



HUM 1010 Humanities Through the Arts

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring
Course Prefix: HUM

Year: 2025
Course and Section #: 1010-002

Course Description

Studies the media and compositional elements of the various art forms (literature, music, visual arts, theater, film, dance, and architecture), for greater understanding and enjoyment. Teaches how to interpret artistic meaning by analyzing artworks formally as well as in their historical contexts, such as the predominant subject matters and styles of their period. Encourages students to integrate the arts into their daily lives habitually, so that they become lifelong learners and educators.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Wendell Nielson

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the major art forms and the materials of which they are constructed.
 2. Explain the ways in which artists use the elements of artistic media and composition to communicate to others. Recognize the elements of aesthetic composition and apply this knowledge to interpret the meaning of art.
 3. Recognize and interpret the contextual elements of artistic creation. Recognize the time periods in which works of art were created, as well as the style of many major artists. Integrate textual and contextual ways of reading across the arts.
 4. Demonstrate a greater command of intellectual and practical skills including written and oral communication, qualitative reasoning (while employing all the senses), and information literacy.
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Course Materials and Texts

- *Shakespeare in Love: A Screenplay*, by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard

Long Day's Journey into Night, by Eugene O'Neill

Various Canvas readings

Films

(All films will be available on Canvas for you to watch at your convenience on your computer. TAKE A FEW NOTES when you watch films and review your notes before class. If you watch a film long before we discuss it in class, be sure and go over your notes shortly before our discussion.)

(NOTE: Occasionally, a student chooses not to engage artistically with R-rated films. If this is true in your case, you must let me know by February 12th, so you can receive a list of alternative films (and one alternative reading). If you choose the list, I will take your name down, and, because we will be unable to discuss your film choice in class, you are required to write a one-page paper on each of the films on the list. One paper will be due each day an R-rated film is to be discussed in class. The parameters of these papers will be explained when we discuss Introduction to Film. If you miss the January 24th discussion, get notes from someone in class or e-mail me. Alternative films are not on Canvas and may or may not be available in the library. They are all available through Amazon and/or other sources.)

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

- 1) Have reading and viewing assignments completed by the date under which they are listed.
- 2) Class attendance and participation (15%). Most of the material that will be covered on your exams does not appear in the texts, therefore attendance is crucial. It is your responsibility to get on the roll if you are late. Tell me immediately after class ends. It is expected that you participate in the class. Extra points will occasionally be given for exceptional participation at my discretion. You can view the recording of the class later at your convenience.
- 3) Quizzes (20%). These will take place in class and be based on the reading(s) and/or viewing(s) due that day. One missed quiz will not affect your grade. If you miss more than one, I suggest you consider an extra-credit critical response paper. Be on time to class to avoid missing quizzes.
- 4) "Happenings in Humanities" response paper (5%). Each student is required to attend a "Happenings in Humanities" event. Each event will take place at 7 p.m. and last approximately one hour. Dates will be announced in class and in a Canvas announcement shortly after the start of the semester. A two-paragraph (double-spaced, 12 pt. font) response to the happening is required. Extra credit will be awarded for additional FULL-PAGE "Happenings in Humanities" papers. If unable to attend any of the three events, another critical response paper will be accepted instead, but it will have to be two pages instead of two paragraphs. I suggest attending "Happenings in Humanities" events as early in the semester as possible
- 5) One long essay assignment (20%). Your paper should be an analytical interpretation of any work of art produced by any artist discussed in class EXCEPT FOR those particular works of art which we have already covered extensively. (For example, because we will discuss this particular sculpture in some detail, a paper on Michelangelo's David will not be acceptable). Works by artists not discussed in class are possible but MUST be cleared with me first. You should discuss both textual and contextual elements of the work. The paper is due April 14th and should be at least four pages (double-spaced, 12 pt. font). You will be graded on your compositional skills, but most of your grade will be based on content. Details are on the "Analytical Essay" page in the "Home" module on Canvas.
- 6) Exam (20%). The exam will be a take-home exam and will be posted to Canvas on the date listed below on the class schedule. Taking notes on discussions and keeping up on the readings and movies will give you a distinct advantage when it comes time to take the exam. Due April 21st.
- 7) Final art project and presentation (20%). You will be expected to produce a final art project. This project should be approved by the instructor. It will be judged based on originality, effort, and coherence of process. What I mean by coherence of process is that you will be EXPECTED to have a thematic reason for producing the painting, scene, short story, song, or whatever piece you choose. In terms of effort, I expect you to spend considerable time and effort (approximately eight hours) on the piece. If

you do not, your grade will suffer. Originality means that you must be seriously engaged with a uniquely personal vision of the creation. The overall quality of the piece is not a criterion. Due April 28th. You will have approximately five minutes on Finals Day to present your artwork and answer questions from the instructor and class. Supplemental material can be provided to the instructor (for example, if you write a long short story, you can read a short excerpt and provide the instructor with the entire story to be factored into this grade).

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

See schedule

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

January 6 Introduction to Humanities

8 Art's concerns and functions

Read: Syllabus (VERY IMPORTANT!)

10 Introduction to criticism

DUE: Syllabus Quiz

13 Introduction to 2-D art

15 Compositional elements and principles

17 Perspective

20 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY

22 Introduction to Sculpture, Greek Classicism

24 Introduction to Film

27 American film industry, Welles (contextual analysis)

Watch: Touch of Evil (1958)

29 Hellenism, Roman Classicism

31 Introduction to Music

February 3 Film story analysis (textual analysis)

Watch: Harold and Maude (1971)

5 Medieval and Byzantine

7 Early Renaissance

Read: Shakespeare in Love pp. 1-50

10 High Renaissance

Read: Shakespeare in Love pp. 51-100

12 Shakespeare

Read: Shakespeare in Love pp. 101-155

14 Baroque

17 WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN DAY HOLIDAY

19 Motifs

Watch: No Country for Old Men (2007)

21 Introduction to Theatre

Read: Ice Fishing Play Act I

24 DISCUSSION OF ANALYTICAL ESSAYS

Theatre and Play Analysis

Read: Ice Fishing Play Act II

26 Enlightenment, Introduction to Literature

Read: A Modest Proposal

28 Romanticism

Read: The Masque of the Red Death

Read: The Premature Burial
March 3 Expressionism
Read: The Fight with the Shadow
5 Archetypes, Aztecs
Read: Archetypes
EXAM POSTED TO CANVAS
7 Realism, Impressionism
10-14 SPRING BREAK
17 Film Noir
Watch: Scarlet Street (1945)
19 Post-Impressionism
Read: Long Day's Journey into Night Act I
21 Dada, Futurism
Read: Long Day's Journey into Night Act II
24 Art Nouveau, Surrealism
Read: Long Day's Journey into Night Act III
26 Long Day's Journey into Night
Read: Long Day's Journey into Night Act IV
28 Pop Art, Abstract Expressionism
31 Zeitgeist and the Hero
Watch: Little Caesar (1931)
April 2 Beats
Read: Bomb
Read: A .45 to Pay the Rent
4 Introduction to Dance
Watch: City Lights (1931)
ANALYTICAL ESSAYS EARLY DUE DATE
(Last day to turn this in and receive early notes for rewrite)
7 Modernism, Postmodernism
9 Performance
Watch: The Wrestler (2008)
11 Cubism, Psychological Idealism
14 Manifest Destiny
ANALYTICAL ESSAYS FINAL DUE DATE (20 pts. per calendar day lost if late)
16 The Shining
Watch: The Shining (1980)
18 Genes and Memes, Social Change
Watch: Flight from Death (2003)
21 Ernest Becker
EXAM DUE
EXTRA CREDIT PAPERS DUE
(NO PAPERS ACCEPTED AFTER TODAY)
Finals Day, Wednesday, April 30 Final Presentations (9 a.m. to 10:50 a.m., attendance for the full time is required)

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

The Department of Philosophy and Humanities recognizes that Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing Tools are largely accessible to students and will be used by many in higher education for the foreseeable future. However, the skills taught in the humanities are unique. We aim to educate students in the careful reading of texts, the development of rigorous writing skills, the analysis and use of arguments, and to foster the thoughtful application of each of these skills in students' personal and social development. Research has not yet determined what bearing the use of AI tools in the classroom will have upon the successful acquisition of these skills.

Therefore, at this time, online learning support platforms (like ChatGPT or Google Bard) may not be used for course assignments in our department except as explicitly authorized by the instructor. Any assignment or content composed by any resource other than the student (whether human or digital) must be attributed to the source through proper citation. Unacknowledged use of online learning support platforms is a form of scholastic dishonesty and will be treated as such.

Some of our language has been adapted from the University of Minnesota

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.