Milpitas Unified School District
Course Presentation

Title of Course: *Humanities A / Humanities B*

Course Duration: *1 School Year*
Credits: N/A
Grade Level: *11-12*
Department:
Submitted by: *Brian Knitter*
Date: Proposed for August *2017*

Prerequisites: World History, English II
Sequence:
Magnet:
Academy:
UC/A-G Approved: N/A, but in process as G
Course Catalog Information: N/A

Course Description

This course is designed to develop an appreciation for the impact of the arts on Western cultures. The course examines art, music, literature, drama, philosophy, film and history in an exploration of the cultural environment and society as it has been affected by the Humanities. The course will deal with major movements, figures, cultural developments and ideas in the major periods of intellectual and artistic advancement beginning with the earliest civilizations and empires, and continuing through the Renaissance, Baroque, Enlightenment, Romantic, Modern and Post-Modern Periods. Students will learn the Academic Vocabulary of the arts, and demonstrate this mastery with in-class exams and with one major research topic per semester.   Assignments based on multi-media presentations along with museum visit assignments will also be required. A Final Exam will be given at the end of each semester. While the course follows a discussion format primarily, student-centered activities, writing workshops and peer revision sessions will also be incorporated. Ten percent credit is awarded for insightful and intelligent class participation.

Total Number of Students Per Year
1-2 sections @ 36:1

Goals of the Class
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
1. express a better understanding of major historical, cultural, and intellectual periods and their leading figures
2. read, think about, and discuss issues more effectively
3. write more clearly and critically on these issues
4. recognize and distinguish between various artistic styles and theories
5. learn the importance of art fundamentals. They will learn how to look at a piece of art and recognize the use of color, line, form, repetition and balance.
6. learn the fundamentals of music. They will learn Pitch, Rhythm, Harmony, and then move to terms specific to the period.
7. create class presentations for art, music, and literature. They will write a research paper which will follow our English Departments guidelines (based on the Expository Reading and Writing guidelines for CSU).
8. keep a notebook which will include short analyses, Cornell notes, and sketches of concepts and architecture.

Course Objectives
Throughout the course, students will:
1. Become familiar with the major periods of cultural, artistic, and intellectual development and the most significant figure who precipitated and/or participated in them.
2. Improve their ability to think more critically and with more perspective about their own beliefs and those cultural, conceptual and linguistic traditions from which they emerged.
3. Recognize and/or define key concepts and terms relating to each era studied
4. Identify key persons and their artistic and/or intellectual works
5. Explain the way art, music, literature, and philosophy reveal the values of the time that produced it.
6. Interpret and explain the similarities and differences among historical periods
7. Understand the development of major civilizations, societies and culture
8. Examine the development of the history of social, economic, political, and philosophical ideas that have influenced contemporary societies

Major Units of Study
The textbook covers seven units and 22 chapters organized in a thematic manner (we will use this textbook organization whether or not we adopt the textbook). The instructor will be in charge of the initial unit presentation and discussion to model what is expected from the students and after that, it will be up to students and groups to prepare organized presentations and discussions.

There will be several projects and essays due throughout each semester. There will also be at least one museum visit per semester (visiting either physically or virtually).

Each chapter covers a particular culture and time period. Each chapter will include several items from this list: Art, Architecture, Philosophy, Literature, Drama, Music, Technology and Film

Semester 1

Unit 1: Ancient Civilizations
       Preliminary – Understanding Art and Music

Chapter 1 - Paleolithic/Neolithic/Mesopotamia/Egypt/Aegean 30,000 B.C.—500 B.C.
Chapter 2-4 - Hellenic/Hellenistic/Roman Period 500 B.C.-500 A.D.

Unit 2: Eastern Civilizations and World Religions
Chapter 5-6 - India/China/Near East 3300 B.C.-1200 A.D.
Chapter 7-8 - Byzantine & Islam 500 –1450 A.D.

Unit 3: The Medieval World
Chapter 9-10 - Medieval & Middle Ages 500 –1300 A.D.
Chapter 11-12 - 14th & 15th Centuries 1300—1500 A.D.

Semester 2

Unit 4: Europe 1500-1800
Chapter 13-14 - The Renaissance 1500—1600 A.D.
Chapter 15-16 - Baroque and Enlightenment 1600—1800 A.D.

Unit 5: Europe 1800-1914
Chapter 17 - Romanticism and Realism 1800-1870
Chapter 18 - Toward the Modern 1870—1914 A.D.

Unit 6: China/Japan/Africa 960 A.D.—Present
Chapter 19-20 - China/Japan/Africa 960 A.D.—Present

Unit 7: Modern and Post-Modern
Chapter 21 - The World at War 1914—1945 A.D.
Chapter 22 - Contemporary 1945—Present

Vocabulary will be embedded in the readings and the instructor will provide online resources to help each student succeed.

Course Organization and Mode of Instruction

The course organization is based mostly on a linear timeline (from the book *Culture & Values: A Survey of the Humanities*). We will start with cave paintings and go through the end of the 20th century. Along this timeline, we will study the humanities of several cultures from all over the world, but primarily from the Western tradition.

This class will use a variety of teaching methods, but will concentrate on discussions of art, music, literature, theater, movies and architecture. Some activities will be student-centered. There will be several research opportunities, presentations, demonstrations and essays.

Students will work individually and in groups. They will be in charge of sharing the workload among themselves and present a plan with deadlines to the instructor who will make comments and suggestions before they engage in the research process that will culminate with a presentation.

Standards Met

Humanities will use the Common Core Standards for ELA and Social Studies. The four major categories are: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Humanities will also use the Digital Citizenship guidelines recommended for High School Students.

http://www.digitalcitizenship.net/Nine_Elements.html

Students will have to adhere to these guidelines when doing research, presenting their work to the class and when posting their presentations to the teacher and the class.

Reading Materials*

What textbook is associated with this?

This class will use Culture & Values: A Survey of the Humanities, published by Wadsworth Publishing if funding is available for textbooks, otherwise, this book will serve as the main guide along with several humanities resources. A textbook is not absolutely necessary for this course.

Will this textbook require a new purchase?

Yes, if funding is available for textbooks.

If yes, What is the projected cost of new text?

8th Ed 2013 edition is $184 for the single volume version and $136 for vol 1 or vol 2 (or $272 for both). There is also an available $51 for a Digital Image Library.

For a class set of 36, the total cost (with a single purchase of the Digital Library) will be:

Single Volume: $6,675.00
Two Volume: $9,843.00

Where would funds come from to purchase the text?

From available school/district funds.

*CPC Approval is for the course ONLY. Any textbooks associated with the course must go through the proper CPC textbook pilot process.