

Calumet College



of Saint Joseph

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Calumet College of St. Joseph is a Catholic institution of higher learning dedicated to the academic, spiritual and ethical development of undergraduate and graduate students. Informed by the values of its founding religious community, the Missionaries of the Precious Blood (C.P.P.S.), the College promotes the inherent dignity of all people, social justice, an ethic of service, student empowerment, opportunity, and lifelong learning.

HUM 110E: THE FOUNDATIONS OF WESTERN CULTURE (Spring 2018)

There is no new thing under the sun. -- Ecclesiastes

We are not makers of history. We are made by history. -- Martin Luther King

A book must be an axe for the frozen seas inside us. -- Franz Kafka

Art is the only way to run away without leaving home. -- Twyla Tharp



Course Description (from the course catalog):

This course introduces students to the major artistic and intellectual movements in our culture. The course introduces the arc of history through the humanities, tracing the foundation of Western civilization from the earliest Judeo-Christian tradition, through the Greco-Roman period, Medieval Europe, the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, and the Romantic era, to the age of globalization. The course provides an introductory framework for the Calumet College core curriculum. (This course is a CCSJ General Education requirement.)

Course #: Hum 110A
Instructor: Professor Kirk Robinson
Office Room #: 176
Phone #: (please use e-mail whenever possible!) 219-473-4308
E-mail: krobinson@ccsj.edu
Office Hours: M,W: 11:45 am to 2:00 pm ; T,R: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Professor's Background: I've been teaching in colleges for nearly forever. I worked at University of Illinois at Chicago (seven years) and The Ohio State University (four years), and this is my eighth year at Cal College. My background is in composition and in 19th and 20th century American literature. I've worked as a freelance writer, a medical writer, and for a time I was a card-carrying member of the UAW. I played soccer at Truman State University in Missouri I once sold oil paintings door-to-door in England, which doesn't pay well. My poems have been published in a number of nationally distributed magazines. I coordinate the honors program and chair the English program here at the college. I'm married, with four amazing children.

Course Time/Classroom #: Monday and Wednesday, 10:15 - 11:45, Room #263

Course Details: This course is a historical introduction to the humanities -- the subjects that explore what it means to be human: philosophy, literature, painting, architecture, history, religion, music and the performing arts. We will study the great cultural achievements of Western Civilization, how they have developed from the ancient Greeks to the modern world, how they fit into their original cultural context, and how they fit into ours. We will look at great paintings, read classic stories and poems, debate philosophical issues, reflect on sacred texts, and listen to groundbreaking works of music — all in the hope of gaining greater insight into what it means to be alive in the here and now, and particularly what it means to be alive AND free to pursue humanity in its fullest expression.

Note: a field experience to one or more cultural events is required to pass this course. We will also be visiting the Art Institute of Chicago as a group.

Prerequisites: None

Learning Outcomes/ Competencies: Students will

- **Know** the periods in the history of Western Civilization and the names and works of representative writers, artists, philosophers, and religious teachers.
- **Recognize** the key intellectual, philosophical, artistic, and religious movements and concepts that have defined the humanities throughout the history of Western culture.
- **Recognize** the role of the humanities in creating the self, understanding society, and defining the Good Life.
- **Practice** reading philosophy, religious texts, literature, and history; looking at great works of art and architecture; and listening to music with greater sensitivity and insight.

The course also meets these General Education outcomes:

- Students will read analytically, synthetically, and critically in a variety of genres.
- Students will write in a variety of forms using valid logic, persuasive rhetoric, and correct grammar, usage, and punctuation.
- Students will be able to orally deliver a presentation with a clear central idea that is logically developed, supported by convincing evidence and valid reasoning, and expressed using language and delivery choices thoughtfully adapted to the audience.
- Students will appreciate, create, and critique the persuasive power of art and media.
- Students will be able to apply ethical standards that reflect critical thought and responsible action to social issues, and to analyze their own core beliefs and the origin of these beliefs.

Textbook: Foundations of Western Culture (Custom Text)

(We will also utilize a broad selection of philosophical and historical essays, poems and stories, music, paintings, sculptures, and architectural monuments that will be distributed in class and on our blackboard site.)

Learning Strategies: This class is taught in a process-based, participatory workshop environment that involves group projects, discussions, and experiential learning. We'll use Blackboard regularly. Students will be asked to read, reflect, write and revise in a recursive set of course assignments and activities. Students will be evaluated on their *questions* and upon their answers, on their process as well as their product.

Assessment:

Exam #1: 10% (This functions as our midterm exam)

Exam #2: 15%

Exam #3: 20% (This functions as our final exam)

Ambassadors Project and Essay: 15%

Art Institute Trip Project: 5%

Quizzes: 20%

Other homework and small projects (including Blackboard projects): 15%

NOTE ON QUIZZES: These are worth increasingly more as the term goes on. Also, these can't be made up, though I do drop your lowest two quiz or assignment scores from final calculations. (See "Class Policy on Missed Assignments and Quizzes, below)

NOTE ON EXAMS: All exams in this class are cumulative. All material from earlier in the class may also appear on later exams.

Grading Scale: Final grades will be converted to a letter grade based on the following scale:

Grade	Percentage
A	100-92
A-	91-90
B+	89-88
B	87-82
B-	81-80
C+	79-78
C	77-72
C-	71-70
D+	69-68
D	67-62
D-	61-60
F	59 and below

Subjective grading will follow these general guidelines:

A (90 – 100%) = Excellent; all expectations met or exceeded, including deadlines met; explicitly demonstrates thorough understanding of project; no substantive shortcomings or only minor shortcomings; presentations are well organized, helps other students learn course content, and adds value above existing course content; writing is well organized and adheres to rules of grammar, spelling, and syntax with no or very few exceptions

B (80 – 89%) = Good; most or all expectations are met; explicitly or implicitly demonstrates good, if not thorough, understanding; only minor substantive shortcomings; presentations are well organized and help other students learn course content; writing is generally well organized and appropriate to the task, and mostly adheres to rules of grammar, spelling, and syntax

C (70 – 79%) = Satisfactory; directions are followed, most expectations are met but with at least one significant shortcoming; despite any shortcomings, demonstrates basic level of understanding; presentations demonstrate

understanding of the content but do little to help other students learn the content; writing is organized well enough and with enough technical accuracy to be appropriate and understandable.

D (60 – 69%) = Passing, but less than satisfactory; directions only partially followed; more than one significant shortcoming; deficiencies indicate only the most rudimentary level of understanding; presentations demonstrate poor preparation and do not contribute to other students' learning; and/or writing is difficult to understand.

F (0 – 59%) = Failing; not completed or directions not followed; deficiencies indicate lack of understanding; presentations waste others' time; and/or incoherent or purposeless writing.

Student Responsibilities:

Class Policy on Attendance:

This section of Humanities 110 is a process-based, participatory writing workshop environment, and we are all moving toward one purpose together. As such, attendance is required -- actual attendance, both physical *and mental*. In other words, pay attention and be involved in the course. When you are attending to your cell phone, Ipad or hovercraft, you are not attending the class. Students who are more than five minutes late to class will be charged with the equivalent of half an absence. After 15 minutes, they will be counted absent entirely.

In accordance with English program policy, any student missing more than NINE (9) hours of class will receive an F or FW. These nine hours include *any* absences, for any reason, whether they are for illness, work, sports events, and personal / family celebrations. If a problem arises with your absences, please come and talk to me immediately.

Class Policy on Late Assignments or Missed Quizzes:

Here's the bad news: quizzes and assignments can't be "made up" later. When you miss them, you miss them. They are meant to be real time assessments and reinforcements of what we are doing in class at the time, and it makes no sense to administer them at other times, in other ways. *Here's the good news:* you get a lot of them, and each is a very low-stakes assessment. Missing one or two shouldn't hurt your grade at all, if you are up to speed on everything else. And here's the even better news, so far as your grade is concerned: I drop the lowest two quiz or assignment scores at the end of the term when I figure out your semester grade.

What to do when you know at least 36 hours in advance that you will miss class:

If you've got a road game, or a court date, or a wedding or funeral, you'll know well in advance. If you let me know in advance, I can arrange an alternative assignment or due-date for you. I'm happy to do this, but I can only do it with at least 36 hours of notice. While, there are no "make-up" quizzes or assignments, there will be some alternative IF it is arranged in advance.

What to do if you unexpectedly miss class:

First off, here's what not to do; don't write me a note asking, "Did I miss anything?" You did! And it's reasonable to wonder what it was but, it took an hour and a half for that course session to happen. There's no way I will be able to capture it in an e-mail. So, come in to my scheduled office hours (listed above), and we can talk about it in detail.

What to do if you must miss an exam:

If you miss one of our three exams I will allow you to take an all-essay version of that test in our final class session. *Note: Students can only "make up" one exam. A second missed exam will be given a zero. All students must take the final to pass the class.*

Class Policy on Electronic Devices and Social Media:

I recognize that we live in a digital age, so I will often provide a "text-break" or a "facebook" break in the middle of class. But as I said earlier, the classroom is a community, moving toward one purpose together. It's VERY unlikely that whoever is on the other end of the line is working toward that same purpose with us ... SO, please turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc. for the full duration of each class. (See "Attendance," above.)

If you need to communicate with the community outside our classroom, (e.g. illness at home, work situation, you've got kids), and you must use electronic devices during class, please speak to me about it before the class meets and be discreet.

If your attention to social media distracts *my* attention, however, I will dock your participation or attendance grade significantly, because you've pushed many people away from the stated purposes of the course.

Class Participation: (see rubric, attached),

Student Success Center:

The Student Success Center supports Calumet College of St. Joseph students through an interactive learning experience. Students work with tutors to develop course competencies and study skills such as time management, test preparation, and note taking. In addition, students are provided with tutoring support to help pass courses, to improve grade point average, and to promote continuing education and career advancement. Tutors have a specific charge: to help students learn how to master specific subject matter and to develop effective learning skills. The Student Success Center is open to all students at Calumet College of St. Joseph at no charge and is available to support academic courses at the introductory and advanced levels. For assistance, please contact the Student Success Center at 219 473-4287 or stop by room 413.

The Supplemental Instruction (SI) Program is an academic support program designed to increase student performance and retention. The SI Program provides peer-assisted study sessions to aid students in academic courses that often prove challenging. Weekly study sessions are led by a supplemental instructor, a “peer facilitator” who helps students master course content and practice effective study skills. In SI sessions, students are provided with an opportunity to review lecture notes, clarify difficult concepts, discuss ideas, and study for tests in group settings. SI sessions are for students who need or want supplemental instruction in courses in which SI support is provided. Students may attend as many sessions as they deem helpful. For more information regarding the SI Program, contact the Academic Support Programs Office at 219 473-4352.

Statement of Plagiarism:

If an instructor or other Calumet College of St. Joseph personnel finds that a student has plagiarized or been involved in another form of academic dishonesty, the instructor or other personnel may elect to bring the matter up for judicial review (See honor code below). The maximum penalty for any form of academic dishonesty is dismissal from the College. The procedures for judicial review are listed under the section of CCSJ handbook that addresses student grievances.

PLEASE NOTE: All papers can and may be submitted for checks on plagiarism from the Internet/Electronic sources/Databases.

Citation Guidelines:

Calumet College of St. Joseph uses citation guidelines, generally MLA or APA format, to document sources quoted or paraphrased in student papers. Check the syllabus for each course to see what each instructor requires. The Library has reference copies of each manual; the Bookstore has copies for sale when required by the instructor. In addition, there are brief MLA and APA checklists in your spiral “Student Handbook and Planner” and on the Library website and literature rack. These texts show how to cite references from many sources, including electronic media, as well as how to space and indent the “Works Cited” and “References” pages respectively. EBSCO and ProQuest articles provide both formats for you to copy and paste. Proper documentation avoids plagiarism.

Withdrawal from Classes Policy:

After the last day for class changes has passed (see College calendar), students may withdraw from a course in which they are registered with permission from the faculty member conducting the course. A written request detailing the reason(s) for the withdrawal must be filed with the Registrar. The Registrar must receive written request for withdrawal by the last day of classes prior to the final examination dates specified in the catalogue. Written requests may be mailed to the Registrar or faxed to the College fax number 219-473-4259. Students are to make note of the refund schedule when withdrawing from courses. The request is forwarded to the faculty member, who makes the final determination to accept or deny the request. If the request is honored, the student will receive notification of official withdrawal; if denied, the notification will indicate why the withdrawal is disallowed.

An official withdrawal is recorded as a "W" grade on the student's transcript. Dropping a course without written permission automatically incurs an "F" grade for the course (see Refund Schedule).

Failure to Withdraw (**FW**) = The student does not complete withdrawal paperwork with the Registrar's office nor does the student notify the instructor of their intent to withdraw due to an illness, accident, grievous

personal loss, or other circumstances beyond the student’s control. This grade is submitted by the instructor at the end of term.

CCSJ Student Honor Code	<p>This course asks students to reaffirm the CCSJ Student Honor Code:</p> <p>I, as a student member of the Calumet College academic community, in accordance with the college's mission and in a spirit of mutual respect, pledge to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuously embrace honesty and curiosity in the pursuit of my educational goals; • Avoid all behaviors that could impede or distract from the academic progress of myself or other members of my community; • Do my own work with integrity at all times, in accordance with syllabi, and without giving or receiving inappropriate aid; • Do my utmost to act with commitment, inside and outside of class, to the goals and mission of Calumet College of St. Joseph.
Sharing Your Class Experience	<p>At the end of the term, you will have the opportunity to evaluate your classroom experience. These confidential surveys are <i>essential</i> to our ongoing efforts to ensure that you have a great experience that leaves you well prepared for your future. Take the time to complete your course evaluations – we value your feedback!</p>
Withdrawing from Class	<p>After the last day established for class changes has passed (see the College calendar), you may withdraw from a course by following the policy outlined in the CCSJ Course Catalog.</p>

Resources	
Student Success Center:	<p>The Student Success Center provides faculty tutors at all levels to help you master specific subjects and develop effective learning skills. It is open to all students at no charge. You can contact the Student Success Center at 219 473-4287 or stop by the Library.</p>
Disability Services:	<p>Disability Services strives to meet the needs of all students by providing academic services in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. If you believe that you need a “reasonable accommodation” because of a disability, contact the Disability Services Coordinator at 219-473-4349.</p>
Student Assistance Program	<p>Through a partnership with Methodist Hospital, Calumet College of St. Joseph provides a free Student Assistance Program (SAP) to current students. The SAP is a confidential counseling service provided to students for personal and school concerns which may be interfering with academic performance and/or quality of life. The SAP counselor is available on campus once a week and off-site at their Employee Assistance Program (EAP) office in Merrillville or Gary. For more information, contact the SAP Counselor, at 219-736-4067.</p>
CCSJ Alerts:	<p>Calumet College of St. Joseph’s emergency communications system will tell you about emergencies, weather-related closings, or other incidents via text, email, or voice messages. Please sign up for this important service annually on the College’s website at: http://www.ccsj.edu/alerts/index.html.</p>

School Closing Information:

CCSJ Alerts:

An emergency communications system that transmits messages via text, email, and voice platforms. Please sign-up for this important service at any time on the College's website. This can be done at: <http://www.ccsj.edu/alerts/index.html>.

Course Outline: (Note: Our schedule can change with little notice. Stay tuned to Blackboard for updates.)

week one	(1/16)	ideas
W		Music and Architecture (3000 B.C.E to September, 2017) <i>For next time: Ch1. & Plato's Allegory of the Cave</i>
week two	(1/22)	
M	Ancient Greece 1	Helping the Helpless <i>for next time The Melian Debate</i>
W	Ancient Greece 2	Metaphora, Democracy and <i>The Melian Debate</i> <i>For next time: Ch2.</i>
week three	(1/29)	
M	Roman Empire 1	Infrastructure and Empire, Roman Roads and Trivia
W	Roman Empire 2	greek / roman philosophy <i>For next time: view Roots of Old Testament (blackboard) and read Ch3.</i>
week four	(2/5)	
M	Judeo-Christian Monotheism 1	Roots of Old Testament
W	Judeo-Christian Monotheism 2	The Prodigal Son & Review for Exam #1 <i>For next time: Study!</i>
week five	(2/12)	
M	Exam #1	Exam #1 (chs. 1-3) <i>For next time: Ch. 4!</i>
W	No Class Session	
week six	(2/19)	
M	Medievalism	The Uses of a Liberal Education: as a Weapon for the Restless Poor
W	And Today	The Uses of a Liberal Education: as a Weapon for the Restless Poor
week seven	(2/26)	
M	Revisiting Greek	How should we approach Higher Education?
W	And Roman Philosophy	Is America Stoic?

week eight (3/5) SPRING BREAK		
M		No session
W		No session
week nine (3/12)		
M	Middle Ages 1	Feudalism, guilds, literacy and Scholasticism
W	Middle Ages 2	The Wife of Bath's Tale
week ten (3/19)		
M	The Renaissance 1	politics / economics / colonialism (Macchiavelli)
W	The Renaissance 2	Linear Perspective
week eleven (3/26)		
M	Renaissance to Reformation	Gutenberg and Luther
W	The Reformation 1	Global revision & Ambassadors
week twelve (4/2)		
M	The three R's 1	Bach, Scientific Revolution, and review <i>For next time: Study!</i>
W	EXAM #2	EXAM #2 (Chs. 4,5, and 6, plus Exam #1) <i>For next time: Read Ch7</i>
week thirteen (4/9)		
M	Enlightenment 1	Cartesian Revolutions <i>For next time: Ambassadors Projects Due</i>
W	Enlightenment 2	Ambassadors <i>For next time: Read Ch8</i>
week fourteen (4/16)		
M	Industrialism	
W	Romanticism	
Week fifteen (4/23)		
M	Review	Review, distribute take home portion
W	Review	Review for Final Exam

FINAL WEEK (4/30)

(consult Finals
Schedule)

final exam