

HUMS 1500
INTRODUCTION TO THE HUMANITIES:
FIVE BOOKS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD
WINTER TERM 2015

Co-ordinating Instructor:
Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac

gregory.macisaac@carleton.ca

Office Hours:
Thursdays 14:30—16:30

Office: Paterson Hall 2A40
520-2600 x 1803

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:

Wednesdays & Fridays, 8:30AM—10AM in the University Centre, Room 182.

Faculty:

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

Prof. Shawna Dolansky, Adjunct Research Professor of Humanities

Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac, Associate Professor of Humanities

Prof. Farhang Rajaei, Professor of Humanities

Prof. Noel Salmond, Associate Professor of Humanities

The Co-ordinating Instructor for 2015 is Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac. All questions regarding the course should 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.

Myths from Mesopotamia. trans. Stephanie Dalley. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000.

The Bhagavad Gita. trans. Barbara Stoler Miller. New York: Bantam, 2004.

Dante. *The Divine Comedy 1: Hell*. trans. Dorothy Sayers. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1949.

Machiavelli. *The Prince*. trans. George Bull. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1961.

Please purchase these editions/translations.

COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES
HUMS 1500: FIVE BOOKS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Grades:

Grades for the course will be based on four 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 25% of the final grade for the course. The fourth test will serve as the final examination in the course.

Online Tests:

Each test will be accessible on cuLearn for a period indicated on the class schedule, beginning in the morning of the first day of the indicated period and ending at 11:59PM on the final day of the indicated period.

Students must write each test within this window. A student who does not write a test will be assigned a zero for that test.

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. The final examination must also be completed within three hours of beginning the exam.

Exceptions to these rules may only be made because of illness that incapacitates a student for the full period 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 period to write the test. Such reasons must be documented by a medical certificate, or equivalent third-party evidence of severe incapacitation. Exceptions to the final examination period must be through a formal deferral of the final examination, granted by the Registrar's office.

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

READINGS, LECTURES, AND ASSIGNMENT DATES

Required Readings:

- *The Epic of Gilgamesh*
- *The Bhagavad Gita*
- Plato, *The Republic*
- Dante, *The Divine Comedy 1: Hell*
- Machiavelli, *The Prince*

Class #	W/F	Mth	Day	Lecture topics and tests
1	W	Jan.	7	Introduction Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac

COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES
HUMS 1500: FIVE BOOKS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Class #	W/F	Mth	Day	Lecture topics and tests
2	F	Jan.	9	Lecture: <i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i> Prof. Shawna Dolansky
3	W	Jan.	14	Lecture: <i>The Bhagavad Gita</i> Prof. Noel Salmond
4	F	Jan.	16	Lecture: <i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i> Prof. Shawna Dolansky
5	W	Jan.	21	Lecture: <i>The Bhagavad Gita</i> Prof. Noel Salmond
6	F	Jan.	23	Lecture: <i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i> Prof. Shawna Dolansky
7	W	Jan.	28	Lecture: <i>The Bhagavad Gita</i> Prof. Noel Salmond
8	F	Jan.	30	Discussion: <i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i> Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
9	W	Feb.	4	Discussion: <i>The Bhagavad Gita</i> Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac Window opens for Test 1, on <i>Gilgamesh & Bhagavad Gita</i>
10	F	Feb.	6	Lecture: Plato, <i>Republic</i> I Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
11	W	Feb.	11	Lecture: Plato, <i>Republic</i> II-IV Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac Window closes for Test 1, on <i>Gilgamesh & Bhagavad Gita</i>
12	F	Feb.	13	Lecture: Plato, <i>Republic</i> V-VI Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
		Feb.	16-20	Winter Term Break
13	W	Feb.	25	Lecture: Plato, <i>Republic</i> VI-VII Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
14	F	Feb.	27	Lecture: Plato, <i>Republic</i> VIII-X Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
15	W	Mar.	4	Discussion: <i>The Republic</i> Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac Window opens for Test 2, on <i>Republic</i>
16	F	Mar.	6	Lecture: Dante, <i>Inferno</i> I-IX Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
17	W	Mar.	11	Lecture: Dante, <i>Inferno</i> XI-XXII Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac Window closes for Test 2, on <i>Republic</i>
18	F	Mar.	13	Lecture: Dante, <i>Inferno</i> XXIII-XXXIV Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac

COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES
HUMS 1500: FIVE BOOKS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Class #	W/F	Mth	Day	Lecture topics and tests
19	W	Mar.	18	Discussion: <i>Inferno</i> Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac Window opens for Test 3, on <i>Inferno</i>
20	F	Mar.	20	Lecture: Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i> Prof. Farhang Rajae
21	W	Mar.	25	Lecture: Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i> Prof. Farhang Rajae Window closes for Test 3, on <i>Inferno</i>
22	F	Mar.	27	Lecture: Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i> Prof. Farhang Rajae
23	W	Apr.	1	Discussion: Machiavelli, <i>The Prince</i> Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
24	W	Apr.	8	Conclusion; Review Prof. D. Gregory MacIsaac
		Apr.	11	Beginning of window for Final Exam, on <i>The Prince</i>
		Apr.	23	End of window for Final Exam, on <i>The Prince</i>

COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES
HUMS 1500: FIVE BOOKS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

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 “to use and pass off as one's own idea or product the work of another without expressly giving credit to another” (*Calendar*). 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 indicating this through *both* the appropriate use of quotation marks *and* citations in footnotes;
- Lengthy and close paraphrasing of another's work (i.e., extensive copying interspersed with a few phrases or sentences of your own); and
- Submitting written work produced by someone else as your own work (e.g., another student's term paper, a paper purchased from a commercial term-paper factory, or materials or term papers downloaded from the Internet).

Plagiarism is a serious offence, and it cannot be dealt with by the Instructors alone. In all cases where plagiarism is suspected, Instructors are now *required* to notify their Chair or Director, who in turn is *required* to report the matter to the Associate Deans of the Faculty. The Associate Deans then conduct a formal investigation, including an interview with the student. Penalties can range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work, a final grade of F for the course, suspension from all studies, to expulsion from the University.

The Senate also considers an instructional offence the submission of “*substantially the same piece of work to two or more courses without the prior written permission of the instructors . . . involved*” (*Calendar*).

Passages copied word-for-word without quotation marks, whether the source is cited or not, constitute plagiarism.

All of these guidelines apply equally to internet sources. Note that plagiarism from internet sources is very easy to detect.

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. 3, 2012. The last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter (Full Term) and Winter term courses is April 10, 2013.

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/

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

COLLEGE OF THE HUMANITIES
HUMS 1500: FIVE BOOKS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

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.9, 2012 for the Fall term and March 8, 2013 for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: 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:

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 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library