

HUM 101G: 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

Year: 2025

Course Prefix: HUM

Course and Section #: 101G 002

Course Title: Humanities through the Arts

Credits: 3

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. Places emphasis on the global, trans- and intercultural nature of human creativity and its impacts.

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: Dr, Matthew R Durrant

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the major forms of art 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.
5. Demonstrate knowledge and recognition of complexities inherent in global or intercultural issues.

6. Interrelate knowledgably, reflectively, responsibly, and respectfully with a society of increasing intercultural connections.

Course Materials and Texts

**Dennis J. Sporre, *Reality Through the Arts*
Eighth Edition**

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

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-Canvas Discussions – In order to get full credit for each week’s discussion you must post at least one meaningful response to the original question (**1 paragraph minimum**) and one meaningful response to one of your classmates. Approximately one discussion per week and 20 points each. You will be deducted points for responses that are too short to be meaningful.

-Reading quizzes- A multiple choice quiz will be assigned for each of the readings that will be given throughout the semester. The readings will come from your text and various other sources, but the quizzes will all be completed on Canvas. 10 points each.

-Midterm Essay – There will be one short essay assigned during the semester that will count as your midterm. This essay is your opportunity to engage with and analyze a piece of art, music, literature, or architecture in a scholarly manner. The essay is worth 200 points, must be 3-5 double-spaced pages, and must contain references following the Chicago Manual of Style.

(See: <https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>)

- Cultural Event Attendance – During the semester you will be required to attend two, live cultural events such as a musical performance, art showing, play, dance recital, etc. **These must be at the collegiate/professional level. (Your old high school band concert does not count).** After attending an event you will need to write a one-page double-spaced evaluation of each event that discusses the formal and contextual elements of the works presented. 50 Points each.
- Final Project – An important part of exploring humanity’s connection through the arts is exploring your own individual artistic taste and ability. For this project each student will create a work of art and present it to the class. **For more information, please view the Final Project Guidelines Page on Canvas.** The final project is worth 200 points

Course Grading Rubric

Each of the above assignments will be weighted in the following manner:

- Discussions/Attendance/Participation: 15%
- Reading Quizzes: 15%
- Midterm Essay: 25%
- Cultural Event Attendance: 20%
- Final Project: 25%

Grading Scale

Letter grades are broken down in the following manner*:

93%-100% = A 83%-86% = B 73%-76% = C 63%-66% = D
 90%-92% = A- 80%-82% = B- 70%-72% = C- 60%-62% = D-
 87%-89% = B+ 77%-79% = C+ 67%-69% = D+ Below 60 = E

*Please bear in mind that UVU policy defines course grades as follows:

A = "an exceptional grade indicating superior achievement"

B = "a grade indicating commendable mastery"

C = "satisfactory mastery...an average grade"

D = "substandard progress"

E = "inadequate mastery of pertinent skills or repeated absences"

Homework and Due Dates Policy

Please make sure that you turn in homework by the correct due date to receive full credit for your work. Some assignments will remain open after the posted due date for late submissions however, any assignment turned in after the posted due date will receive an automatic 30% score reduction. Discussions are the exceptions. Late discussion submissions will not be accepted, and they must be turned in by the posted due date. **Here are the final closing dates for all assignments.**

1. Reading Quizzes: Dates posted until April 20, 2025
2. Discussions: Dates posted- no late discussions accepted
3. Midterm: Dates posted until March 9, 2025
4. Final Project: Dates posted until April 20, 2025
5. Cultural Event #1: March 9, 2025
6. Cultural Event #2: April 20, 2025

The final closing date for everything is April 20, 2025. No Work of any kind will be accepted after this date.

Attendance policy

Attendance is required at all class sessions and will be recorded each day. Your attendance score will be factored into your participation grade. Please make every effort to be to class each day and on time. **Students who have perfect attendance at the end of the semester will have their lowest reading quiz score dropped.**

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

See General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion below

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Week	Topic	Readings/Assignments
Week 1 Tuesday 1/7 Thursday 1/9	Creativity and Humanity What is Art? Form, Style, Context, Meaning	Text pgs. 19-36
Week 2 Tuesday 1/14 Thursday 1/16	Materials of Art Visual Art/Sculpture Architecture	Text pgs. 38-82 Text pgs. 83-111
Week 3 Tuesday 1/21 Thursday 1/23	Materials of Art Literature Theater/Film	Text pgs. 129-146 Text pgs. 147-177
Week 4 Tuesday 1/28	Materials of Art Music	Text pgs. 112-128 Text pgs. 178-190

Thursday 1/30	Dance	
Week 5 Tuesday 2/4 Thursday 2/6	The Ancient World Sumer: The Epic of Gilgamesh Greece/Rome/Middle Ages	Poetry, Sculpture, Architecture, Theater Text pgs. 196-209 Text pgs. 215-217, 223-235
Week 6 Tuesday 2/11 Thursday 2/13	Intersections of Art and Faith Buddhism/Islam: Art and Eternity Christianity: Music and Symbolism	Music, Architecture, Sculpture Text 220-222, 209-211, 258-26 Readings Provided on Canvas
Week 7 Tuesday 2/18 Thursday 2/20	The Renaissance Overview: Da Vinci/Michelangelo Shakespeare	Painting, Sculpture, Theater Text pgs. 270-287 Readings Provided on Canvas
Week 8 Tuesday 2/25 Thursday 2/27	The Baroque Era Art and Music: Versailles, Caravaggio, Bernini, Monteverdi New Musical Genres: Dance/Concerto, Lully, Vivaldi	Architecture, Art, Sculpture, Text pgs. 289-298
Week 9 Tuesday 3/4 Thursday 3/6	Enlightenment and Revolution Science, Revolution, Neoclassicism: David, Wright Haydn, Mozart Beethoven SPRING BREAK March 10-15	Art, Architecture, Literature, Text pgs. 298-307
Week 10 Tuesday 3/18 Thursday 3/20	Nature and Romanticism: West vs. East Western Romanticism: Friedrich, Moran, Bierstadt, Cole, Bonheur Eastern Philosophy and Nature: Hokusai, Basho	Art, Music, Literature, Poetry Text: 254-257, 308 -321, 348-3 Readings Provided on Canvas
Week 11 Tuesday 3/25 Thursday 3/27	Into the Modern Era Poetry and Music: Lieder and Modern Music, Schubert New “-isms” in the modern age - Riot at the Ballet: The Rite of Spring	Music, Painting, Dance Text pgs. 361-374 Text pgs. 377-381.
Week 12 Tuesday 4/1 Thursday 4/3	Indigenous America The Puebloans and Cahokians Film: The Mystery of Chaco Canyon	Art, Architecture, Literature Readings provided on Canvas
Week 13 Tuesday 4/8 Thursday 4/10	American Melting Pot Environmental Humanities and the Mythology of the West Music in the Americas, African influence	Art, Photography, Music, Poetry Readings provided on Canvas Text pgs. 391-397

Week 14 Tuesday 4/15 Thursday 4/17	Ancient and Modern Stories Storytelling Through Dance Storytelling through film and music: Zimmer and W
Week 15 Tuesday 4/22 Thursday 4/24	Art and Technology The Intersection of Art, Science, and Everyday L FINAL

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

Like all tools, Generative AI can be useful in many ways but it can also be abused. Please remember that artificial intelligence is no substitute for your own. It is, nevertheless a tool available for you to use. Here are some appropriate ways you may use this tool for this course.

- Helping you create outlines and organizing your thoughts.
- Brainstorming and helping you generate creative ideas.
- Checking spelling and grammar.

These are some things that would be considered inappropriate uses of Generative AI for this course.

- Having AI complete assignments such as discussion board posts and responses to reading quiz questions.
- Using AI to complete drafts of course papers.
- Using AI to write complete sentences, paragraphs, or complete sections of any writing you do for this course.

You are responsible for citing any portions of your work that are generated by AI.

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.