

Syllabus UCCP 101

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Course Objectives

UCCP 101 is the first half of an interdisciplinary, introductory course, designed to challenge and stimulate entering students. Through this course, all students should

- (1) develop critical reasoning skills through the reading of significant texts and the evaluation of different viewpoints and arguments.
- (2) develop the ability to investigate an issue and construct a well-reasoned and coherent viewpoint.
- (3) learn to communicate ideas and arguments clearly and persuasively through written and spoken means.
- (4) understand the world through multiple perspectives and different world views.
- (5) explore religious and moral dimensions of critical issues.
- (6) appreciate how different disciplines advance understanding of cultures and civilizations and recognize the interconnectedness of the disciplines.
- (7) become a part of a larger intellectual community.

Common Themes

We will explore many topics, and attempt to pursue these common threads:

- (1) exploration of common theme: the relationship between the state and the individual; laws of the state vs. moral law; different ideas of masculinity and femininity, among others.
- (2) the role of the hero in epic literature
- (3) comparison of societal values in the ancient / modern world
- (4) interaction between ideas and material culture.
- (5) the nature of hospitality in civilized culture

Required Texts

Rosemary Mims Fisk & John Mayfield, eds., *Cultural Perspectives: A Sourcebook*, Vol 1

Homer, *The Iliad* (Fagles translation)

St. Augustine, *Confessions*

Virgil, *The Aeneid* (Mandelbaum translation)

Sophocles, *Theban Plays* (Fagles translation; *Antigone* only)

Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince*.

Beowulf, trans. By Seamus Heaney

William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*

Selected reprints (marked below with a plus sign [+])

Grading Scale

93 – 100	A	83 – 87	B	73 – 77	C	63 – 67	D
90 – 92	A-	80 – 82	B-	70 – 72	C-	60 – 62	D-
88 – 89	B+	78 – 79	C+	68 – 69	D+	Below 59	F

Grading

Your final grade will be determined in this way:

20 % **Quizzes**

The quizzes will be given at various times throughout the semester and be based on the readings due for that class and/or discussions from the previous class. They will be short answer (multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank). Your two lowest quiz grades will be dropped, and there are no make-ups for missed quizzes. Some quizzes will be announced, others will be “pop” quizzes.

20 % **1st Exam**

20 % **2nd Exam**

The Exams will consist of a combination of short answer questions and essays.

20% **Essays**

Three times during the semester you will be required to submit a hardcopy response to a question (or questions) that will have been posted previously and based, more or less, on the readings, lecture, or activity of the preceding weeks. Your responses should be as complete as you wish to make them, but in no case over five pages total, and not less than three. If you consult outside sources, you should cite them at the end of your response. Your submissions will be graded as to the focus and purpose of content, correct use of sources, organization, style, inventiveness, and quality of thought, analysis, and insight. I strongly discourage late submissions, and will not accept excuses for such. Late submissions will be lowered one letter grade for each day tardy.

20% **3rd Exam** (some short answer, mostly essay, part of which you will prepare at home)

Absences, Make-ups, and Other Policies

Attendance is required and is part of your participation grade. In addition much of your grade in this course will depend on quizzes and exams, and if you miss too many classes, I guarantee you will perform poorly. Frequent absences will result in failure for the course. Late papers are penalized one full letter grade per day.

Academic Dishonesty: All papers should be original and written specifically for this class. Students may not plagiarize. Plagiarism is the act of taking the words or ideas of another person and passing them off as your own. Therefore, cite any and all quotes properly. Close paraphrasing by changing a word or two or the tense of the verbs is plagiarism when you do not acknowledge the source. So, if you use the ideas of a writer, but not his/her exact words, you should cite the author and page without the quotation marks.

Discussion methods: it is my goal to have much of this course based on discussion from you all. Although I will occasionally lecture, you should feel free to contribute at any time. Please observe the following rules of courtesy in discussions:

- (1) Be on time: The rudest thing a student can do is be consistently late to class. It is disruptive to everyone and harmful to discussion.
- (2) Be polite: Do not speak, walk about the classroom, read, or be disruptive in any way when someone else is speaking.
- (3) Stick to the point: It is important that your remarks actually follow up on those of any speaker (either to disagree, agree, expand the point, etc.).
- (4) Be civil: Do not make personal remarks about others during discussions. I expect students to disagree on occasion, of course, but these should be intellectual differences only.
- (5) Don't hog the show: Be careful not to dominate class. You are not graded for the amount of speaking, but the quality and appropriateness of your comments.

These rules are meant to ensure that all students feel free to contribute to class and to be taken seriously.

Calendar:

WEEK 1	Aug. 28 – Sept. 1	Introduction Read Burke: <i>The Way We Are</i> by Aug. 30 Read Campbell: <i>The Hero's Adventure</i> by Sept. 1 Read <i>Gilgamesh</i> by Sept. 4
WEEK 2	Sept. 4 - 8	Power of Myth Read Fagles, <i>The Iliad</i> , Introduction and <i>Shame and Guilt Culture</i> handout by Sept. 6 Read <i>The Iliad</i> , Books 1, 3, 6 by Sept. 8 Read <i>The Iliad</i> , Books 9, 11, 14 - 16 by Sept. 11
WEEK 3	Sept. 11 - 15	The Anger of Achilles Read <i>The Iliad</i> , Books 18, 19, 21, 22, 24 by Sept. 13 1st Essay due Sept. 15 Read Sophocles' <i>Antigone</i> by Sept. 18
WEEK 4	Sept. 18 – 22	The Individual and the State Read 'The Funeral Oration', Chapter 5* and Greek Philosophy handout by Sept. 22 Read 'Allegory of the Cave', Chapter 2* by Sept. 25
WEEK 5	Sept. 25 - 29	Classical Greece Read selections from Plato's <i>Republic</i> by Sept. 27 Read 'Nicomachean Ethics', Chapter 3* by Sept. 29
WEEK 6	Oct. 2 - 6	First Exam , Oct. 2 Read The Hellenistic World and The Aeneid handouts by Oct. 4 Read Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i> by Oct. 6 Books 1, 2
WEEK 7	Oct. 9 – 13	The Roman World Continue reading Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i> by Oct. 9, Books 4, 6 Read handouts on the Roman Republic, the the roman empire, and the Fall of Rome by Oct. 11 Read St. Augustine's <i>Confessions</i> , Intro. , Book 1 and 2 by Oct. 13
WEEK 8	Oct. 16 – 20	Oct. 16 Fall Break Read Confessions, Books 7 and 8, by Oct. 18 Read Burke's 'In Light of the Above' by Oct. 23
WEEK 9	Oct. 23 – 27	Read Handout on Islam by Oct. 25 Read 'The Imrans', Chapter 13* by Oct. 27 Begin reading <i>Beowulf</i> , finish by Nov. 1
WEEK 10	Oct. 30 – Nov. 3	2nd Essay due Nov. 3 Read Aquinas's 'Summation of the Catholic Faith', Chapter 14 * and 'Dictatus Papae', Chapter 11 * for Nov. 3
WEEK 11	Nov. 6 – 10	Read "Skin of our Teeth" handout for Nov. 6 Read selections from Cahill's "Irish" for Nov. 8
WEEK 12	Nov. 13 – 17	2nd Exam - Nov. 13 Read "The Rise of the West" handout for Nov. 15 Read "Medieval Culture" handout for Nov. 17 Read "Renaissance" handout for Nov. 20 Read selections from Machiavelli's <i>The Prince</i> for Nov. 20
WEEK 13	Nov. 20	Read selections from Machiavelli's <i>The Prince</i> for Nov. 27
WEEK 14	Nov. 27 – Dec. 1	Read Shakespeare's <i>The Tempest</i> for Dec. 1
WEEK 15	Dec. 4 – 8	3rd Essay due Dec. 6 European hegemony and Review
FINAL EXAM	Dec. 11	3rd Exam – as scheduled by the University