READ: Rules, Regs and Policies, Summer Session

HISTORY 60

Course Description

In this class, you will learn principles that will help you to make sense of Greco-Latin scientific, medical, and technical vocabulary; as the straightforward meaning of this terminology becomes transparent, you will find it easier to remember definitions, assimilate new vocabulary and construe meanings of new words when you encounter them. The class will also introduce you to Greco-Roman natural philosophy and its general cultural context, and explain the historical relationship of that tradition to the emergence of modern European experimental science and technology and its language. Thus, the course aims to provide you with both tools and context to understand the historical roots of modern science and its language.

Course Requirements

Course work is organized by module, and, because this is a 5-week summer course, we will be completing two modules per week; you are required to complete the assignments in order, and to finish one module before going on to the next one (with the exception of the final project module...more on this later).

We will evaluate your mastery of the vocabulary component of the course on the basis of successful and incremental completion of online exercises and quizzes. You may repeat these quizzes until the material is mastered, and only your highest grade will be entered in the Canvas gradebook. Exercises are numerous, and quizzes are generated randomly from a bank of questions, so that they vary when repeated.

For the historical component of the course, you are required each week to read a series of “Overviews” written by the instructors of the course, and one more in-depth scholarly essay each week. Mastery of these readings is tested by completion of a series of online quizzes intended to guide you through the reading; these quizzes may be repeated once, and the higher score will be recorded in the Canvas gradebook. Note that you are always expected to respond in your own words, whether the short-answer question specifies this or not.

Participation in the online discussion groups is mandatory; for each module you are required to post at least one response to the module's topic (usually a reading or video segment followed by a question for
discussion) and to respond thoughtfully to at least two other students' contributions. If an instructor or TA poses a question in response to your post, you are expected to respond!

Your mastery of the history of science element of the course is also assessed by the quality of your participation in a peer- and instructor-reviewed writing assignment: a short essay that asks you to discuss a topic related to the readings for the course. The Canvas LMS assigns peer groups after the first draft of the essay is due, and then you will comment on your group members’ submissions, and then reevaluate your own, according to a rubric created by the instructors and posted with the original assignment. You can then resubmit a final draft of your own essay. Your work in both the writing assignment and the peer-review process will then be assessed by the instructors or TAs.

Finally, there is a group project which requires you to analyze a piece of scientific or technical writing or to read and analyze your peers' contributions to one of our weekly discussion topics. Signup for this group project begins between modules 5 and 6, and the final project is due at the end of the term.

Grades and Due Dates

Assignments will be weighted as follows to determine your final grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repeatable vocabulary exercises</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes on overviews and scholarly essays</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer-reviewed writing assignment</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in discussion groups</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final written project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
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All assignments have a posted due date. PLEASE NOTE THESE AS YOU BEGIN WORKING ON EACH MODULE!

In general:

- the course opens on Monday, June 24 at 8 a.m., and the work for Module 1 is due on Thursday, June 27 at 8 a.m.
- even-numbered modules open Wednesdays at 11:59 p.m.; and work is due the next Sunday at 11:59 p.m.
- odd-numbered modules open Saturdays at 11:59 p.m. and work is due the next Thursday at 8 a.m.
- the work for Module 10 is due on Friday, July 26 at 11:59 p.m., when the course closes.
- the Final Project is also due on Friday, July 26 at 11:59 p.m.

Summer-session courses are fast-paced, and you need to keep up. Any late work will be accepted at the instructors' discretion. Late submissions will be penalized 5% per day or part thereof (up to a maximum penalty of 30%). If an emergency will cause your work to be late, please contact an instructor before the due date.

**An Important Note on Grades**

We do not grade on a curve. We hope that all of you achieve As in the course; and if you do, we will have no hesitation in giving all As. This is a course in which every one of you should be able, if you put in the work, to achieve an A; and if you do, we will be thrilled. We are mainly interested that you master the material, not in making grades correspond to a bell curve.

Calculation of final grades for the class follows the traditional scales: a final score of 80-82 is an B-, 83-86 is a B, 87-89 is a B+; and so on. Note only that an A+ is 98 and above (NOT 97 and above). We do NOT round marginal scores: so for example 82.9999 is an 82, not an 83. A few of you will inevitably fall on the lines, or very close to them; please keep in mind that we have to draw lines in order to give grades, and moving the line simply creates another division further down the scale.

When you look at your grades, you will notice a little checkbox marked "Calculate based only on graded assignments." When this box is checked, the grade you see will be calculated on the basis of only the assignments (quizzes, discussions, projects, etc.) which you have already submitted and we have graded. Uncheck this box, and the grade you see will be calculated on the basis of all the assignments due over the course of the quarter...even the ones that aren't due yet. Naturally, at the beginning of the term, unchecking this box will show that you are failing, because there's a lot of stuff you haven't done yet! But remember that at the end of the term, any required work that you have not submitted will count against you. See the example below:
Lateness :(

Please note that while we try to accommodate special circumstances and late submissions in various ways, slack evaporates at the end of the term. You should note carefully the due dates of the later assignments. In particular, note that

- Work in Module 10 is due on the last day of class, which is a Friday. You will **not** have the weekend to do the work, as you do for the other modules.
- **All** work for the class **must** be completed by the final due date. We are UNABLE to give exceptions, no matter the reason, because the registrar closes access to the course at that time.

A Note on Notifications

It is possible to change the frequency of notifications you receive in your Canvas courses. **Be very careful with this, as you do not want to make your instructors or peers unable to contact you, especially when it comes time for the final project.** We will not be forgiving of problems that you create for yourself by turning off your notifications. If you have ever turned off your notifications in the past, you may want to turn them back on now; this is a screenshot that demonstrates what the notifications preferences page looks like; note that here, notifications have been turned off entirely for changes in due dates and grading policies.
Office Hours

We will hold regular live online office hours using Zoom, the UC-sanctioned teleconferencing tool. Office hours are posted at the beginning of each week, and you can join by clicking the "Office Hours" link in the menu at the left during the scheduled office hours. Office hours are currently scheduled for Wednesdays, from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Pacific Time.