Metropolitan State University

HUM 314 : The Renaissance

A. Course Description

Credits: 4

Prerequisites: WRIT 131 Writing I or have instructor's permission.

Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/Week:

MnTC Goals: Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies, Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

This course explores the art, literature, philosophy, religion, and science of the European Renaissance (c. 1350-1650 A.D.), placing them in the context of political and social movements of the time. In this era, increased attention to ancient Greek and Roman ideas energized all of the arts and sciences. This period also saw the beginnings of the centrally administered nation state and the rise of colonialism in the New World, as well as the Protestant Reformation, a many-sided and far-reaching religious revolution that reshaped Christianity. Readings, slide/lectures, and class discussions explore the many ways that art, ideas, and events from this era still live in contemporary European and American civilizations.

B. Course Effective Dates: 08/01/1998 - 09/05/1999 09/06/1999 - 08/14/2011 08/15/2011 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Analyze the influence of the European Renaissance on contemporary Western culture at a level consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctly characteristic of upper-division courses at comprehensive universities.
2. Apply European Renaissance philosophies to an analysis of its cultural history at a level consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctly characteristic of upper-division courses at comprehensive universities.
3. Distinguish among important European Renaissance artistic and literary genres at a level consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctly characteristic of upper-division courses at comprehensive universities.
4. Distinguish among traditional periods and geographies of European Renaissance cultural history at a level consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctly characteristic of upper-division courses at comprehensive universities.
5. Distinguish important themes and aesthetic characteristics in the literature and art of the European Renaissance at a level consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctly characteristic of upper-division courses at comprehensive universities.
6. Know characteristic institutions and achievements of Renaissance Europe at a level consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctly characteristic of upper-division courses at comprehensive universities.
7. Know the outlines of the political and cultural history of Renaissance Europe at a level consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctly characteristic of upper-division courses at comprehensive universities.
8. Recognize, appreciate, and explain allusions to the European Renaissance at a level consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctly characteristic of upper-division courses at comprehensive universities.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)
Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies
   None
Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts
   1. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.
   2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
   3. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
   4. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
   5. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

G. Special Information

None