
Humanities Through the Arts

Semester: Spring

Course Prefix: HUM

Course Title: Humanities Through the Arts

Year: 2025

Course and Section #: 1010-014

Credits: 3

Course Description

This course studies the media and compositional elements of the various art forms (literature, music, film, theater, painting, sculpture, dance, and architecture), for greater understanding and enjoyment. It 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. It 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
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Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Jordan Long

Student Learning Outcomes

This course is part of UVU's General Education Program. It addresses the Practical Skills Foundation and Engaged, Integrated, and Applied Learning essential learning outcomes.

Upon successful completion, students should be able to:

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.
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Course Materials and Texts

Dennis Sporre, *Reality Through the Arts*, 8th edition.

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

- Attendance - You are required to attend all course sessions and participate in activities during those sessions. Weak course attendance affects a student's performance in all areas of evaluation. I will take attendance at the start of each class.

Exams are meant to test your proficiency in course material. If you have been attending class and participating in lectures and discussions, you will achieve this proficiency naturally. At the end of the semester, each student with perfect(or near perfect) attendance/participation will receive a boost to their final exam grade. I will add 25 points to whatever your score is, not exceeding the final total of 50.

- Critical Response - A series of short, written responses to material from the lecture and homework. These short writing assignments will promote deeper engagement with the weekly material. A grading rubric can be found on Canvas. They will be due at 10 AM before class, on each Tuesday.
- Block Exams - Every two to three weeks, students will take a short exam on recent course material. Block exams consist of 20 multiple choice questions, and two short essay questions. These exams will test knowledge of textbook readings, pre-class readings, and lecture content. They are open book and open note.
- Happenings in Humanities - Throughout the semester, students will be made aware of "Happenings in the Humanities." Each student must attend one of these events and complete a short write up on their experience.
- Final Exam - The final exam will consist of 40 multiple choice questions, and 4 short essay questions. It will test all course material. It will be closed book and closed note.
- Final Paper - An in-depth analysis of a single work of art, utilizing the formal elements of art and concepts from the course.

Grade Breakdown:

Attendance	10%
Critical Response Papers	25%
Block Exams	20%
Final Exam	15%
Final Paper	20%
Happenings In Humanities	10%

Final grades will be allocated by matching the final summary percentage with the following chart:

94– 100 = A; 90 – 92.9 = A-; 87 – 89.9 = B+; 83 – 86.9 = B; 80 – 82.9 = B-; 77 – 79.9 = C+; 73 – 76.9 = C; 70 – 72.9 = C-; 67 – 69.9 = D+; 63 – 66.9 = D; 60 – 62.9 = D-; 0 – 59.9 = E

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

Assigned chapters from the textbook, assorted excerpts from the notes, journals, and letters of various artists.

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

- Block 1
 - Week 1 - Course introduction, Film and Television
 - Week 2 - Film and Television
 - Week 3 - Literature
 - Block 2
 - Week 4 - Formal Elements of 2D Art
 - Week 5 - Formal Elements of 3D Art
 - Week 6 - Architecture
 - Block 3
 - Week 7 - Antiquity and the Middle Ages
 - Week 8 - The Renaissance, Baroque, Neoclassicism
 - Block 4
 - Week 9 - Formal Elements of Dance
 - Week 10 - Romanticism, Realism, and Impressionism
 - Block 5
 - Week 11 - Modernism
 - Week 12 - Postmodernism and the Contemporary
 - Epilogue
 - Week 13 - Forward Thinking
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Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

Don't use AI. Don't use it for grammar. Don't use it for mechanical or style editing. Don't use it for brainstorming. Don't use it for vocabulary. Don't use it for research.

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.