The second course in the Introduction to the Humanities sequence (though 151 is not a prerequisite), LS 152 examines selected works of literature and political and philosophical thought from the later Middle Ages to the twentieth century. The course is intended to give students a sense of the contours of Western culture and history over the past seven or so centuries, with emphasis on Dante’s *Divine Comedy*, so notable for its fusion of imagination and intellect; the return to the roots of piety known as the Reformation; the return to classical culture known as the Renaissance; the scientific revolution of the seventeenth century; the Enlightenment and French Revolution; the rise of romanticism and the triumph of the novel in the nineteenth century; and the shock of the Holocaust in the twentieth.

**Texts**

Dante’s *Inferno*
More, *Utopia*
Shakespeare, *Hamlet*
Descartes, *Discourse on Method*
Rousseau, *Discourse on Inequality*
Blake, *Poems* (Dover edition)
Wordsworth, *Poems* (Dover edition)
Tolstoy, *Death of Ivan Ilych*

**Additional Readings**

Many additional readings are posted on electronic reserve (ERES). The reading schedule for each week, including ERES readings if any, will be given in class.

**Plenary Lectures**

On each Thursday from 11:00 to noon, a lecture is presented to all sections of LS 152 in the Underground Lecture Hall (Urey). The lectures are more or less synchronized with our readings. Attendance is mandatory, if only because the lectures constitute the fourth hour and fourth credit of this four-credit course.

**Requirements**

1. Attendance, including at Thursday lectures. Students are allowed three absences per term. *Use your absences wisely.*

2. Each week, on Monday if you are A-H, Wednesday if you are I-P, Friday if you are Q-Z, you are to submit three typed questions regarding the reading for that day. I will credit questions if and only if they’re written in clear and correct English, properly spelled, and they are cogent. At the end of the term I will total your credits, with 10 or
more counting as an A, 8-9 as a B, 6-7 as a C, 4-5 as a D, and less than 4 as an F. This is a W (Writing) class. Take the composition of questions seriously and consider it as part of the course’s W component. I will teach to the questions to a good degree.

3. On March 12, submit a paper of at least 1250 words on loyalty and disloyalty in *Hamlet*. Writing must be clear and correct. Quote the text accurately, taking care to cite verse as verse (with line breaks) and prose as prose (no line breaks). Consult the Liberal Studies Writing Standards (to be distributed). Also consult the Writing Center if you wish.

4. On April 30, submit a paper, also of at least 1250 words, examining what Tolstoy seems to be saying in *The Death of Ivan Ilych* about the way a human life is to be lived.

5. A final exam consisting of short essays will be given. Your weekly questions, first paper, second paper, and final exam will each count for ¼ of your grade. Note that in one way or another, all of your grade depends on writing.

**Caveat**

Do not pluck information about the readings off the Web. By no means is everything posted on the Web reliable. Academic books, like scientific articles, undergo a rigorous peer-review that postings on the Web bypass completely. Additionally, the date and even the author of information posted on the Web are not always clear.

**Plagiarism**

Strictly forbidden. See the categorical prohibition of plagiarism in the UM Catalog.

**Note**

Note that on neither of your papers are you asked to use secondary sources. Again, do not pull something off the Web and use it in a paper.

Stewart Justman  
Director  
Liberal Studies Program  
x5793
Introduction to the Humanities
Liberal Studies 152 – 05, Spring 2008
MWF 1:10-2:00 p.m.
GBB 222
CRN: 33213

Dr. Mark Hanson
Office: LA 152, 243-6844
Office Hours: Wed. 9:30 – 10:30; TTh. 1:00-2:00,
3:40 – 4:30; by appt.
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Course Structure and Objectives
This course is designed to introduce the student to the study of the humanities through a focus on
selective texts from the Medieval to the Modern periods that have shaped Western civilization.
We will explore the formation and transformation of some Western worldviews and themes, and
reflect on how they have shaped and influenced society and culture today. The emphases of the
course are engaging in close readings of the primary texts, discussing, and writing about those
texts.

A classic is a book that has never finished saying what it has to say. A classic is something that
tends to relegate the concerns of the moment to the status of background noise, but at the same
time this background noise is something we cannot do without. (Conversely) A classic is
something that persists as a background noise even when the most incompatible momentary
concerns are in control of the situation.

—Italo Calvino

“Classics are certain texts, events, images, rituals, symbols and persons (in which we
acknowledge) a disclosure of a reality we cannot but name truth... some disclosures of reality in
a moment of ‘recognition’ which surprises, provokes, challenges, shocks, and eventually
transforms us; an experience that upsets conventional opinions and expands the sense of the
possible; indeed a realized experience of that which is essential, that which endures — the
presence of classics in every culture is undeniable. Their memory haunts us. Their actual effects
in our lives endure and await ever new appropriations, constantly new interpretations.

—David Tracy

Required Texts
Shakespeare, Hamlet (Signet) ISBN: 0-451-52692-9
Voltaire, Candide (Penguin) ISBN:0-14-044004-6
Blake, Songs of Innocence and Songs of Experience (Dover Thrift Edition) ISBN: 0-486-27051-3
73450-3
ERES readings on Electronic Reserve and Traditional Reserve in Mansfield Library

Requirements
• Regular class attendance and participation that demonstrates a grasp of the reading assignments
• Regular attendance at the weekly plenary lecture
• One short written essay in response to the readings and plenary lectures
• A longer essay on a topic of your choice in response to the texts with an option to revise
• Written midterm and final exams
Assignments and Classes

Introduction

Jan. 23  Introduction: Laying out themes and structure of the course

Individual and Cosmos in the Late Middle Ages (14th century)

Jan. 25  Background to Dante’s Divine Comedy
Jan. 28  Dante’s Divine Comedy: Inferno  Cantos I-V, X-XI
Jan. 30  Dante’s Divine Comedy: Inferno  Cantos XIII-XVI, XVIII-XIX,XXI-XXII
Jan. 31  Plenary Lecture: “Dante’ Inferno” Stewart Justman
Feb.  1  Dante’s Divine Comedy: Inferno  Cantos XXVI-XXVIII, XXXII-XXXIV
Feb.  4  Dante’s Divine Comedy: Purgatorio  Cantos I-IV, VI, XVII-XIX
Feb.  6  Dante’s Divine Comedy: Purgatorio  Cantos XXV-XXXIII
Feb.  8  Dante’s Divine Comedy: Paradiso  Cantos I-V, VII, X-XII, XIX-XXI
Feb. 11  Dante’s Divine Comedy: Paradiso  Cantos XXIII-XXVI, XXIX-XXXIII

Early Renaissance, Reform, and Reformation (15th – 16th centuries)

Feb. 13  Christine de Pisan: Excerpts (ERES Justman)
          Pico: “Oration on the Dignity of Man” (ERES Justman)
Feb. 14  Plenary Lecture: “Luther and the Reformation,” John Eglin
Feb. 15  Erasmus: Selections from “Paraclesis” (ERES Justman)
          Martin Luther: “The Freedom of a Christian” (ERES Justman)
Feb. 18  No Class: President’s Day
Feb. 20  Thomas More: Utopia  Book I (pp. 7-47)
Feb. 21  Plenary Lecture: “Renaissance Art,” John Eglin
Feb. 22  Thomas More: Utopia  Book II (pp. 49-82)
Feb. 25  Thomas More: *Utopia*  


**Exploration of the Self in the Northern Renaissance (16th – 17th centuries)**  

Feb. 29  Montaigne: “Of Giving the Lie,” “Of Cannibals,” “On Experience” (ERES Hanson)  

*Short Essay Due*  

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March 3  Shakespeare: *Hamlet*  

Introduction, Acts I-II (pp. 3-60)  

March 5  Shakespeare: *Hamlet*  

Acts III-IV (pp. 61-118)  

March 6  Plenary Lecture: “The Scientific Revolution,” Armond Duwell  

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March 7  Shakespeare: *Hamlet*  

Act V (pp. 119-144)  

March 10  Shakespeare: *Hamlet*  

Review  

March 12  Descartes: *Discourse on Method*  

Intro, Parts One and Two  

**The Scientific Revolution and the Age of Enlightenment (17th – 18th centuries)**  

March 13  Plenary Lecture: “Bach, Beethoven & the Boys,” Fern Glass  

March 14  Descartes: *Discourse on Method*  

Parts Three and Four  

March 17  Descartes: *Discourse on Method*  

Parts Five and Six  

March 19  **Mid-term Exam**  


March 21  Kant: “What is Enlightenment?” Swift: “A Modest Proposal” (ERES Justman)  

March 24-28  No Class: Spring Break  

March 31  Wollstonecraft: “A Vindication of the Rights of Women” (ERES Justman)  

**Revolution, Romanticism, Realism, Modernism (18th – 19th centuries)**  

April 2  Voltaire: *Candide*  

Chapters I-XV

April 4  Voltaire: *Candide*  
*Longer Essay Due*

April 7  Wordsworth: “Lines” (pp. 21-25), “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud” (pp. 43-44); “The World is Too Much with Us; Late and Soon” (p. 53); “Ode” (pp. 54-60)


April 10  Plenary Lecture: “Romanticism” Ruth Vanita

April 11  Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment*  
Part One (pp. 1-86)

April 14  Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment*  
Part Two: I-III (pp. 87-131)

April 16  Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment*  
Part Two: IV-VII (pp. 131-193)

April 17  Plenary Lecture: “Tolstoy and Dostoevsky” Stewart Justman

April 18  Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment*  
Part Three (pp. 195-278)

April 21  Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment*  
Part Four (pp. 279-358)

April 23  Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment*  
Part Five (pp. 359-436)

April 24  Plenary Lecture: “The Totalitarian Specter,” Michael Mayer

April 25  Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment*  
*Optional Longer Essay Revision Due*

April 28  Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment*  
Epilogue (pp. 533-551)

**Revolution and the Modern World (19th – 20th centuries)**


May 2  Arendt: “On the Nature of Totalitarianism” (ERES Justman, skim parts I and II, read III); Conclusion

**Final Exam Period: Monday, May 5, 3:20 – 5:20**
Grading Policy

One short essay: 10 percent (50 pts.)
Longer essay plus revision: 30 percent (150 pts.)
Midterm exam: 20 percent (100 pts.)
Final exam: 25 percent (125 pts.)
Other (unannounced) in-class evaluations: 5 percent (25 pts.)
Participation and other possible in-class evaluations: 10 percent (50 pts.)

Papers: Papers are due in class on or before the date listed on the syllabus. Unless you have made a prior agreement with me, I will take off one grade level (e.g., A becomes A-) for each class day an assignment is late. Papers with an undue number of errors of punctuation, spelling, or grammar will be returned ungraded for correction and marked down half a letter grade. Written work will be evaluated in terms of the strength and accuracy of your exposition of the texts, your depth of critical analysis, thoughtfulness of reflection, clarity of writing, and ability to address issues raised in the text and in class on the topic at hand.

Exams: Exams must be taken at the scheduled time unless prior permission has been obtained from me for an alternate time. The final exam may only be rescheduled if you have two other exams scheduled for the same day. Failure to take the exam at the scheduled time will result in no credit given for the exam with no make-up possibility.

Attendance and Participation: More than three (3) absences will result in losing any benefit of the doubt on your final grade. More than five (5) absences will result in one grade level reduction (e.g., A to A-). More than seven (7) absences will result in a full grade level reduction (e.g., A to B), and ten (10) or more absences may result in a failing course grade (F). Late arrivals in class may count as an absence. (Note: If you have a valid reason for missing several classes, such as illness, disability or other conflicting commitments, you still must speak with the instructor. Documentation may be required.) Lack of regular, active participation will also result in a grade level reduction. Sleeping in class will count as an absence and will not be tolerated. Participation grades are based on demonstrated willingness to answer questions and contribute comments that reflect a good-faith effort to read, understand, and develop a personal perspective on and critical questions about the readings and lectures.

Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism: All work submitted is expected to be the student’s own. Any acts of plagiarism or academic misconduct will result in automatic failure of the course, and may result in further academic punishment. If you have any doubts about definitions of plagiarism or academic misconduct, please review the relevant sections of the University Catalog.

ERES: To access the ERES readings:
a. Go into http://eres.lib.umt.edu/
b. Click on Electronic Reserves and Course Materials
c. Under Instructor, find and select “Justman, Stewart,” for most readings, and look for “LS 152 (all).” A small number of readings will be available under “Hanson, Mark”
d. Click on the course name: LS 152.
e. Enter the password. For Justman readings, the password is “Erasmus.” For Hanson, the password is “humanities”

Description of Assignments

1. **Short Essay:** One short, two-to-three-page essay is required. It should be a critical response to a selection from the readings. After reading the text, write (1) three to four paragraphs that summarize and explain the main points of the reading and (2) three to four paragraphs giving your thoughtful response and discussion of the reading. The main objective is for you to identify and wrestle with a tough question or theme that the reading raises for you and attempt to offer your perspective on that issue. I will distribute a grade criteria sheet in class prior to the due date.

2. **Longer Essay:** This 5-6-page, typed essay is an opportunity for you to consider a theme, key term, or other consideration(s) from the texts we read up to the due date for the paper. Use the text to support a well-constructed argument for the theme. We will discuss paper topics in class prior to the due date of **April 4**. You also will have the option to revise and resubmit this essay, due **April 25**.

3. **Midterm Exam:** will cover material from the plenary lectures, assigned readings, and class discussions. The format will likely be mixed, including multiple choice, short-answer essays, and/or longer essay questions. **Wednesday, March 19.**

4. **Final Exam:** The final will cover material from the second part of the semester and will ask you to integrate your learning from across the semester. I will likely have the same format as the midterm exam, but the final exam will be longer. **Monday, May 5, 3:20 – 5:20**

5. **In-class Evaluations:** I will occasionally ask you either to take a brief quiz or write and submit an answer to questions about the readings or lectures.

5. **Plenary Lectures** are given at 11:10 am - 12:00 pm in ULH (Urey Lecture Hall). You must attend this lecture each week.

**Credit/No Credit Grade option:** A minimum grade average of D- is required for a CR grade in the CR/NC Grade option.

**Incomplete Grade:** Please see the criteria that must be met for an Incomplete in the University Catalog.