

Syllabus

Welcome to BYU Online!

This course is part of a small pilot of online courses at BYU. This course is a highly structured learning experience that meets the university's general education requirements and will mirror the intensity of the on-campus course. This course differs from on-campus courses and other online courses in the following ways:

- **Course Content** – Aside from your textbook, all of the course content is contained online. You will also submit all your assignments and complete all your course quizzes online.
- **Course Completion** – You are allowed to complete this course at your own pace. The only restrictions are you cannot complete the course before Oct. 15 and you must complete the course by the end of the semester.
- **Orientation Meeting** – You are required to attend an initial class meeting. At this meeting, you will meet your instructor, course TAs and other members of the class. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions you have about the class and how it operates.
- **Course TA** – This course has a specific TA that you can contact with questions about the course or course content. The TA will also assist you in creating a course completion schedule and meet with you for the course checkpoints.
- **Checkpoints** – Throughout the course you will be required to meet with the course TA 4 times. These meetings will take place in Adobe Connect. These checkpoints will allow you to discuss your progress in the course and help you follow your course completion plan.
- **Webinars** – A webinar is a scheduled class session that you will attend through Adobe Connect. These webinars will allow for information sharing, special lectures, guest lectures and exam reviews. You will be able to interact with your instructor and other members of the class.
- **Discussion Board** – This course contains a monitored course discussion board. This discussion board will allow you to post, respond to and evaluate various topics related to the course material.

As part of the pilot, we will be asking you to help assess the success and effectiveness of this course, the faculty member, the course delivery and the course support. Your participation in this assessment effort will be critical to future opportunities for online learning at BYU. Please be prepared to provide meaningful feedback about your experience.

Course TA Information

Your TA for this course is **Adam Lloyd**. Please contact your TA if you have any questions, run into difficulties with the course, and to schedule checkpoints.

- Name: Adam Lloyd
- Email: ta2_ihum202@byu.edu
- Phone: 801-422-2326
- Office hours: By appointment
- Office: 146 MORC (large cubicle area, call before coming)

[Click here to watch video.](#)

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Remember, your TA is your first line of contact, and will be able to help you with any issues that come up. He is looking forward to getting to know you!

Course Learning Outcomes

When you have successfully completed this course, you should be able to do the following:

1. **Historical Events:** Demonstrate factual knowledge of major Western European historical events from approximately 1515 AD/CE to the modern period.
2. **Figures and Movements:** Demonstrate factual knowledge of major Western European figures and movements in philosophy, science, literature, art, architecture, and music from approximately 1515 AD/CE to the modern period.
3. **Ideology vs. Artifacts:** Explain the connections between dominant Western ideologies and cultural artifacts produced from approximately 1515 AD/CE to the modern period.
4. **Analysis:** Analyze the basic components of a literary work, a painting, or a building through the correct use of appropriate terminology and evaluative models.
5. **Communication Skills:** Construct cogent, lucid, and persuasive arguments in essays and short papers combining formal analysis of cultural artifacts with critical evaluation of the Western ideologies that helped produce them.

Course Materials

You will need to purchase these books:

- Sayre, William. *The Humanities: Culture, Continuity and Change*. Combined Vols 1 and 2. 3rd edition. Pearson, 2014. **Etext, ISBN 10:** 1323012826. Purchase the etext from the [BYU Store](#).

Note: You should purchase the etext that combines volumes 1 and 2, so that you have access to the multimedia elements. We will cover chapters 16–40, skipping chapters 18 and 32. **The etext access information will be emailed to you after you buy it. You do *not* need MyArtsLab.** You do *not* need access to anything other than the etext itself. This online course and the Sayre etext are your primary resources.

When you receive your access code email, click **Sayre, "The Humanities" Etext** (in the course table of contents, right after the syllabus).

The screen will show a "Loading..." message, then seem to freeze. Look at the address bar of your browser. You will see a **shield icon**. Click the icon, and choose the option to **disable protection** or **enable unsafe scripts**. This will allow you to see the etext content.

Enter the access code for the Sayre etext, and you will be able to read the chapters online.

Throughout the course, to view your etext, click **Sayre, "The Humanities" Etext**, click the shield icon to enable the script (if necessary), and enjoy!

You will need to buy this novel as well.

- **A Moveable Feast (The Restored Edition)**, by Ernest Hemingway. Publisher: Scribner; Reprint edition (July 20, 2010). ISBN-10: 143918271X, ISBN-13: 978-1439182710.

These readings are provided in the course or available online:

- Shakespeare, [*Hamlet*](#).
- Galileo, "[Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina](#)"
- Descartes, "[Discourse on Method](#)" selection
- Pope, "[Essay on Man](#)"
- Keats, "[Ode on a Grecian Urn](#)"
- Shelley, [*Frankenstein, or, The Modern Prometheus*](#)
- Darwin, [*Origin of Species*](#), chapter 3 selection
- Marx and Engels, [*The Communist Manifesto*](#) selection
- Ibsen, [*A Doll's House*](#).

Required Materials

In addition to the textbook and website access, you will need these items to complete the checkpoints:

- Webcam – Any webcam will work. We recommend using the “Logitech HD Webcam C270” (it’s available from [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)).
- Microphone Headset – Any microphone headset will work. We recommend using the “Cyber Acoustics Universal Stereo Headset AC-204” (again, it’s available from [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)).

Assignments

You will complete these assignments during the semester.

Self Check Exercises

Each chapter includes a Self Check exercise which consists of 20 multiple-choice questions that cover the chapter material. You can take the Self Check exercises an unlimited number of times, each time with a different set of questions. It is recommended that you take them until you can comfortably answer any question that appears.

Self Check exercises do **not** count toward your course grade, but they give you helpful practice for the chapter quizzes and exams.

Chapter Quizzes

You will take a 20-question multiple-choice quiz at the end of each chapter. The quizzes **do** count toward your course grade.

They test your reading comprehension of the chapter and your understanding of the learning objectives as well as concepts, images, and terms. The quizzes help you understand what you have learned well and what can be improved. As such, they are good study material for the exams.

Quizzes are open book and open note. They are, however, timed. You will have **1 hour** to complete each one.

Reading Responses

Reading responses are informal writing assignments intended to help you engage some specific question or idea broached by a text. These reading response assignments should help you in getting beyond surface description of the text and to ask and answer meaningful and more

complex questions about the texts. These assignments are also intended to help you develop the writing and critical thinking skills fundamental to the learning objectives of the course as well as those necessary to write thesis paper.

These are the reading selections to which you will respond:

1. *Hamlet*
2. "Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina"
3. *Discourse on Method*
4. *Essay on Man*
5. "Ode on a Grecian Urn"
6. *Origin of Species*
7. *Communist Manifesto*
8. *A Doll's House*
9. *The Waste Land*

You will read all 9 selections, and complete 7 reading responses. In two cases, you will be able to choose between two different readings.

Note: It is very important for you to read each reading selection, because ideas from them will also be covered in the quizzes and exams.

Reading responses should be approximately **250 words (one page)** in length. They should **answer the question clearly and directly but also substantively**. A clear and direct statement answering the question should begin your reading response (a thesis) followed by multiple sentences that explain your answer. Use at least one quote from the text to support your ideas. You may use more quotes but these should be kept to a minimum and, if used, should be short. Be careful to consider alternatives to your answer or other ways of thinking about the question. This will help you write a more focused and better answer.

A premium is placed on a focused, clear, and succinct answer to the question. Here is how points will be awarded:

- 9–10: follows all of the above guidelines. Answer excels in its understanding of the text and the issues presented.
- 7–8: follows all of the above guidelines. Good answer in its understanding of the text and the issues presented.
- 5–6: follows most of the above guidelines. Adequate answer but some misunderstanding of the text and the issues presented.

- 3–4: follows some of the above guidelines. Answer is inadequate and misunderstandings are significant.
- 1–2: fails to follow the guidelines. Answer fails to address the prompt and misunderstandings are abundant.

Cultural Event Reports

The humanities and culture is more than just the history and artifacts found in the course text and assigned readings. It is what is going on around you right now. During the semester, you are required to attend *two* cultural events and report on them.

- You will visit an art museum and spend some time looking through the galleries to select **one** piece on which to write a report.
- You will also attend one live performance. You may attend a music concert, **or** a stage event such as dance or drama.

Please note that not anything and everything will count as a cultural event. The rule of thumb here is an event that would be considered “high culture.” This is to say that a classical music concert counts whereas a rock concert will not. Attendance at a Las Vegas-style show will not count whereas a play performed by your local theater company will. This is not to say that these events that do not count are not culture. They are. However, in this course we are interested in high culture, even as the course is also noting how tenuous that line is between high and low culture. If you have questions, err on the side of professional or semi-professional performances done of major works of western culture.

These reports are rather informal. Answer briefly each of the following questions in your response:

1. What did you see?
2. What did you learn?
3. What connections did you make to the course material?

The reports are graded on an honest-completion basis, but points may be lost through excessive bad spelling, inappropriate material, or failure to complete the assignment.

Thesis Papers

Two analysis or thesis papers are required. These analysis papers can be considered expansions of the reading response assignments, and you are welcome to use ideas from the reading

responses to help you write your analysis papers. You may choose the object on which you wish to write as well as the thesis, but the object should be one of the literary, visual, or musical works assigned for the class or something from the Sayre book.

There is **no** need to do any outside research for the thesis paper. All evidence and support for your thesis should come from your own close reading and analysis of the selected object.

Thesis papers should contain a focused thesis statement with three to five supporting paragraphs containing evidence to support your thesis. The paper should conclude with a restatement of your original thesis and summarize the argument of your paper.

Thesis papers should be between **two and three pages (500-700 words) long**, double-spaced, and in 11-12 point font.

Here are the specific requirements that I will use to grade your thesis papers:

- **Formatting.** Follows standard formatting procedures as outlined in syllabus.
- **Title.** Title is descriptive and creative. Gives the reader a sense of what follows
- **Introductory paragraph(s).** Interesting opening, a “grabber” or hook for the reader. Sentences follow logically and clearly, building on one another and lead to the thesis.
- **Thesis statement.** Clear and focused. Is easily identified. Significant and original. Sufficiently limited in scope (can be discussed in the course of 2-3 pages).
- **Support and evidence.** Quotes from the text. The support used is relevant and supports thesis. Proper citation is used.
- **Analysis.** Analysis of supporting quotes and references is sufficient and describes relationship to thesis.
- **Conclusion.** Restates the thesis in light of the evidence provided from the text in the body.
- **Organization and development.** Thesis developed through analysis and organization of textual support. Transitions between paragraphs clear.
- **Grammar and mechanics.** Follows conventions for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- **Overall impression of paper.** Argumentation coherent and logical. Paper flows well. Creative and original thesis. Word choice appropriate. Tone and style appropriate.

Save your thesis papers as Word documents (.DOC or .DOCX files) and submit them electronically for grading. Follow this naming convention:

IHUM202_JaneSmith_Thesis1.DOCX.

Checkpoints

You will be required to complete four checkpoints throughout the semester using Adobe Connect. These checkpoints will help to make sure you stay on track to finish the course and will give you a chance to discuss any questions or issues you may be having.

Exams

The course includes three exams, two midcourse exams and the final, corresponding to three sections of material.

- Midcourse exam 1 covers chapters 16-26, approximately the late Renaissance to the Rococo.
- Midcourse exam 2 covers chapters 27-33, approximately Neoclassicism to Realism.
- The final exam is **not** comprehensive; it covers chapters 34-40, from Modernity to the contemporary scene.

Exams consist of image identification, comparison of images, passage identification, short answer, multiple choice, definitions, and short essay questions. The exams are not necessarily comprehensive, although you may be required to draw general connections between historical and cultural periods.

Important Exam Note

You will take your exam online at the Morris Center. You will need to schedule your exam time at least 2 days before you want to take the exam. Please read the “Preparing for the Exam” pages for details.

Study Habits

Adopt these habits to help you succeed in this course.

Syllabus

Understanding and knowing the syllabus is essential to doing well in this course. The syllabus and course materials contain all of the information necessary to doing well in this course. Please consult the syllabus first with any questions you might have.

Best Practices for Succeeding in BYU Online IHum 202

- Take time at the beginning of the semester to plan your own pacing

- (A suggested pacing will be posted online for your use)
- Stick with your pacing
- Revise your pace if you find yourself getting behind
- Make time for meeting or contacting the TAs
- We are here to help you
- E-mail us questions you are unsure about
- TA Open Hours: Opportunity to have live interaction
- Attend review sessions, or set up a time to have review meeting with TA
- Annotate your textbook
- E-text allows highlighting and notes
- Prepare for quizzes
- Prepare for tests
- Use Dr. Cunningham's study guides
- Focus your reading, speed up the learning
- Look through all materials before posting writing assignments
- Double check that your answer fits the prompt
- Reread your work for grammar errors
- Follow the formatting guidelines
- Look at student examples

Course Time

Effectively managing your time for this course is crucial to your doing well. The university recommends that for every 1 credit hour spent in class you should spend 2 outside in preparation. Since this is an online course and there is no time spent in class, you should still be thinking of spending approximately 10 hours a week on this course alone. With the flexibility of the online course, there is very little in the way of external structure to the course. Thus, you will have to monitor your own time commitment. Doing well in this course is directly correlated to how much time you invest in it.

Schedule

You should follow this schedule as closely as possible.

Date	Due
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TBA	Orientation Meeting
September 30th at 11:59 PM	Reading Responses 1, 2 and 3 Cultural Event Report 1
Saturday, October 31 at 11:59 PM	Reading Responses 4, 5, and 6 Chapter Quizzes 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 Midcourse Exam 1
Monday, November 30 at 11:59 PM	Reading Responses 7, 8, and 9 Cultural Event Report 2 Chapter Quizzes 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 33 Thesis Paper 1 Midcourse Exam 2
Thursday, December 10 at 11:59 PM	Reading Response 10 Chapter Quizzes 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40 Thesis Paper 2
Friday, December 18	Final Exam

Assignments

Although there are several small assignments, understand that I have eliminated busy work from this course. Every assignment is integrated as preparation for other assignments. For example, careful reading of the assigned readings will allow you to write good reading responses. Writing high-quality reading responses will in turn help you to write better thesis papers, which in turn will help you be better prepared for exams.

Grading

You will complete these assignments and exams during this course.

Assignment	% Each	Total %
22 end-of-chapter quizzes	1	22
9 reading responses (1 page each)	3	21

2 cultural-event reports	5	10
2 thesis papers (2–3 pages each)	8	16
Midcourse Exam 1	9	31
Midcourse Exam 2	10	
Final Exam	12	

Grade Scale

Your letter grade will be determined using these percentages:

A	100–94
A–	93–90
B+	89–87
B	86–83
B–	82–80
C+	79–77
C	76–73
C–	72–70
D+	69–67
D	66–63
D–	62–60
E (fail)	59 and below

Inappropriate Use of Course Content

All course materials (e.g., outlines, handouts, syllabi, exams, quizzes, media, lecture content, audio and video recordings, etc.) are proprietary. Students are prohibited from posting or selling any such course materials without the express written permission of BYU Independent Study. To do so is a violation of the Brigham Young University Honor Code.

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