition).

You **MUST have the book** to read AND use for the tests. I do not allow any other outside sources, so you cannot use another book or a website to answer your essay question(s).

I noticed it is free to check out online, but I cannot tell you about archive.org . Use ANY edition. You can buy it at the place with the same name as South America's largest river, too, or at an online bookstore. The BC bookstore usually has copies, too, and our library has them on reserve.

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2. My Contact Information:

Use D2L or your BC Email. My E-Mail: Alisa.Petrovich@brazosport.edu

These are secure and only YOU can access them.

Office G-220

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3. Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 6:30-9:00 AM, 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
in my office, G-220

Tuesday: Zoom 5:00-7:00 PM (I am literally on ZOOM during
this time. Stop by for help or a study session!)

Thursday: Zoom 2:00PM -4:00 PM (The same thing here. I
can turn the Zoom office hours into a study session or a help
session. Just email me a little ahead of time so I can prepare
for a special session. All students are invited!)

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4. Some Basic Class Rules:

A. It is really important TO READ EVERYTHING IN THIS
SYLLABUS AND UNDER CONTENT! Since this is college, you
are responsible for all of it. I know it is boring.

D. This class does not have busy work. Some days you have nothing due. I leave those days free so you can catch up on your reading, work on an assignment, and post on the discussion board.

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E. For students new to college: Once the date and time of the Final Exam comes, the course is over. **That means there is no extra work, no make ups, and no further submissions allowed.** Please do not ask me to give you extra time or extra work.

However, if you do have a major crisis or life event, contact me. I can give you an Incomplete!

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F. Check your BC email every single day. Check your spam folder, too, in case my emails go there. I tend to send a LOT of update emails. You can use the email on D2L, too. The Pulse Brightspace App will tell you when you receive an email!

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G. Please be sure to read all the way to the very end of the syllabus.

Part II--

All Course Work in Humanities:

- 1. Calendar of Course Requirements
- 2. Tests
- 3. Quiz
- 4. "Mona Lisa" Project
- 5. Extra Credit
- 6. Discussion Boards
- 7. Further Research
- 8. Basics of Writing for Humanities
- 9. Videos

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1. Calendar of Course Requirements:

Classes run January 16- May 4

JANUARY:

___ *Extra Credit* due **January 20 by 11:59 PM** (optional)

___ **ONE QUIZ** on a short plagiarism video due
by **January 27 by 11:59 PM**

FEBRUARY:

___ *Further Research 1 , Part 1* due **February 3 by 11:59 PM.**

___ **Further** Research 1, Part 2 due February 10 by 11:59 PM

___ Further Research 1, Part 3 due **February 17 by 11:59 PM**

____Further Research 1, Part 4 due **February 24 by 11:59 PM**

MARCH

Further Research 1, Part 5 due **March 2 by 11:59 PM**

____ ***Midterm Discussion Board locks at 11:59 PM March 6***

____ ***Midterm Exam opens March 7 by 12:01 AM.*** Due no later than **March 9 by 11:59 PM.**

____ **Spring Break March 11-15 : HIGH VALUE EXTRA CREDIT 2: March 16 BY 11:59 PM. (Optional)**

____Further Research 2, Part 1 due either **March 16 or March 23** AND

Further Research 2, Part 2 due **March 23**

____Further Research 2, Part 3 due **March 30**

April

____Further Research 2, part 4 due **April 6 AND**

Last day to email me your "Mona Lisa" **Project topic is April 6.**

____Further Research 2, part 5 due **April 13**

____**Test** opens **April 18.** It is **due April 20 by 11:59 PM**

____"Mona Lisa" Project due **April 27**

May

____***Final Discussion Board locks at 11:59 PM on May 1 by 11:59 PM***

____***Final Exam opens May 2. Due May 4 by 11:59 PM***

Everything here is to help you do well on the tests and in the course. Modules do not lock. You are free to **submit any work before the due date**, except for tests which are locked until the specified dates.

2. TESTS:

There are three tests: Midterm, Test, and Final. The Midterm covers all of the assignments up to the midterm date. Test is a subjective, short answer test about YOU and the course. The Final covers all of the information in the course.

YOU MAY USE YOUR BOOK, NOTES, DISCUSSION BOARD, Videos, OR ANYTHING UNDER CONTENT. NO OTHER SOURCES ARE ALLOWED, OR YOU WILL RECEIVE AN F (0) FOR YOUR TEST.

1. You may use Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit*, the Discussion Boards, Videos, or anything under Content. **You may NOT use any other source, or you will flunk the test. This includes the use of AI.**

Extra Credit 2: this is a high value (up to +10 points!) extra credit assignment and well worth your time. It is the ONLY instance in this class where I WANT you to use AI. You are going to do a graduate school exercise and dissect (or rip apart) an AI generated answer to a specific question. Yes, it is due over Spring Break, but you can submit it ANY TIME EARLIER!! See Content for complete directions!

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6. Discussion Boards:

This is where we discuss what you read. You may respond, read, and study at your pleasure. They do have a locking date, so watch for them!

How They Work:

Post THREE times. *If you post more, you earn one point extra credit for each interactive post (up to +5 per board).* This is what the posts need to be:

1. One post *MUST* be collaborative. You need to find another student's post or one of my posts and respond to it. Add information. React to it. This needs to be more than just saying it was a good post and informative. Here are examples:

"I never thought of it that way! Renaissance art is very beautiful when you look at it that way. Good post, Charles!"
(this is a poor example)

"I agree. Renaissance art is beautiful. But I feel it is more than just the colors. The entire background whether it looks smoky, dark, or bright, adds to the mood and beauty. Just

look at "Mona Lisa." The background is fascinating. Is that a lake or the ocean? Is that a wall? Why is the path crooked in spots? Whenever I look at the paintings of this era, I always check the backgrounds. Have you noticed them, Charles?"
(this is an excellent post)

2. The other *two posts* can be your own, or they can continue to be collaborative. In this course you do NOT need to post an original thread. I prefer you interact with each other and with me. Ask us questions. Ask me for proof, help, or just curiosity-based questions.

Please do not be shy. Do not worry that this is public. Only the class and I ever get to read them, and they are no different than if we were in a classroom having a group discussion or debate. Everyone must be polite and respectful, even me, so no one will feel hurt or upset.

Special Notes:

1. I do not accept emailed posts. This is because I grade you on interaction.

2. I update discussion grades (and any extra credit posts) daily.

3. How I grade discussions:

you have read my posts and answer any question I direct at YOU. Some of my questions are for anyone in the class. If it is for you, I will use your name!

1. that you have read the book
2. that you have reflected on the material.
3. one of your posts MUST be an informative response to someone else's post (or one of mine). Otherwise, the best grade you can make is an 89.

b. Are you asking intelligent questions and responding properly to other questions? What is the quality of your response? ("I agree. The Roman Empire was a difficult time. People all came together to survive it." is an example of poor quality).

c. Are you merely agreeing or disagreeing?

d. Are you just repeating information from another post or an old error in history that I have already corrected in a post?

e. I grade on interaction. You *do NOT have to post on all of the questions*. In fact, you can post on just one question 3 times if it really resonates with you.

g. Also, DO NOT copy and paste discussion posts or paraphrase from outside sources. Do not copy each other. THIS is PLAGIARISM. I want them in YOUR words.

h. Discussion boards lock at 11:59PM the day BEFORE the test.

Also:

If you have chosen to wait for the last two days before the board locks, to post, instead of starting with an 80, your first post earned a 70. Instead of each new posting earning 1-6 points, these late entries now earn 1-2 points. If you chose to wait to post until the DAY the board locks, you start with a 60 and earn 1-2 points depending on how you interact.

By posting two days before the board locks, you can still make an A, but it will not be 100. Waiting for the day the board locks to post means the best grade you can make is 88. By waiting so long to post, you did not allow the class to interact, react, and post on your thoughts. Likewise, you

gave me no real time to teach. That is why the grading goes as it does.

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7. Further Research:

You have two Further Research projects. Each one is divided into one to two questions per week. This is where you will learn to research topics, select the best sites/books/articles, and how to answer what YOU conclude, not what you think I wish to hear.

If backed up with facts, I welcome all opinions, even those that I do not share. There is no such a thing as a student being unable to have their own ideas if those ideas are fact-bound and not just preference. I encourage you to think for yourself, express your opinions politely, and challenge me if you feel my view is too ethnographic or anthropological.

So, you need to take care when you do Further Research. This is not homework, where you dash out a line or two. I am grading you mostly on the sources you choose and your responses to the questions.

Which sources are good sources? If it has .edu or .gov in the web address, it is probably good. .org is fine, too, if it is a museum or historical place. Books published by a university press and scholarly journals are usually good choices, as well. Just because it says it is educational does not mean it is. For example, some of the worst responses have come from PBS and the History Channel. These are for entertainment, not scholarship.

You need to write in formal academic style, which simply means do not use slang, contractions, or idioms.

Be SURE to give the source(s) you used with each question. This is a big part of the grade. You list them after the end of each response.

I do not require a bibliography unless you use AI.

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8. Basics of Writing for Humanities:

For all writing in this class, keep these requirements in mind:

Double space even the Further Research!

Use only black ink

NEVER use contractions (don't, isn't, wouldn't, it's)

NEVER Use Slang (for example, kids are baby goats or slang for children, a fan is slang for a fanatic)

NEVER use Offensive language

NEVER say unkind things about another person, living or dead

NEVER plagiarize! When in doubt, use a citation. These would look like this: (Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit*, 6th ed., p. 221).

Contact me if you need further help.

Please limit the number of quotes you use. No more than 10% of your work should be quotes.

9. Videos:

You are required to *watch ALL videos* in this course. They can be found under Content. Each video is over a specific chapter in our book! You will find them helpful.

Part 3--

Important Information from Your Professor:

- Reading Requirements
 - Grade Distribution
 - Make-Ups
 - Grading Scale
 - Attendance/Withdraw Policy
 - Online Class
 - Desire to Learn (D2L),
 - Kindness and Respect
 - Important Phone Numbers
 - Closing Comments
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Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit* (7th Edition)

Chapters 8-15 (Renaissance to Contemporary)

NOTE:

Test is a subjective exam based on your course experience and knowledge.

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4. Grading Scale:

90-100= A. You have mastered the subject and have excellent college-level writing

80-89= B You have a good grasp on the material and good college-level writing

70-79= C You have an average grasp on the material and average college-level writing skills

60-69= D You have a poor grasp on the material and below-average college-level writing skills

Below 60= F You do not grasp the material and you do not have college-level writing skills

5. ATTENDANCE AND Withdrawal POLICY:

This is your class. If you wish to withdraw, please do so or contact me to do it for you. I do NOT withdraw students from this class due to a lack of attendance.

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6. Online Classes:

This class is completely on-line.

We have no meetings. *If you have never taken an on-line course, stop right here!* To make sure an on-line works for you, check out the requirements and hints at <https://online.brazosport.edu/shared/Documentation/estudentquickstartsuccesguide.pdf>

7. Desire 2 Learn:

This course uses Desire 2 Learn (D2L). I have a LOT of information on it. Please go to the CONTENT tab and get started! There are a lot of important files on D2L, so please read them all. You are responsible for the syllabus and everything on D2L.

8. Videos:

I recorded chapter by chapter overviews for you. You must watch them. *They are here under Content.*

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9. Being Kind and Show Respect:

We are all in this world together, and Humanities is all about tolerance and kindness. Please do not display prejudice or unkindness in anything you write, including posts. If you do, I will have to flunk your work.

. 11. Getting Help

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Please read. You are responsible for all of the information below. It is critical.

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1. Course Description:

WHAT IS THE STUDY OF HUMANITIES?

Humanities is a discipline where we study all forms of creativity that enhance and beautify life. It is the lovely side, the creative genius, of the human spirit. Humanities studies all of the little extras that make life worth living: taste, texture, sound, movement, inspiration, and visual.

Humanities shows us how we are connected to the past, both the ancient world and a more modern past. Each era builds on the humanities of the previous era. Today, we are a product of thousands of years of this sort of building.

Humanities includes: all forms of art, photography, literature, poetry, music, dance, theatre, philosophy, religion, architecture, the **moment of discovery** (in science and mathematics), culinary arts, clothing design, musical instrument crafting, sewing, knitting, needlework, jewelry making and design....

in other words, for something to be within the realm of Humanities it has to fulfill these criteria:

1. It is unnecessary for basic survival.

2. It is an extra that makes life more beautiful.

3. It expresses the positive side of human creativity

4 It does **no harm** (bombs, war, politics, caste system, etc. do harm. They are NOT part of humanities)

There you have it. We study genius, creativity, beauty, and the process of its creation.

--> If you are not sure, ask yourself this: am I discussing the fine arts OR the moment of discovery/invention? If not, it is NOT Humanities.

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2. Student Learning Outcomes:

A. The student will demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities

B. The student will understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.

C. The student will respond critically to works in the arts and humanities and offer an informed personal reaction to these works.

D. The student should develop an appreciation for the aesthetic principals that guide or govern the humanities and arts.

E. The student will demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts or intercultural experiences.

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3. COURSE PREREQUISITES:

College-level reading and writing.

I assume you have had to take Learning Frameworks before signing up for this course.

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4. BC Bookstore and Textbook Information:

To purchase the book, contact the Brazosport College Bookstore with a credit card. Phone 979-230-3651. Fax: 979-230-3653. Email: bookstore@brazosport.edu

Website: <http://www.brazosport.edu/bookstore>

Required course materials are available at the Brazosport College bookstore, on campus or online at <http://www.brazosport.edu/bookstore>. A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college bookstore. The same textbook is/may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

You are welcome to use electronic and loose-leaf versions if you wish.

If you send away for it, be sure to EXPEDITE shipping.

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5. Students with Disabilities:

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. BC offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist

students with special needs. For student to receive any accommodation, documentation must be completed in the Office of Disability Services.

Please contact Phil Robertson, Special Populations Counselor at 979-230-3236 for further information

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6. Title IX Statement

Brazosport College faculty and staff are committed to supporting students and upholding the College District's non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX and Brazosport College's policy FFDA (Local), discrimination based on sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression is prohibited. If students experience an incident of discrimination, sexual harassment, or sexual misconduct, they are encouraged to report it.

If a faculty or staff member "is informed of a student's pregnancy or related condition" by the student or "a person who has a legal right to act on behalf of the student," the employee must "promptly" tell the student or representative how to notify the Title IX Coordinator of the student's pregnancy or related conditions and must provide the Title IX Coordinator's contact information to the student or representative, unless the employee "reasonably believes" the Title IX Coordinator already knows.

While students may talk to a faculty or staff member at BC, please understand that they are "Responsible Employees" and must report what is told to them to college

officials. Students can also contact the Title IX Coordinators directly by using the contact information below. Additional information is found on the Sexual Misconduct webpage at www.brazosport.edu/sexualmisconduct.

Alex Crouse, Director of Student Life and Deputy Title IX Coordinator

979-230-3355; alex.crouse@brazosport.edu

Brad McGonagle, Vice President, HR and Title IX Coordinator

979-230-3459; brad.mcgonagle@brazosport.edu

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7. Timely Care for YOU

To help you on your educational pathway, Brazosport College provides all students with access to TimelyCare. If you're stressed, challenged, or need help, download the TimelyCare app today! It's your free virtual health and well-being service platform, available 24/7, 365 days of the year. Search "TimelyCare" in your app store. Then, register with your student email to access your health care services.

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8. ACADEMIC HONESTY--Plagiarism, AI Use:

Brazosport College assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by

you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty including, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Brazosport College Student Guide for more information. This is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu>. CLICK on the CATALOGS AND SCHEDULES link under STUDENTS.

Academic dishonesty violates both the policies of this course and the Student Code of Conduct. In this class, any occurrence of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for prompt adjudication and will, at a minimum, result in a 0 for the plagiarized work in this course. Sanctions may be imposed beyond your grade in this course by the Dean of Student Services.

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MY POLICIES:

The student will submit their own work or clearly acknowledge the source(s).

I cannot accept any plagiarism over 0%. At 1% plagiarism I must report you to the Dean of Students and give your work/test a 0. Any written work in this course, including extra credit and discussions, is subject to the plagiarism policy.

Recycled Papers: You cannot recycle written work for this course from other courses UNLESS you get my prior written approval. This means you cannot use more than 1% of another paper you wrote or are writing to fulfill any requirement in this course. If you recycle your own paper in this course, I will not accept it and you will receive a 0 for the paper.

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The use of AI, Chatbot, or other artificial intelligence writing services is accepted. However YOU are responsible for all submissions. Misspellings, incorrect citations, incorrect information, improper responses, accuracy, style, etc. are YOUR responsibility. **If you use AI you must cite it properly. You must cite in Chicago Manuel of Style format any use of AI.**

To cite AI in CMS:

- The name of the AI
- An accurate description of the prompt you used
- The date of the conversation, written in month-day-year format (the month must be spelled out)
- The company or organization that created the AI
- The URL of the AI
- For example:

ChatGpt, "Generate an outline for an answer to three important facts about Reims." March 2,2024, OpenAI, [ChatGPT \(openai.com\)](https://openai.com) .

If you need help with AI, the BC Library has an excellent guide. Also, the BC Writing Center can help.

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In the course, AI use for Midterm, Test, or Final is prohibited. You may use only your book, the videos, or anything under Content, including our discussion boards. Any violation of this policy will be treated the same as plagiarism.

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Why? AI can be a great tool for other courses, but this course is based on YOU learning to research and write. Much of your grade depends on how you do in these two areas. Using AI means you did not learn anything about research or writing at an academic level. Also, AI makes things up and gives fake references!

Plagiarism will not be tolerated on tests, paper, further research, discussions, or any other assignment. AI cannot be used on Midterm, Test, or Final. **It cannot be used for the Discussion Boards because I MUST hear YOUR VOICE in your writing.**

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9. Student Responsibilities:

Students are expected to participate fully in this course. The following criteria are intended to assist you to be successful in this course:

- A. Understand the syllabus requirements.
- B. Use appropriate time management skills.
- C. Communicate with your professor.
- D. Complete coursework on time, and
- E. Utilize online components (such as D2L) as required.
- F. Obtain a copy of the book by the second day of class.
- G. Understand and never commit plagiarism. Do not use AI for examinations or discussions.

10. Getting Help:

IF YOU NEED HELP WITH AN ASSIGNMENT, CONTACT ME.
DO NOT CONTACT A CLASSMATE OR FORMER STUDENT. You
need to do your OWN work. DO NOT ASK FOR A FORMER OR
CURRENT STUDENT'S WORK TO USE AS A GUIDE OR I WILL
HAVE TO FLUNK YOU AND REPORT BOTH OF YOU TO THE
DEAN OF STUDENTS. **I am glad to help you with the
work, even during an exam! Just email me!**