## I. ASCRC General Education Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>V: Literary and Artistic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dept/Program</td>
<td>Liberal Studies Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Introduction to Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course #</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### II. Endorsement/Approvals

Complete the form and obtain signatures before submitting to Faculty Senate Office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please type / print name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>Paul Dietrich</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone / Email</td>
<td>243-2805/ <a href="mailto:Paul.dietrich@mso.umt.edu">Paul.dietrich@mso.umt.edu</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Chair</td>
<td>Stewart Justman</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>Gerald Fetz</td>
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</tbody>
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### III. Description and purpose of the course:

General Education courses must be introductory and foundational. They must emphasize breadth, context, and connectedness; and relate course content to students’ future lives: See Preamble: [http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/gened/GEPreamble_final.htm](http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/gened/GEPreamble_final.htm)

LS 151, Introduction to the Humanities, studies the roots of Western Civilization in the Judeo-Christian tradition on the one hand and the Greco-Roman tradition on the other. Among the principal readings are several books of the Bible (both the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament), the *Odyssey*, Greek tragedies, Plato, and St. Augustine’s *Confessions*. LS 151/152 evolved from the course in General Humanities instituted at UM by Leslie Fiedler in the 1950s. Such courses have been at the foundation of education in the humanities at American universities for at least half a century.

Accompanying LS 151 and accounting for its fourth credit is a weekly lecture by respective authorities on the given subject. A list of lectures for Fall 2008 is appended below.

In accordance with the Preamble of UM’s General Education Requirements, the purpose of LS 151 is to cultivate an appreciation of the humanities by the study of key texts in the history of Western cultures. As LS 151 is a W course, it also contributes to the General education goal of enabling students to “articulate ideas . . . in writing.” The Preamble stipulates that Gen Ed courses will be foundational. LS 151 is foundational in the sense that students will find themselves referring back to the Bible on the one hand and works in the Greco-Roman tradition on the other in any number of subsequent course in literature and history for which knowledge of these texts is essential and presumed.

### IV. Criteria:

Briefly explain how this course meets the criteria for the group. See: [http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm](http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm)
In Gen Ed courses in Group V “students develop familiarity with significant works of artistic representation, including literature, music, visual art, and/of performing arts. . .” In LS 151 students read the *Odyssey*, Greek tragedies, Greek lyric, Ovid in depth—to say nothing of the Bible and its artistry—clearly meets this description. Note too that LS 151 usually includes some component on the visual arts, often Greek sculpture. Weekly plenary lectures on all of these subjects—the Bible, Homer, tragedy, lyric, visual art—accompany the curriculum.

Criteria for Group V stipulate that the course “cover a number of works in one or more of the various forms of artistic representation. . .” LS 151 obviously meets this test, devoted as it is to the study of a number of works in two traditions that together constitute the very basis of artistic representation in the West. The course establishes “a framework and context” for the study of these works precisely by placing them in a tradition. The Greek tragedians knew Homer. The authors of the New Testament knew the Hebrew Bible. Students in LS 151 thus learn to see a tradition as a tradition. The plenary lectures that accompany the course contribute to this end, as does classroom instruction the students receive on methods of literary analysis. (What is evidence in a work of literature and how does one cite it? How to construct an argument about a work of literature?) In submitted papers students present arguments about the works they read—arguments subjected to close review and comment by the course instructor.

**V. Student Learning Goals:** Briefly explain how this course will meet the applicable learning goals. See: [http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm](http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/ASCRCx/Adocuments/GE_Criteria5-1-08.htm)

If in class and in the weekly plenary lectures students achieve a better understanding of the classics being read, and come to place them in a tradition, in their writing assignments they learn to develop arguments about the works in question. They learn this by doing it. The pedagogical assumption of LS 151 is that in the final analysis there is no substitute for learning by doing; and doing in this case means *writing*. The writing component of LS 151 is not intended simply to give students extra practice in composition; it is intended to serve the Learning Goal of making the students better analysts of works, better framers of arguments, indeed better readers.

**VII. Syllabus:** Paste syllabus below or attach and send digital copy with form. The syllabus should clearly describe how the above criteria are satisfied. For assistance on syllabus preparation see: [http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/syllabus.html](http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/syllabus.html)

Syllabus attached.

*Please note: As an instructor of a general education course, you will be expected to provide sample assessment items and corresponding responses to the Assessment Advisory Committee.*

**Plenary Lectures, Fall 2008**

Aug. 28: Introduction to the Humanities—Stewart Justman, LS

Sept. 4: The Bible in the University; Introduction to the Pentateuch—Nathaniel Levtow, LS

Sept. 11: Prophets and Prophecy—Nathaniel Levtow, LS
Sept. 18:  Wisdom—Mark Hanson, LS

Sept. 25:  Introduction to Greek Civilization—Matthew Semanoff, MCLL

Oct. 2:  Hero and Antihero in Homer—Stewart Justman, LS

Oct. 9:  Sappho—Ruth Vanita, LS

Oct. 16:  The Broken Urn: Greek Tragedy—Stewart Justman, LS

Oct. 23:  Plato and Greek Philosophy—Richard Walton, Philosophy


Nov. 6:  The Gospels—Tom Lee, LS

Nov. 13:  The Letters of Paul—Mark Hanson, LS

Nov. 20:  Augustine’s Confessions—Paul Dietrich, LS

Nov. 27:  Thanksgiving

Dec. 4:  Roman and Early Christian Art—Paul Dietrich, LS

Lectures are given from 11:00-12:00 in the Underground Lecture Hall. They are not repeated in the evening. Attendance is mandatory, as the lecture series accounts for the fourth credit of LS 151.