

Texas A&M University – Texarkana
HUMA 1301: Introduction to the Humanities
Fall 2020 Course Syllabus
Instructor: Dr. Corrine Hinton

Meeting Time: Web-based
Email Address: Corrine.Hinton@tamut.edu
Phone Number: 903.223.3124
Office: UC 321K
Office Hours:

- In-Office: Mondays, 4:45-5:45pm, UC 321K
- Zoom: Mondays, 10:30-11:30am; Wednesdays, 2-3pm; Thursdays, 12-1pm; Sundays, 7-8pm (all virtual hours are accessible via Zoom meeting ID **984 197 9999**, password **Hinto20!**)

CONTACTING ME

Because this course is web-based, contact with the instructor may be limited. *Email is the best way to reach me, as these messages also go directly to my cell phone. Please **DO NOT** use the Blackboard messaging system to contact me, as messages may get lost or you may receive a delayed response.* Email me at Corrine.Hinton@TAMUT.edu with any questions or concerns you might have. While I check my email frequently, I am not attached to it, so please be patient – especially during the evenings and weekends. If you do not receive a response from me within 48 hours, you may assume I did not receive your email and you should try again. *A response from me is the only guarantee that I received your message.*

COURSE NUMBER: HUMA 1301.03E (CRN 81028)

CREDITS: 3 SCH

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to the Humanities (Honors edition)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This stand-alone course is an interdisciplinary survey of cultures focusing on the philosophical and aesthetic factors in human values with an emphasis on the historical development of the individual and society and the need to create.

Note: each section of Intro to Humanities works a bit differently, depending on the faculty teaching it; the one shared component across all sections is the inclusion of philosophy/ethics. This section of the class is subtitled: *Understanding America*. In our time together, we'll examine political philosophies relevant to democracies and position those against a selection of primary source materials from history, music, art, and national monuments.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

All required readings, images, and video/audio files will be linked and/or available through the course Blackboard site.

REQUIRED RESOURCES

- Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Students have access to a free version of Microsoft Office 365 Education for Students to install on up to 5 PCs, Macs, or mobile devices. Visit <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/education/products/office> to access; be sure to use your TAMUT email account.
- Use of your ACE-email linked Google Drive (we may be using Docs, Slides, and Chat)

EMAIL ACCOUNT:

Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

STUDENT LEARNER OUTCOMES:

Students who successfully complete *Humanities 1301* will be able to

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works (texts/objects) in the arts and humanities;
2. Articulate how these works (texts/objects) express the values of the individual and society within a historical and social context;
3. Articulate an informed personal response to and critical analysis of works (texts/objects) in the arts and humanities; and
4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the influence of literature, historical documents, visual and structural art, music, and philosophy on cultural experiences.

COURSE DELIVERY METHOD:

Online via the course Blackboard site.

SOME NOTES ABOUT THIS ONLINE COURSE

You are taking an online writing course facilitated through the university's Learning Management System (LMS) called *Blackboard*. You need to understand how to operate the features of Blackboard and ensure you have the technical aptitude and equipment necessary to maximize your potential for succeeding in this course. I encourage you to visit www.tamut.edu/keeplearning for an abundance of helpful resources.

To navigate this class properly, you should know how to:

- Email me from your TAMUT (ACE) email account;
- Access ALL features of *Blackboard* (**CAUTION:** mobile devices and tablets **do not** provide you with 100% access to all features of a class, such as the ability to upload assignments);
- Download and view PDF documents/handouts/assignment sheets (Adobe Acrobat reader may be required);
- Download and view PowerPoint presentations, audio files, and videos;
- Save your writing assignments in .doc, .docx, and/or .rtf file formats (these file types are compatible with *Blackboard* and with Microsoft Word, allowing me to provide feedback and respond appropriately to your assignments);

- Upload assignments (composed in Word or another word processing program) as attachments into the appropriate assignment area in *Blackboard* (**NOTE**: you will **never** email me an assignment unless directly told to do so);
- Check feedback on your assignments and monitor your grades;
- Create threads, post responses, and reply to the posts of other students/the instructor via the course discussion board; and
- Navigate common features of Microsoft Word, including the ability to change font styles, colors, sizes, insert headers/page numbers, modify paragraph spacing and page margins, and utilize your Spell Checker and Word Count features.

My role is to guide you through the outcomes of this course so you may be a more knowledgeable and skillful academic writer, not to hold your hand when it comes to the technical stuff. If you experience any technical issues along the way, you need to notify me immediately. Do not miss deadlines and then tell me you were having technical issues; ***these are not acceptable excuses for delayed or missed assignments or deadlines***. For technical support or assistance with Blackboard, contact the IT Help Desk at ISITE@tamut.edu or call 903-334-6603.

RECOMMENDED TECHNOLOGY/BLACKBOARD SUPPORT

The following is a list of resources available to you to help educate yourself about navigating most of the fundamental aspects of Blackboard. **If this is your first online course or your first experience with Blackboard, I urge you to check out these tutorials/instructional resources:** <https://tamut.edu/Academics/Online-Education/index.html>.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE COURSES

The following are the minimum computer requirements for online learning:

- A computer capable of handling streaming video. A mid-range multi-core CPU should be adequate.
- A sound card.
- A high-speed internet connection preferably directly connected to the computer via a hard-wired Ethernet connection rather than wirelessly connected.
- Virus and adware protection software.
- Microsoft Word, minimum version 2007 or above.
- [Mozilla Firefox](#) browser available free.
- The most recent versions of Java, Flash, QuickTime, Adobe Reader, and Shockwave. You can check this in the Firefox browser by visiting: [Firefox Plugin Check Tool](#)

Please note: some instructors may require the use of a headset with microphone and/or a webcam. If so, the cost of these items is not included in your course fees and will need to be acquired at your own expense.

Blackboard Mobile for iOS and Android Devices

Android and iOS devices are currently supported using the Blackboard Mobile App, available for free from your App Store.

The Blackboard Mobile App provides **limited access** to courses, including the ability to read and contribute to discussions, check grades and announcements, access content, read and comment on blogs, reflect in journals, link to your personal Dropbox, and receive push notifications when courses are updated. Limited course features may also be available via your mobile device's browser; however, **your mobile device does not replace your personal computer and should not be used as a substitute for one**. High stakes assignments, tests, etc. should be completed on your personal computer, and not on your mobile device.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students are expected to complete all assignments including homework, papers, exams, and activities as outlined in the syllabus and course calendar.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Note: All major writing projects and individual assignments for this class will be submitted through the course Blackboard site and enabled with Safe Assign. See Academic Integrity and Safe Assign for more information and details.

Responses (10 x 15 points each)

150 points

Students will complete and submit responses. Responses should articulate students' critical analysis of and personal responses to course readings and discussions. Specific prompts for each response will be given on the course calendar. Responses should be a minimum of 300 words (typed, double-spaced) in MLA format (8th ed.).

Engagement Activities (10 x 15 points each)

150 points

As an online class, your engagement in the material via conversations with your classmates is essential. "Talking" to each other via the discussion board forums helps simulate what discussions look like in face-to-face classes, clarifying your understanding of the material and giving you the opportunity to ask and answer questions. Fulfilling your discussion forum requirements is worth 25% of your course grade, so please take them seriously.

Oral History Project

150 points

To investigate the lived experiences of everyday Americans, students will complete an oral history project. The project consists of an oral history interview, written report, and public presentation. A separate, more detailed prompt will be distributed.

Paper

150 points

Students will choose one of the unit themes about which to write a critical, researched essay which integrates three different primary sources (e.g., a song, a piece of art, and a monument; or, a historical text, a song, and a piece of art). Two of the three pieces must have been assigned in class while the third must be a new piece. A separate, more detailed prompt will be distributed.

SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS

Responses	150 points
Engagement	150 points
Oral History Project	150 points
Paper	150 points

Total Points Available: 600

GRADING SCALE

- 538-600 accumulated points (90-100%) = A
- 478-537 accumulated points (80-89%) = B
- 418-477 accumulated points (70-79%) = C
- 358-417 accumulated points (60-69%) = D
- Fewer than 358 accumulated points (0-59%) = F

STUDENT ACADEMIC RESOURCES (WWW.TAMUT.EDU/KEEPLEARNING)

Disability Accommodations

Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.

Military Personnel & Veterans

Thank you for serving our country. I recognize the complexities that may occur when you are an active military student or student veteran. If you want to self-disclose your prior or current military status with me, please feel comfortable doing so. Know that I will never discuss nor ask you to disclose this information with others (including your fellow students). If you have temporary or permanent physical or mental health concerns that may warrant reasonable accommodations, please speak with Mr. Carl Greig (CGreig@TAMUT.edu) in the Student Life office. You may also discuss these concerns with me privately – although you are not obligated to do so. Drill schedules, activation for active duty, complications with education benefits disbursements, VA appointments, and other unforeseen military or veteran-related developments can complicate your academic life. If you make me aware of any complications, I will do everything I can to assist you in resolving the matter and/or putting you in touch with the official university personnel who can help. Recommended resources include the Manager of our Veterans Services Center, Mr. Robert Hernandez (903.334.6602, RHernandez@TAMUT.edu), Counseling Services (903.223.3186), and your Student Veterans Association chapter officers (TAMUT.SVA@gmail.com). You should also know there is a Veterans Center inside the first floor of the BASS building where you can chill, grab a cup of coffee, work on homework, or chat with other veterans.

PATH - Personal Achievement Through Help

The PATH Program is a mentorship program for African American males and is designed to encourage and support students through guidance and engagement to enhance academic and personal success. If you are interested in participating in PATH, please contact Doneyne Smith, PATH Program Manager in UC 330B (903.334.6753 or doneyne.smith@tamut.edu). You can learn more about PATH online at <https://www.tamut.edu/Academics/Student-Support/PATH/index.html>.

Red River Innovation Lab for the Humanities

Located in SCIT 120, The Red River Innovation Lab for the Humanities offers an engaging space to foster collaboration among faculty scholars, students, librarians, and practitioners for the exploration and advancement of innovative research in the humanities. The RRILH offers

students and faculty access to equipment (cameras, digital voice recorders, and microphones), resources, and hardware/software for audio and video editing and research. See the RRILH Facebook page for the most current hours: <https://www.facebook.com/RRILH/>.

Success Center

The Success Center at A&M-Texarkana offers a variety of academic support services for all students, free of charge. Services include group study sessions, individual tutoring across a variety of subjects (including some online), supplemental instruction, computers, and workshops. The Success Center is located in UC 330. Visit the Success Center homepage to learn more - <http://www.tamut.edu/Academics/Student-Support/Success-Center/index.html>.

Transfer Students

A&M-Texarkana has an office of student support specifically designed for transfer students. The I-Care (Integrating a Culture of Academic Retention and Excellence) office offers completion coaching, advising, tutoring, free printing and copying, calculator checkout, and other services. Please visit the I-CARE office in UC 234 or email i-care@tamut.edu. You can learn more about the I-CARE program online at <http://www.tamut.edu/Academics/Student-Support/I-CARE.html>.

TRiO Student Support Services

The mission of TRiO Student Support Services is to provide an academic and personal support system to meet participants' individual needs, enabling them to be successful in obtaining their degrees. Students who may qualify for TRiO support include low-income college students, first generation college students, and college students with disabilities. For more information about TRiO, you can go by the TRiO office in UC 335 or email trioss@tamut.edu. You can also visit the TRiO website at <https://www.tamut.edu/Academics/Student-Support/TRIO/index.html>.

COURSE POLICIES & PRINCIPLES

Land Acknowledgement

A Land Acknowledgement is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as original stewards of this land. In that spirit and to remind ourselves and our community, I want to acknowledge that we gather at Texas A&M University – Texarkana on the traditional land of the Osage Nation and Caddo Nation peoples, past and present. I honor the with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. We are also obligated to reflect on and actively address these histories and the role this university has played in shaping them.

COURSE SETUP AND ASSIGNMENT DEADLINES

This online course will be setup in Blackboard using weekly modules that run in weekly increments. Check the Module on Monday to review the TO DO for the week. **Assignments** (response papers, projects) for that module will be due by 11:59pm on the date indicated. **Engagement Activities** for the week may require amended deadlines. For example, you may be asked to post something to the discussion board by Thursday of the week and reply to your classmates by Sunday. Or, for example, you may be asked to contribute to a collaborative activity in Google by Thursday and be sure to finish by Sunday. In short: you CANNOT wait until Saturday to do everything this course requires for the week in order to submit by Sunday.

You can locate due date in two different locations: in the weekly module description and through the assignment functionality when you view/submit the assignment.

CLASS PARTICIPATION FOR ONLINE COURSES

Students are responsible for beginning their participation on the **first class day** by logging on and completing assignments according to the learning modules. Failure to submit online assignments between the first day of classes and the University census date (according to the University schedule) will result in an administrative drop from the course. **Students with federal loans and/or grants, please note:** participation is monitored in online courses. In the event a student withdraws from a course, the student will be required to refund all federal funds prorated from the last date of participation. A student's last access to Blackboard **would not suffice** as participation. The required weekly activity could include a comment to a blog, a discussion board posting, a journal entry, a quiz or exam, a submitted assignment, or other measurable and tracked activity.

Late Work

Generally, I do not accept work after the deadline or permit students to make up late work. If you cannot meet an assignment deadline, it is in your best interest to contact me prior to the deadline to discuss any options you may have.

Contacting Me

If you need to meet with me privately, please contact me via email to make an appointment or drop in during my scheduled office hours (on the first page of this syllabus). Many questions can be answered via email and I'm rather timely in my responses, so email is the best option for getting into contact with me right away.

Student Conduct, Netiquette, and Civil Discourse

All students at A&M-Texarkana, by virtue of being enrolled, are subject to the university's *Student Code of Conduct*, a copy of which is available to you online. Even if you have not read the *Student Code of Conduct*, you are still subject to its parameters. I encourage you to review Section III ("Freedom from Discrimination"), Section V ("Academic Rules and Procedures"), and Section VIII ("Non-Academic Disciplinary Rules and Procedures"). The university, including its physical spaces (e.g., classrooms, hallways, etc.) and virtual spaces (social media, Blackboard) are considered a public space. This means, you are required to abide by the university's code of conduct in all applicable campus spaces. Your words (verbal, written, or nonverbal), actions, and behaviors – online or in person – are your responsibility. *Netiquette* refers to the words we use to interact with others in online environments, when the benefits of nonverbal cues and tone are unavailable to us. In your interactions in our class, whether they are in a synchronous session on zoom or on the discussion board, are expected to adhere to basic netiquette guidelines. TAMUT's netiquette guidelines are available to you [here](#). During our time together, you may find yourself in disagreement with someone else, including me. Being in my class means you agree to adhere to the following guiding principles about how we learn to work through disagreements and differences of opinion together:

- **Don't assume** someone has said something to hurt you or offend you intentionally. Instead, **ask** the person to clarify more specifically what they mean. If what they mean is hurtful or offensive, be clear and courteous when you **explain** how the

speech or writing is hurtful or offensive and *offer suggestions* about how they could avoid being hurtful or offensive in the future.

- **Be empathetic** to the viewpoints of others. Not everyone was raised like you, has lived your life, knows your experiences, or has the same values, interests, or goals. So, let's *take the opportunity to learn* from each other (again, *ask questions* if you can't relate or don't understand) while also *building our own capacity* for perspectives outside of our own.
- **Reflect** on your own lives and values, recognizing how your values will automatically shape how you interact in and perceive the world. Sometimes, our own experiences help us, and sometimes, they hinder us. So, *be open to learning more about yourself by learning from others*.
- **Respect** the right for others to have opinions, values, interests, experiences, and needs that are different from yours. If you cannot agree, then *agree to disagree*. And if you don't *have something constructive to say or something to say constructively*, then let it go. This means: no name calling, no degrading someone whose beliefs are different from yours, and no public shaming.
- **Know when to bring your issue to me**. At some point, a disagreement cannot be resolved or reconciled. If you are in a position where you no longer feel safe or open to offer your opinions, please let me know privately so we can address it.

Academic Integrity

Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source, constitute academic dishonesty. **Any submitted assignments discovered to have violated academic integrity will be grounds for a grade of "F" in the course and/or further disciplinary actions.** For additional information see the university catalog and/or review Section VII of the *Student Code of Conduct*.

Academic Integrity Addendum: All work you submit for this course must be original work completed **for this course during this semester**. If you are repeating this class, you must construct new and original work for your assignments, even if the assignments are similar or the same from previous semesters. Submitting work that you've completed previously is unethical and unfair to other students in the course.

Safe Assign

To maintain the integrity of the work submitted for this course, you will be asked to submit assignments via the course Blackboard site which is enabled with the Safe Assign tool. Safe Assign checks submissions for unoriginal material from the internet, print sources, other student papers, and other sources. You will have the ability to view your Safe Assign originality reports. Any possible instances of plagiarism or other academic integrity violations (such as unauthorized collusion) will be assessed prior to communicating findings to the student.

Extra Credit

If you utilize the Success Center and receive feedback from a writing tutor on your final paper at least 3 days prior to the assignment due date, **and** you include a complete proof sheet with your submission, you will receive 10 extra credit points toward that assignment. Please note: the

Success Center offers online tutoring for distance students; visit their website for details and instructions - <http://www.tamut.edu/Academics/Student-Support/Success-Center/index.html>.

Drop Policy

To drop this course after the census date, a student must complete a [Drop/Withdrawal Request Form](#), located on the University Registrar’s webpage or obtained in the Registrar’s Office. The student must submit the signed and completed form to the instructor of each course indicated on the form to be dropped for his/her signature. The signature is not an “approval” to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form must be submitted to the Registrar’s office for processing in person, email Registrar@tamut.edu, mail (7101 University Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503) or fax (903-223-3140). Drop/withdraw forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar’s Office for processing. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission. If a student stops participating in class (attending and submitting assignments) but does not complete and submit the drop/withdrawal form, a final grade based on work completed as outlined in the syllabus will be assigned.

Drop/Withdraw deadlines for the Fall 2020 semester		
Session	Drop without a grade	Last day drop/withdraw
Full Term (16 week)	Wednesday, September 9	Friday, November 13

Module Calendar is available in a separate document and outlined in the course Blackboard site.