

UC DAVIS

HUMANITIES PROGRAM

Expanded Course Descriptions

Winter Quarter 2010

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<http://humanities.ucdavis.edu>

HUM 1: Humanities Forum (2 Units)

HUM 1D: Issues and Concepts on Humanities (2 Units)

Topic: *The Blues: A Cultural History of the Blues*

HUM 1 (Lecture): CRN 48210 – MW 12:10-1:00, 3 Kleiber Hall

HUM 1D (Discussion): CRN 48211 – Sec. 1, F 10:00-11:50, 107 Wellman Hall
CRN 48212 – Sec. 2, F 12:10-2:00, 105 Wellman Hall
CRN 63644 – Sec. 3, W 2:10-4:00, 115 Wellman Hall
CRN 63646 – Sec. 4, M 2:10-4:00, 115 Wellman Hall

Instructor: Julia Simon, Professor of French
(jsimon@ucdavis.edu)

HUM 1 may be taken by itself as a two-unit course. Enrollment in a section of HUM 1D for an additional two units requires concurrent enrollment in HUM 1.

Description

The Blues is a uniquely American musical genre. The history of the Blues echoes the African-American experience, from the Delta to the industrialized north, from Mississippi to Chicago, Memphis, and beyond. This course will combine cultural history with music appreciation to explore the history of the blues, looking at such figures as Son House, Robert Johnson, Bessie Smith, Muddy Waters, and B.B. King. We will learn about the historical context that gave birth to the blues as well as learn about the musical structure of the blues, touching on chord progressions, bass lines and rhythms. Finally, we will examine the impact of the blues on other genres, such as rock, R&B, jazz, and hip-hop.

Grading

Students will write reaction papers and take mid-term and final exams.

Prerequisite

None

GE Credit

Arts & Humanities and Writing (*ONLY if HUM 1 and 1D are taken at the same time*)

Texts

- A Course Reader (To be purchased at Davis Copy Shop)
- Course Website to download music (Password protected)

HUM 3: Medicine and Humanities (4 Units)

CRN 63647 – TR 10:30-11:50, 1204 Harding Hall

Instructor: Yvette G. Flores, Professor of Chicana/o Studies
(ygfloresortiz@ucdavis.edu or drayflores@gmail.com)

Description

This course examines contemporary challenges faced by providers and patients as divergent worldviews collide in the borderlands of health care services. Through an examination of medical anthropology texts, illness narratives, and research findings, students will explore their own emic system of health care, the influence of language, culture, gender and world view on access to health care, and gain an appreciation of key issues in contemporary medicine. In addition, the students will be introduced to the emergent literature on emotional intelligence and its role in health care delivery.

Objectives

- Familiarize students with contemporary western and non-western ideas about health and health care delivery
- Familiarize students with the meaning of illness across cultures
- Sensitize students to issues of ethnicity, class, sexual orientation and gender as these influence health care access and delivery
- Facilitate the students' examination of their own health beliefs
- Familiarize students with the concept of emotional intelligence

Prerequisite

Completion of Entry-Level Writing Requirement (formerly known as Subject A requirement)

Grading

TBA

GE Credit

Social Science and Writing

Texts

- A Course Reader
- Arthur Kleinman, *Illness Narratives* (Basic Books, 1989)
- Bernie Siegel, *Love, Medicine and Miracles* (Harper, 1994)
- Tracy Kidder, *Mountains beyond Mountains* (Random House, 2004)

HUM 13: Witches – Myth and Historical Reality (4 Units)

CRN 48213 – TR 12:10-1:30, 1002 Giedt Hall

Instructor: Elisabeth Krimmer, Associate Professor of German
(emkrimmer@ucdavis.edu)

Description

This course examines the historical construction of the witch in the context of the social realities of the women and men labeled as witches. The four areas covered are: European pagan religions and the spread of Christianity; the “Burning Times” in early modern Europe; 17th century New England and the Salem witch trials; and fairytales. Readings are drawn from documentary records of the witch persecutions and witch trials, literary representations, scholarly analyses of witch-related phenomena, and essays examining witches, witchcraft, and the witch persecutions from a contemporary feminist perspective. The lectures will be supplemented by visual material (videos, slides) drawn from art history, early modern witch literature, popular culture, and documentary sources.

Prerequisite

None

Grading

Attendance/Participation (10%), Essay (30%), Midterm (30%), and Final (30%)

GE Credit

Arts & Humanities, Diversity, and Writing

Texts

- A Course Reader (To be purchased at Davis Copy Shop)
- Arthur Miller, *The Crucible* (Penguin, 1976)