Class Assignment Schedule
Kalamazoo Valley Community College
HUM 101: Modern Culture and the Arts Online

Instructor:
Scott Myers
- Office: 7343 Texas Township Campus
- Office phone: 269-488-4052
- Office hours: Monday & Wednesday 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-2:00 p.m. or by appointment. I will usually check the website in the morning every weekday, as well as other times intermittently.
- E-mail:  
  - This is the best way to contact me. Usually, I will be able to respond within 24 hours.
- Course website:  
  - Log in using your KVCC username and password, then select this course: HUM 101 - Modern Culture & the Arts Online.

Text:

Catalog Description:
This course is a survey of different styles and approaches to visual art, music, architecture, dance, literature, philosophy, photography, and film throughout human history.  Major emphasis is on the interrelationship between art and culture.

Purpose of the Course:
This course helps students develop awareness and sensitivity in responding to works of art from the past and present.  Students will also learn to relate this information to their personal lives, including the attainment of career and non-career goals.  The course is acceptable for general education/humanities requirements in most associate degree programs at KVCC.  This course transfers to Western Michigan University as 101 in General Education Area 1.

Instructor's Course Description:
This is the online version of the interdisciplinary course I've taught here at KVCC for several years.  In this survey course, I like to focus on how arts and culture of the past have influenced the world of today.  We have a lot of options in how we approach that and I like to be open to exploring as many of them as possible.  What I’d like you to get out of this is a little more understanding of things you know something about and a little more interest in things you don’t.

Course Requirements:
1. An open mind.
2. Courtesy.
3. Moderate computer skills and a reliable internet connection.  Visit www.kvcc.edu/virtualvalley for more information on Moodle and the technical side of online courses.
**Class Organization:**
In this online course, I’ll be putting as much emphasis on discussion as possible, because I like to hear what students have to say. You will be required to participate in many online discussions as well as going through extensive online lecture materials. The latter puts the emphasis on examining works of art rather than reading lots of lecture notes.

The website is organized in weeks and all the assignments due that week are in the appropriate section of the website. Note: Depending on assignments due that week and other factors, the week may not correspond directly to a seven-day week – it may carry over into early the next week. Check the calendar on the course website.

In an online course, it is entirely up to you to keep up with the assignment schedule. I suggest you visit the website often and keep a copy of the course syllabus and calendar handy. Assignments will be up as soon as they are ready and will remain available all semester long, with the exception of discussions, quizzes, and tests, which have specific deadlines. Again, it’s up to you to keep track of the deadlines for assignments, especially if you are working ahead.

Please be aware that this course uses a lot of multimedia technology, including narrated slide presentations, audio files, and video. Make sure your computer and your own computer skills are up to these tasks.

Content for this course is broken up into four segments, which may or may not overlap:

1. **The Modern World** – The arts (that’s music, movies, drama, architecture, and other creative pursuits as well as painting, sculpture and other visual arts) and culture (which covers a lot of ground!) of today and the recent past, mostly in Europe and the U.S. “Modern Art” is a label that is often applied to the art of the 20th century.

2. **The Ancient World** – Discussions could involve any ancient culture, but we’ll focus primarily on the ancient Greeks and Romans.

3. **The Western World** – Today, “Western” in terms of arts and culture refers to Europe and the U.S., where the influence of the ancient Greeks and Romans (combined with the unifying power of Christianity) led to the development of the philosophical and artistic traditions that have dominated the humanities. We’ll look at the “rebirth” of these traditions in Italy and their spread to the rest of the world.

4. **The Eastern World** – “Eastern” can refer to any part of the world east of Europe. It can mean the Middle East, India, China, Japan, Southeast Asia, etc.

Fair warning: The majority of the questions on the four tests will come from material that is covered in lectures and discussion boards. There will be lecture notes available, but many test questions will come from recorded lecture material – sound files embedded in lecture presentations – and comments on the discussion boards. I highly recommend you take notes.

**Grading:**
Grades will be calculated on a point system based on the assignments described here.

**Note:** Unless otherwise stated, all assignments are required to be completed by 11:55 p.m. on the due date.
**Quizzes (20%)**: These relate to the reading assignments and can be taken online up until the due date on the calendar. Each quiz has a time limit during which you must complete it: usually one minute per question. You only have one chance to take the quiz, so be sure to read the chapter before you begin.

**Discussions (20%)**: You are required to participate constructively in online discussions during the time period specified to earn full credit. In some cases, there will be an individual assignment that is part of the discussion forum, in others, it will be an online conversation.

**Research project (20%)**: Described in detail on the course website, this is an in-depth investigation into a topic of your choice. IT IS NOT AN ESSAY.

**Tests (40%)**: TESTS CANNOT BE MADE UP. They will be available online for a specified time period and it is your responsibility to take them during that time. Three of the four tests have a time limit during which you must complete them: approximately one minute per question.

**Grade scale**: 

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<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<td>85-89%</td>
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<td>80-84%</td>
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<td>75-79%</td>
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**Academic honesty policy**:  
It’s my assumption that everyone in this class will approach their schoolwork honestly. However, I have encountered dishonesty in the past, so I think it’s important to summarize the College’s policies here. According to the KVCC Student Handbook, academic dishonesty includes: *Cheating* on tests or other assignments, *academic misconduct* such as tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of an unadministered test, *fabrication*, and *plagiarism*. As a KVCC instructor, it is my obligation to report academic misconduct to the administration. The College’s policy states that a first offense results in a 0.0 on that assignment, a second offense results in a 0.0 for the course, and a third offense – in this class or another in the future – could lead to disciplinary action by the College.