



Berkeley City College
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www.berkeleycitycollege.edu

Humanities @ Berkeley City College Expanded Course Descriptions Spring 2018

NOTE: This is an informational document only. More details as well as textbooks and requirements can be found on the first day of the new semester on the course syllabus distributed by the instructor. For information regarding how each course can be used for transfer please see the BCC Catalogue or check on assist.org.

Humanities 1 (3 units) “Introduction to Humanities”

For all sections: HUMANITIES 1 is an introductory course that explores the various fields in the expressive arts that make up the humanities. More information shared in class on the first day.

- **Tues/Thurs 3-4:15pm; Dr. Dylan Eret ~ # 23708**
- **Mon 6:30-9:20pm; Dr. Anna Rodas ~ # 23715**
- **Online; Dr. Anna Rodas ~ # 24704**
- **Friday 1:30-4:20pm; STAFF ~ # 24108**

Humanities 15 (3 units) “Popular Culture”

- **Hybrid, Tuesdays 1:30-2:45pm and ONLINE; Dr. Dylan Eret ~ # 24274**

Popular culture: revolutionary forms or vulgar practices? For centuries, reclusive scholars, avid collectors, astute philosophers, worried politicians, intellectual cranks, and eager consumers have either been romanced or repulsed by those forms of belief, art, fashion, film, and music widely circulating among various communities. Memes, tweets, fake news: More than ever, we are forced to consume a multiplicity of texts without having a sense of their social meanings and consequences. How did this happen? What could they mean? This course is an exploration in the power of new media and technologies, and those popular forms of entertainment—from vaudeville to virtual reality—that has impacted the way we see the world today. There is no textbook for this course; we will be using a free, multimedia online reader.

Humanities 21 (3 units) “Film: Art and Communication”

- **Thursdays. 6:30-9:20pm; Dr. Avy Valladares ~ # 24209**
- **Tuesdays, 9:30-12:20pm; Dr. Laura Ruberto ~ # 23709**
- **Mon/Wed, 1:30-4:20pm, 8 week course Dr. Laura Ruberto ~ 23714**

For all sections

Humanities 21 takes a critical approach to film history; it examines various styles, genres, and movements (from the late-nineteenth century to the present). Students will study films from diverse times and places, and should come away from the class with a broad understanding of how to analyze or “read” a film according to the technical language of film studies. Students will also be exposed to a variety of films of historical and international importance, and learn the fundamentals of film theory. Students are encouraged to discuss films they are interested in (but that we do not study together) in some of their out-of-class assignments.

Humanities 26 (4 units) “Global Cinema”

- **Mon. 6:30-9:20 (screening lab)/Thurs 9:30-12:20pm (lecture), Dr. Laura Ruberto ~#23712- 23713**

Hum 26 takes on the study of cinema in an international, cross-cultural, and historical perspective. We study possible ways of answering these and other questions: Is there such a thing as world cinema? What is the relationship between “world cinema” and “national cinemas”? What is “national” about national cinemas? What has been the role historically between the U.S. film market and other national film markets? This course will attempt to answer these and other questions by introducing students to theoretical debates about the categorization and global circulation of films, film style, authorship, and audiences. Along the way, we will focus on a number of specific films that are representative of different national film traditions. The Monday night screening, “lab,” is required.

Students interested in the topic but who cannot take the full 4 unit lecture/lab course at this time might consider enrolling in the one unit, pass/no pass HUMANITIES 226 “screening” course instead. See below or contact the instructor for more information, LRUBERTO@peralta.edu.

Humanities 30B (3 units) "Human Values: Aesthetics"

- **Hybrid, Thursday, 1:30-2:45 and ONLINE; Dr. Laura Ruberto ~ # 23711**

In this course, we will examine the nature of the "beautiful" through the study of art, philosophy, history, folklore, and material culture. We will focus our study this semester on the study of monuments and memorials. Our search for "beauty" and "aesthetics" will also take us outside of the classroom to local sites through several fieldtrips. The required readings will include this book *Introducing Aesthetics: A Graphic Guide* (Icon Books, 2010) and an online course reader, which will be available to students for free.

Humanities 40 "Religions of the World"

- **Online, Dr. Dylan Eret ~ # 23710**

Religion is alive, dynamic, and changing. In this course, we will explore religion "as it is lived: as human beings encounter, understand, interpret it" (Primiano). This means we will attempt to discover "everyday religion" in our own homes, on our own bodies, and through our personal stories. Taking a folklore or vernacular approach, we will collect and interpret how people "actually" practice religion, which may or may not align with what religious officials expect followers to do. Our case studies will range from the Walbiri to Santería, Taqwacore to Oprah, Scientology to ISIS. Critiquing textbook notions of "world religion," we will center our attention around the dizzying ways religious (and non-religious) communities practice their emergent traditions today through sharing stories and going on several local fieldtrips to sacred sites (on your own or with other classmates). There is no textbook for this course; we will be using a free, multimedia online reader.

- **Mon/Wed. 11-12:15pm, Dr. Dylan Eret ~ # 24110**

Religion is alive, dynamic, and changing. In this course, we will explore religion "as it is lived: as human beings encounter, understand, interpret it" (Primiano). This means we will attempt to discover "everyday religion" in our own homes, on our own bodies, and through our personal stories. Taking a folklore or vernacular approach, we will collect and interpret how people "actually" practice religion, which may or may not align with what religious officials expect followers to do. Our case studies will range from the Walbiri to Santería, Taqwacore to Oprah, Scientology to ISIS. Critiquing textbook notions of "world religion," we will center our attention around the dizzying ways religious (and non-religious) communities practice their emergent traditions today through sharing stories and going on several local fieldtrips to sacred sites (on your own or with other classmates). There is no textbook for this course; we will be using a free, multimedia online reader.

Humanities 53 “Comparative Film Genres”

- **Wednesdays, 6-9:50pm, Dr. Avy Valladares ~ # 28220**

THEME: Scifi Films

An introduction to the norms of the scifi genre, its methods of inquiry, and its most notable experiments. In addition to spurring many technological innovations in moviemaking through its history, science fiction films traditionally have undertaken serious philosophical exploration and social, cultural, and ideological critique. They often address, implicitly or explicitly, our assumptions, our values, our aspirations, and our fears. Moreover, because they speak directly to their times, they serve as a useful barometer for how, at the time the films were made, people viewed themselves and their world.

Humanities 226 “Global Cinema: Lab Only”

Mondays, 6:30-9:20pm, Dr. Laura Ruberto ~ # 28221

This is a one-unit, pass/no pass course for those students interested in Global Cinema but not able to take at this time the full, transferable, 4 unit HUMAN 26 course. The course consists of weekly screenings and in-class discussions and in-class written work. Students from HUMAN 26 course cannot sign up for this course as HUMAN 26 also includes this LAB time as a requirement. Contact the instructor, LRUBERTO@peralta.edu, with questions.



The Peralta Colleges: Berkeley City College, College of Alameda, Laney College and Merritt College