

Humanities

Classical to the Renaissance

UC 310-01

Dr. Michael C. Kapper — Spring 2006

Course Description

According to the Capital University *Undergraduate Bulletin* for 2005-2006, UC 310 is:

Requires students to examine in some depth selected works that illustrate the philosophic, artistic and historic concerns of Western culture. Traces shifts in cultural perspectives from the Classical world to the Renaissance.

This section begins with the emergent arts and culture of the earliest humans (and those humans' nearest evolutionary cousins), and continues through the Renaissance, with intense focus on history, philosophy, religion, and literature from the earliest humans through the Middle Ages.

Course Requirements

Attendance. Attendance at and active participation in every class meeting is required. Should your attendance be less than regular, or your participation less than active, your final grade in the course will be adversely affected. This requirement will be enforced holistically—there is no magic number of absences; you should simply come to class prepared to participate.

Course Projects. There are four examinations and one required group project for this course; each is discussed in more detail below. In order to successfully complete the course, you must complete *all* required work; students who do not complete all required work will receive a grade of F (or in extreme circumstances, I) for the course, regardless of performance on other projects (see *Grading*, below for more detail). The required projects for this course are as follows:

- *Examinations.* This is pretty straightforward: there will be four (4) ninety-minute examinations in this course. None of them will be cumulative. Anything covered in the reading or discussed in class will be fair game. Expect exams to cover history, literature, philosophy, art, architecture, and culture of the peoples and periods discussed. Each exam will be worth 22% of your final grade.
- *Middle Ages into the Renaissance Presentation.* In this project, you will work with a group to craft a 10-15 minute presentation that examines the ways in which an assigned work of literature (each group will have a selection from

course information

number: uc 310 01
title: humanities: classical to renaissance
location: lc 103
days: thu
times: 3 30 - 6 15 pm
credits: 3

instructor

dr michael c kapper
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hours: tue 12 - 2; thu 12 - 2;
by appt
o phone: 614 236 6555
h phone: 614 837 8010
email: mkapper AT capital.edu
web: [u r here ...](#)

books, etc.

books:

Benton, Janetta Rebold and Robert DiYanni. *Arts and Culture: An Introduction to the Humanities.*

materials:

if you like to keep everything together for each course (notes and materials), you will likely want a 3-ring binder and looseleaf note paper. for course materials distributed in class and/or available online, you will likely want a 3-ring binder, in any event.

course materials

below are links to the online materials you will need for this course.

project assignment sheets
[exam 4 review sheet](#)
[exam 3 review sheet](#)

Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* or Dante's *Divine Comedy*) demonstrates the cultural transition from a medieval mindset to that of the Renaissance. Each group will determine what marks these cultural periods as distinct from one another, and delve into their literary work to demonstrate those differences. This project will be worth 12% of your final grade.

Course Policies

Completing Work. In order to receive a passing grade in the course, all of the required work listed above must be completed. Regardless of the weight assigned to a project or essay in the final course grade, failure to complete any essay or project will result in a failing grade for the class. No exceptions (under the most extreme circumstances, the grade of I [incomplete] will be considered).

Late Work. Turning in work late will severely impact your final grade in the course. This impact will be more clear upon reading the section *Grading* below. For now, let it suffice that you should make every effort to turn in all work on deadline, and that if you cannot do so, you should contact me to discuss the situation as soon as it becomes clear that the deadline will be problematic.

Attendance & Participation. Attendance at and active participation in all class sessions are mandatory. There is, however, no specific grade value attached to these. Instead, know that regular attendance and active participation can be the “x-factor” in terms of your final grade: if your final grade is a B+, for instance, regular attendance and active participation throughout the term can raise that grade to an A-; note too that although irregular attendance and less than active participation will not lower your grade, it will be difficult to do well in the course if you do not attend. Attendance and participation are *very* important and should be taken *very* seriously!

Discussion Notes & Podcasts. On the course website, you will find links to class discussion notes; if you find these helpful, you should print them out ahead of each class session and have them available as you follow along with the in-class discussion. In addition, following each class session, a podcast of the full class discussion will appear in the *Podcasts* area of the website. The podcasts are for later review and for your use if you must, for *legitimate* reasons, miss class. If you do miss class, check the website for notes and podcasts first, then ask a peer for clarification, and then—if you still have questions—ask me.

Intellectual Property & Academic Integrity. Please take your responsibility to the intellectual property of others and for your own academic integrity seriously.

Other Policies. In addition to these explicitly stated policies, this course will be governed by the policies laid out in the Capital University publication *What Every Student Should Know* — <http://oldsite.capital.edu/cc/stusvcs/2006-students-should-know.pdf>, and other university policies governing student conduct and the conduct of courses on Capital's campus.

[exam 2 review sheet](#)

[exam 1 review sheet](#)

[middle ages into](#)

[renaissance presentation](#)

Discussion Notes

[Prehistory \(1/19\)](#)

[Transitions \(1/26\)](#)

[Mesopotamia \(1/26\)](#)

[Egypt \(1/26\)](#)

[Languages \(2/02\)](#)

[Aegean Cultures \(2/02\)](#)

[Rise of Classical Greece \(2/02\)](#)

[Greek Religion \(2/02\)](#)

[Classical Athens \(2/02\)](#)

[Macedon \(2/02\)](#)

[Introduction to Rome \(2/09\)](#)

[Roman History and Government \(2/23\)](#)

[Roman Architecture, Art, and Literature \(3/03\)](#)

[Judaism and Early Christianity \(3/09\)](#)

[Early Middle Ages \(3/30\)](#)

[“High” Middle Ages \(4/06\)](#)

[The Renaissance \(4/27\)](#)

[MAiR Presentation: Wife of Bath](#)

[MAiR Presentation: Summoner](#)

podcasts

[19 jan 2006 — protohumanity & early humanity](#)

[26 jan 06 — transitions, mesopotamia, egypt](#)

[02 feb 06 — languages thru greek religion](#)

[02 feb 06 — classical athens & macedon](#)

[09 feb 06 — introduction to rome](#)

[23 feb 06 — roman history & government](#)

[09 mar 06 — roman architecture, art, & literature](#)

Grading

Final grades will be calculated in this course according to the following proportions:

Project	# @ %/each	total
Examinations	4 @ 22%	88%
Group Project	1 @ 12%	12%
Total		100%

— judaism & early christianity

30 mar 06 — early middle ages

06 apr 06 — “high” middle ages

27 apr 06 — The Renaissance

Final grades may be modified by such classroom factors as attendance and participation by as much as +1/3 letter grade (e.g., a B+ can become an A-).

Calendar

Date	Before Class	In Class
12 Jan		Introduce Course & Materials
19 Jan	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , through page 23.	Protohumanity & Early Humanity
26 Jan	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , Chapter 2.	Transitions: Technologies Enabling the Rise of Culture Mesopotamia, the Cradle of Civilization Ancient Egypt
02 Feb	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , Chapters 3 & 4.	Aegean Culture Greece & Macedon
09 Feb	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , Chapter 5 (pp. 153-162; 180-190 [Virgil & Catullus])	Exam #1: Early Humans to Macedonian Empire Rome: Introduction, Engineering, Religion

16 Feb	No class Dr. Kapper out of town	
23 Feb	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , Chapter 5 (pp. 162-179; remaining readings)	Rome: Major Events, Major Figures
02 Mar	Mid-Semester Break <i>(It hardly seems right to call it "Spring" Break)</i>	
09 Mar	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , Chapter 6 (203-220; 232-252)	Rome: Art and Architecture The Near East: Judaism, Christianity, and the World They Lived In (ca. 700 BCE - ca. 500 CE)
16 Mar	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , Chapter 6 (220-231) & Chapter 7	Introduce "Middle Ages into the Renaissance" Group Presentation Project Exam 2: Rome and the Near East — <u>Get your Review Sheet</u>
23 Mar	CCCC Convention Chicago, IL Dr. Kapper out of town	
30 Mar	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , Chapter 11.	Europe and the Middle East in the Middle Ages, Part I (ca. 500 - ca. 1100 CE)
06 Apr	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , Chapter 12	Europe and the Middle East in the Middle Ages, Part II (ca. 1100 - ca. 1450 CE)
13 Apr	Easter Break PCA/ACA Convention — Atlanta, GA Dr. Kapper out of town	
20 Apr	Read: <i>Arts & Culture</i> , Chapter 13	Exam 3: Europe and Middle East in the Middle Ages The Renaissance in Europe
27 Apr		"Middle Ages into Renaissance" Presentations in class More on the Renaissance in Europe Summas Narrative Evaluations
Finals Week of 30 Apr	Exam 4: The Renaissance	