

College of the Humanities

**HUMS 1500**  
**INTRODUCTION TO THE HUMANITIES:**  
**FIVE BOOKS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD**  
**WINTER TERM 2014**

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Co-ordinating Instructor:  
Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac

gregory.macisaac@carleton.ca

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Office Hours:  
Wednesdays 9AM—10AM  
& Fridays 9AM—10AM

Office: Paterson Hall 2A40  
520-2600 x 1803

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**Calendar Description:**

A reading-intensive course on five influential books from Antiquity to the present day. Works may include the Bible, the *Bhagavad Gita*, Homer's *Odyssey*, Plato's *Republic*, Dante's *Inferno*, Machiavelli's *The Prince*, Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil*, Marx's *Communist Manifesto*.

**Lectures:**

Mondays and Wednesdays 16:05—17:25 in Tory Building 342.

**Faculty:**

Lectures will be given by five core-seminar faculty from the Bachelor of Humanities program:

Prof. Kimberly Stratton, Associate Professor of Humanities  
Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac, Associate Professor of Humanities  
Prof. Erik Stephenson, Instructor in Humanities  
Prof. Micheline White, Associate Professor of Humanities  
Prof. Farhang Rajaei, Professor of Humanities

The Co-ordinating Instructor for 2014 is Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac. All questions regarding the course are to be directed to him.

**Required Texts:**

The following are available at All Books (327 Rideau Street, next to the Bytown Cinema, tel. 613 789-9544):

Plato. *Complete Works*. Ed. John M. Cooper. Indianapolis/Cambridge: Hackett, 1997.  
Boethius. *Consolation of Philosophy*. Tr. V.E. Watts. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1969.  
Shakespeare. *The Tempest*. Signet Classic, 1998.  
Hannah Arendt. *The Human Condition*. University of Chicago Press, 1958.

**Online Readings:**

The following will be posted on cuLearn:

- The Bible, the Book of Genesis.

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**Grades:**

Grades for the course will be based on five multiple-choice tests, one on each book, posted on the cuLearn site for HUMS 1500. These tests are to be written on a computer, outside of class-time.

Each test is worth 20% of the final grade for the course. There is no final examination in this course.

**Online Tests:**

Each test will be accessible on cuLearn for a period beginning on the day of the discussion class for a given book, which follows two weeks of lectures on that book, and ending at midnight on the corresponding class the following week, or the equivalent calendar day if no class is held the following week. Students must write each test within this eight-day window given to them on cuLearn. Any student who does not write the test in this eight-day window will be assigned a grade of zero for that book.

Once a student begins to write a test, he or she will have 3 hours to complete it. If a student does not complete their test within the 3-hour window given to them on cuLearn, they will be assigned a grade only for that portion of the test that they complete. For example, a student who does not finish a test, answering only 50% of the questions, can get only a maximum of 50% of the credit for that test.

Exceptions to these rules may only be made because of illness that incapacitates a student for the full seven days that the test is available on cuLearn, or for some other similar reason that makes it physically impossible for the student to find 3 hours within that week to write the test. Such reasons must be documented by a medical certificate, or equivalent third-party evidence of severe incapacitation.

**Attendance:** Students are responsible for all material covered, announcements made, and course documents distributed, whether they are present in class or not.

**READINGS AND ASSIGNMENT DATES**

**Required Readings:**

- The Book of Genesis (posted as a PDF on cuLearn)
- Plato, *The Republic*
- Boethius, *The Consolation of Philosophy*
- Shakespeare, *The Tempest*
- Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition*

Class #	M/W	Month	Day	Lecture topics and tests
1	M	Jan.	6	Lecture: Introduction Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
2	W	Jan.	8	Lecture: The Bible, The Book of Genesis 1:1 Prof. Kimberly Stratton

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Class #	M/W	Month	Day	Lecture topics and tests
3	M	Jan.	13	Lecture: The Bible, The Book of Genesis 1:2-11 Prof. Kimberly Stratton
4	W	Jan.	15	Lecture: The Bible, The Book of Genesis 12-27 Prof. Kimberly Stratton
5	M	Jan.	20	Lecture: The Bible, The Book of Genesis 28-50 Prof. Kimberly Stratton
6	W	Jan.	22	Discussion: The Bible, The Book of Genesis Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac <b>Beginning of window for Test 1, on The Book of Genesis</b>
7	M	Jan.	27	Lecture: Plato, <i>Republic</i> I Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
8	W	Jan.	29	Lecture: Plato, <i>Republic</i> II-IV Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac <b>End of window for Test 1, on The Book of Genesis</b>
9	M	Feb.	3	Lecture: Plato, <i>Republic</i> V-VII Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
10	W	Feb.	5	Lecture: Plato, <i>Republic</i> VIII-X Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
11	M	Feb.	10	Discussion: <i>Republic</i> Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac <b>Beginning of window for Test 2, on Republic</b>
12	W	Feb.	12	Lecture: Boethius, <i>The Consolation of Philosophy</i> I-II Prof. Erik Stephenson
		Feb.	17-21	Winter Term Break
	M	Feb.	17	<b>End of window for Test 2, on Republic</b>
13	M	Feb.	24	Lecture: Boethius, <i>The Consolation of Philosophy</i> III Prof. Erik Stephenson
14	W	Feb.	26	Lecture: Boethius, <i>The Consolation of Philosophy</i> IV Prof. Erik Stephenson
15	M	Mar.	3	Lecture: Boethius, <i>The Consolation of Philosophy</i> V Prof. Erik Stephenson
16	W	Mar.	5	Discussion: <i>The Consolation of Philosophy</i> Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac <b>Beginning of window for Test 3, on The Consolation of Philosophy</b>
17	M	Mar.	10	Lecture: Shakespeare, <i>The Tempest</i> Prof. Micheline White
18	W	Mar.	12	Lecture: Shakespeare, <i>The Tempest</i> Prof. Micheline White <b>End of window for Test 3, on The Consolation of Philosophy</b>

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Class #	M/W	Month	Day	Lecture topics and tests
19	M	Mar.	17	Lecture: Shakespeare, <i>The Tempest</i> Prof. Micheline White
20	W	Mar.	19	Lecture: Shakespeare, <i>The Tempest</i> Prof. Micheline White
21	M	Mar.	24	Discussion: <i>The Tempest</i> Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac <b>Beginning of window for Test 4, on <i>The Tempest</i></b>
22	W	Mar.	26	Lecture: Hannah Arendt, <i>The Human Condition</i> Prof. Farhang Rajaee
23	M	Mar.	31	Lecture: Hannah Arendt, <i>The Human Condition</i> Prof. Farhang Rajaee <b>End of window for Test 4, on <i>The Tempest</i></b>
24	W	Apr.	2	Lecture: Hannah Arendt, <i>The Human Condition</i> Prof. Farhang Rajaee
25	M	Apr.	7	Lecture: Hannah Arendt, <i>The Human Condition</i> Prof. Farhang Rajaee
	W	Apr.	9	<b>Beginning of window for Test 5, on <i>The Human Condition</i></b>
	W	Apr.	16	<b>End of window for Test 5, on <i>The Human Condition</i></b>

## REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

### COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

### PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course

### GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

### WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 9, 2013**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 8, 2014**.

### REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: [carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/](http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/)

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by **Nov. 8, 2013** for the Fall term and **March 7, 2014** for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/](http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/)

### PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please [contact](#) the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

### ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library