

## SYLLABUS

### REQUIRED READING:

Fiero, *The Humanistic Tradition*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed., vols. 4, 5 & 6 (F4-F6 below)  
*The Asheville Reader: The Modern World*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (AR below)  
Lewis, *The Crisis of Islam*  
Wright, *Black Boy*  
Tanizaki, *In Praise of Shadows* [extra credit]  
Zamiatin, *We*  
Thoreau, *Civil Disobedience* [extra credit]

### INTRODUCTION:

The Humanities program is a four semester sequence of courses required of all students. The functions of the sequence as an all-university requirement are to refine the student's powers of critical reading, writing and thinking, and to develop his or her sense of historical perspective, while engaging him or her in the scrutiny of important human problems. The Humanities courses investigate ideas and values in the contemporary world and in the history of civilization from an interdisciplinary perspective. They draw materials from the areas of history, literature, religion and speculative thought, and, to a lesser extent, from the fine arts, natural sciences and social sciences. The courses rely heavily on the interpretation of primary sources and works of art. The student is given the opportunity to discuss his ideas, write frequently and engage in critical thinking.

The general subject of Humanities 324 is the Modern World, with the impact of science on all aspects of modern life as one of its principle themes. The course will also deal extensively with modern ideologies: liberalism, conservatism, socialism, communism, fascism, racism, etc.

### ASSIGNMENTS:

There will be mid-term examinations on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> and April 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>, and final examinations on May 6<sup>th</sup> (sect. 4) and May 7<sup>th</sup> (sect. 5). These will be essay tests; bring a blue book to each examination. An essay dealing with "Alienation in Richard Wright's *Black Boy*," is due Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>. An essay on "Elements of Totalitarianism in Zamiatin's *We*" is due April 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>. These papers should be from four to six typed, double spaced pages in length. Brief quizzes covering the daily reading and the previous lecture will be given each Monday and Tuesday. A research paper, dealing with one of the major themes of the course, is due April 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> (topic proposals due Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>). Students should read the daily assignments **BEFORE** coming to class, and should be prepared to **PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY** in class discussions. Extra credit will be granted for reading Tanizaki and Thoreau and writing a two page summary of each. Students are also required to attend and report on (1 page each) three cultural events related to this course.

Examinations must be taken and papers turned in the assigned day or substantial grade penalties will result. The grade of "Incomplete" will be given only in exceptional (and well documented) circumstances. Attendance at **ALL** class meetings is required. Missing more than three classes will result in a grade penalty. Cheating or plagiarism will result in failure of the course. In determining course grades the two essays and the two midterm exams 15% each, and the research paper and final exam 20% each. A quiz average below 3 will lower your final grade.

OFFICE HOURS:

Daily 1:00-2:00, Tu, W & Th  
and by appointment

NH 206  
251-6620; FAX 251-6820  
uldricks@unca.edu

COURSE OUTLINE (week of):

January 16 – The Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment

F4, 75-83; AR 2-8, 26-36 & 59-75

(no Mon. section - M.L. King holiday)

23 – Enlightenment & Liberalism: Rights & Revolution

F4, 95-110 137-139; AR 50-58, 76-94, 85-94, 103-112 & 23.0-235

30 – The Industrial Revolution, Romanticism, & Alienation

F4, 102-103 & F5, 77-81; AR 236-245, 262-267

February 6 – Racism and Slavery

F4, 114-118; AR 113-118, 181-185, 202-212 & 218-221, 344-379

Wright, *Black Boy* (alienation essay due Wed./Thur.)

RESEARCH PAPER TOPICS DUE (Mon. & Tue.)

13 – Native American Experience

AR 304-310, 311-314, 315-320, 339-342

MID-TERM EXAM (Wednesday & Thursday)

20 – Women and the Quest for Universal Suffrage

F5, 81-82; AR 170-174, 186-201, 213-217, 222- 228, 251-255, 273-276

No section meeting Wed. or Thur., Feb. 26/27th

27 – Darwin and the Darwinists

F5, 25-27 & 73-77; AR 333-338, 382-390

March 6 – Islam and the Modern World

Readings on electronic reserve in library & with lecture outline on HUM website  
Lewis, *Crisis of Islam*, entire

9-15 – SPRING BREAK

20 – World War I & the European Crisis of Consciousness

F6, 26-30 & 49-54; AR 441-446 & 456-460

No section meeting Wed. or Thur. Mar. 25/26th

27 – NO CLASS: Spring Symposium

April 3 – Enlightening China and Japan: Western Imperialism in Asia

F5, 75-77; AR, 119-121 & 321-332

Tanizaki, *In Praise of Shadows*, entire [extra credit]

MID-TERM EXAM (Wednesday & Thursday)

10– Modernity and Modernism

F5, 93-137, F6 1-26, 35-48 & 78-89; AR 424-434

(No Tue. section – Spring Symposium)

17 – Fascism in the Interwar Years (& Stalinism)

F6, 54-65; AR 461-474, 480-487 & 497-502

Zamiatin, *We*

Totalitarianism Essay Due (Wednesday and Thursday)

24 – World War II, the Holocaust and the Existentialist Response

F6, 60-65; AR 513-521

TERM PAPERS DUE (Wednesday & Thursday)

May 1 – The New Physics

6 – FINAL EXAMINATION for section 4 (11:30-2:00)

7 – FINAL EXAMINATION for section 5 (11:30-2:00)