

Lincoln University
Introduction to Humanities (HUM 10) Fall 2012
Prof. Eric Bergerud 510-525-0930 rickt2@prodigy.net
3 Units (45 hours of lecture) Thursday 12:30-3:15 PM

PURPOSE: To understand the world's present it is necessary to understand its cultural foundations. This is more true than ever at present because of the growing connections between once distant cultures. A basic knowledge of what is becoming, at some level at least, a part of a world culture will prepare students to act and think in today's global society. In addition, this course, in common with all courses in the humanities and social sciences, will help the students improve their analytical skills. Also, because the lectures and the exams essays are very important, students will improve their English language skills.

SCOPE: This course concentrates on the development of Western Civilization because of the impact it has had worldwide. We shall, however, use many comparative examples from other cultural traditions to illustrate important points. Throughout the course, we shall examine the question of what degree it is possible or desirable to create a "world" culture to accompany economic global integration.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: There are no prerequisites for this class. Attendance is mandatory. Students are urged to complete the appropriate reading assignments before the lectures. It is very important that students be attentive in class and take notes as the lectures will have a different emphasis than the readings. Questions and discussions in class are strongly encouraged. It is very important to have an orderly atmosphere during lectures. Therefore cell phones should be turned off and casual conversation between students is discouraged.

The text is *The Humanities* Vol. II (6th Edition) by Mary Ann Witt (ISBN-10: **0618045384**, ISBN-13: **978-0618045389**). I will show students where to buy an inexpensive used copy of this book. There will also be several copies on reserve in the library.

FORMAT AND GRADES: This course will be based on a standard lecture format. In addition we shall use employ videos and internet photos to illustrate the visual arts and architecture. The grades will be based on the outcome of one midterm and a final exam and class attendance. Both exams are based on a

choice of essay questions. The essays will be very broad and I will discuss their scope prior to exams. We shall also discuss the basic techniques of building a good essay exam answer. The Standard A-F grades will be given. Approximately 1/3 of the grade is based on the midterm and 2/3 on the final. However, I do take into consideration a favorable trajectory between the midterm and final when deciding the course grade. Bad attendance results in a grade penalty.

CONTACT BETWEEN INSTRUCTOR AND STUDENTS: I will have office hours between 3:15-4:15 on Tuesday at a room to be arranged. If you would like to arrange a different time for a meeting I will be glad to arrange one. At the top of the page is my home office phone number: if something comes up you are welcome to give me a call. If I am not in, leave your name and phone number (please speak clearly) on the answering machine and I will reach you as soon as possible. I ask that you use my home email address (rickt2@prodigy.net). My school email is bergerud@lincolnuca.edu but this will be forwarded and it is easier to go direct.

SCHEDULE: Text Chapters Given In [] (**The Humanities** Vol.2 by Mary Witt)

August 23 Introduction: The West [19]
Aug 30 Reformation Europe [20-1]
September 6 Beginnings of Science [22]
Sept. 13 Enlightenment [23]
Sept. 20 Revolution: Political & Industrial [24]
Sept. 27 Romanticism [25]
October 4 19th Century Realism [26]
Oct. 11 19th Century Science [27-8] Midterm
Oct. 18 Culture of Imperialism [29]
Oct. 25 The West in 1914 [30]
November 1 Doubt [31]
Nov. 8 War and Culture [32-3]
Nov. 15 New Science and Industry and Society [35]
Nov. 22 Fall Recess
Nov. 29 World Culture? [36]
December 3 Final Exams Begin

Syllabus updated: August 14, 2012