

Humanities I: Human Law, Divine Law

sections 15 and 20, M-Th 12-1 and 2-3, SEC 303

go straight to the [daily syllabus](#)

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Office hours: T/Th 3-4, and by appointment

Texts:

Western Civilization, The Continuing Experiment by Noble et al
The Bible (Books of Genesis, Mark, and John)
The Confessions by St. Augustine
The Wakefield Mystery Plays ed. by Martial Rose
Christian Liberty by Martin Luther
Measure for Measure by William Shakespeare (Oxford edition)

Course information:

Our goal this semester will be to come to a greater understanding of the cultural inheritance of what we call “the West.” By reading texts that either shaped or reflected important ideas in the West’s history (or histories), and by learning how to think about those texts in an intellectually serious way that reflects the best of our abilities to read and understand.

My job in this class is to help guide you towards becoming better thinkers and writers by working through the texts with you and by giving you opportunities to show me that you are learning. Your duty, in turn, is to read the texts, to make an honest effort at understanding them, and to produce written work that is better than anything you’ve ever done before in your life. I will be helping you to do these things, but your efforts will undoubtedly fail if you do not put some part of yourself in play; you must, therefore, be ready to think new ideas and work in new ways, or this whole course will be a miserable and unpleasant experience for you.

Learning well will require you to do three different kinds of work: the daily work of reading and thinking about the texts, the short-term work of taking exams and writing brief papers, and the longer-term work of writing a major research paper (of 8-10 pages) that answers the following question:

How does any aspect of the text of your choice reflect the historical circumstance in which it was written?

This research paper will be split into four different assignments, each of which is outlined on the syllabus below. I will be giving you more information as the semester wears on.

You will also write two reviews of two pages each, one of a musical or artistic event, and one of a public lecture. You will also write three two-page responses on topics I will announce over the course of the semester. Exams, given weekly, will be short-answer and will focus exclusively on the history textbook. You may drop your two lowest exam scores.

The sum total of your labor in this course will be graded as follows:

Exams: 12 @ 10 points each =	120 points
Reviews: 2 @ 10 points each =	20 points
Responses: 3 @ 10 points each =	30 points
Topic statement (RP) =	10 points
Annotated bibliography (RP) =	20 points
Prospectus and outline (RP) =	20 points
Final paper (RP) =	80 points
Total:	300 points

(270-300 = A range; 230-269 = B range; 195-229 = C range; 165-195 = D range; 0-165 = F)

On top of this will be your class participation grade, which can range from -10 to +10 points. It will be determined by the degree to which you help the class learn, or keep it from learning.

Lateness and absences:

You get a week off free. On your fifth absence, I drop your final grade by a third. On your eighth absence, you automatically fail the course. There are no exceptions to this rule, and no excuses unless approved by the university administration.

I don't accept late work unless you talk about it with me in advance. Unexcused late work will receive a grade of 0. If you are not in class when something is due (or when we take an exam), you will receive a grade of 0.

Plagiarism and academic honesty:

If you use someone else's ideas, whether through direct quotation or paraphrase, you need to say so. Use parenthetical references and a works cited list (as explained in the *MLA Style Guide*, available in the library or at the bookstore) to credit your sources.

Students with disabilities:

Students requesting instructional accommodations due to disabilities must arrange for such accommodations through the Office of Disability Services. The ODS is located at 213 Student Services Center (273-2676).

Daily Syllabus

August 21	<i>August 22</i>	<i>August 23</i>	<i>August 24</i>
Introduction		Noble I	Genesis 1-10
<i>August 28</i>	<i>August 29</i>	<i>August 30</i>	<i>August 31</i>

Noble II	Genesis 10-25		Exam 1 Genesis 25-37
<i>September 4</i> Labor Day	<i>September 5</i> Noble III Study abroad visit	<i>September 6</i> Genesis 37-50	September 7 Exam 2
<i>September 11</i> Noble IV First response due	<i>September 12</i> Mark 1-16	<i>September 12</i> Mark 1-16	<i>September 13</i> Exam 3
<i>September 18</i> Noble V John 1-11	<i>September 19</i> John 11-21	<i>September 20</i> Writing issues	<i>September 21</i> Exam 4
<i>September 25</i> Noble VI	<i>September 26</i> Library visit	<i>September 27</i> Augustine Bk 1	<i>September 29</i> Exam 5 Augustine Bk 2
<i>October 2</i> Noble VII	<i>October 3</i> Augustine Bk 4	<i>October 4</i> Augustine Bk 8	<i>October 5</i> Exam 6 First review due
<i>October 9</i> Noble VIII Bibliography due	<i>October 10</i> Augustine Bk 9	<i>October 11</i> Augustine Bk 11	<i>October 12</i> Exam 7
<i>October 16</i> Noble IX Writing issues	<i>October 17</i> Wakefield	<i>October 18</i> Wakefield Second response due	<i>October 19</i> Exam 8
<i>October 23</i> Noble X Wakefield	<i>October 24</i> Wakefield	<i>October 25</i> Wakefield	<i>October 26</i> Exam 9

<i>October 30</i> Noble XI Topic statement due	<i>October 31</i>	<i>November 1</i>	<i>November 2</i> Exam 10
<i>November 6</i> Noble XII	<i>November 7</i> Luther	<i>November 8</i> Luther	<i>November 9</i> Exam 11
<i>November 13</i> Noble XIV (<i>Out of order</i>)	<i>November 14</i> Luther	<i>November 15</i> Writing issues	<i>November 16</i> Exam 12
November 20 Prospectus due Shakespeare Act I	<i>November 21</i>	<i>November 22</i> Thanksgiving	<i>November 23</i> Thanksgiving
<i>November 27</i> Noble XIII Third response due	<i>November 28</i> Shakespeare Act II	<i>November 29</i> Writing issues	<i>November 30</i> Exam 13 Second review due
<i>December 4</i> Noble XV Shakespeare Act III	<i>December 5</i> Shakespeare Act IV	<i>December 6</i> Shakespeare Act V	<i>December 7</i> Exam 14
<i>December 11</i> Examination period, no class	<i>December 12</i>	<i>December 13</i> Reseach paper due in my office by 10 a.m.	<i>December 14</i>