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 ON VOCABULARY 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 historical readings is tested by completion of a series of online quizzes intended to guide you through the reading. Note that the QUIZZES DEALING WITH HISTORICAL TOPICS may be repeated once, and ONLY THE LATEST score will be recorded in the Canvas gradebook: so, if you take the quiz only once that score will be recorded; if you take it twice only the second score will be recorded. Note that questions are generated out of banks, so they will vary from attempt to attempt. In the case of short answer questions, please note that you are always expected to respond in your own words, whether the short-answer question specifies this or not.

In some weeks students will post to ONLINE DISCUSSION GROUPS. Participation in these groups is mandatory; you are required to write a post on the module’s topic (usually a reading or video segment followed by a question for discussion) and to respond thoughtfully to the contributions of AT LEAST two other students. You may receive additional credit if you interact more extensively with your fellow students. 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 SEVERAL SHORT WRITING ASSIGNMENTS. These include a brief (250 word) exercise and a longer (500 word) peer-reviewed essay. Completion of this peer reviewed essay involves a series of collaborative assignments; these will be completed over the course of modules 5-8; instructions for it will be found between Modules 4 and 5.

The class ends with 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. You will find instructions for this group project in a special "bucket" between modules 6 and 7. You must have signed up for the project by the end of module 7. Completion of project will involve a series of collaborative assignments; these will be completed from module 8 through the end of the class. The completed project will be due on the day and at the time scheduled for the final exam for this class, that is, July 23.

There will be no final examination for the course.

A small amount of participation credit will be given those who attend Zoom office hours at least once in the course of the term. For more details see the "Notes On Office Hours" in the various modules.

Grades and Due Dates

Assignments will be weighted as follows to determine your final grade:
Repeatable vocabulary exercises | 20%
---|---
Quizzes on overviews and scholarly essays | 20%
Peer-reviewed writing assignment | 15%
Participation in discussion groups | 20%
Participation (Zooming) | 5%
Final written project | 20%

Every assignment has a posted due date. PLEASE NOTE THESE AS YOU BEGIN WORKING ON EACH MODULE!

In general:
- the course opens on Monday, June 21 at 8 a.m., and the work for Module 1 is due on Thursday, June 25 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.
- Module 10 is an exception to this schedule. The work for Module 10 is due on Friday, July 23 at 11:59 p.m., when the course closes. To allow for the abbreviated time available in Summer Session, I open module 10 earlier, on Monday, July 19 at 11:59 pm. Note however that you still must complete Module 9 before moving on to module 10!
- the Final Project is also due on Friday, July 23 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

I do not grade on a curve. I hope that all of you achieve As in the course; and if you do, I 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, I will be thrilled. I am 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 80-83 is an B-, 84-86 is a B, 87-89 is a B+; and so on for C's etc., Note, however, that the scale for As is slightly different: A+ is 98 and above (NOT 97 and above); A is 93-97 and A- is 90-92. I 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 I have to draw lines in order to give grades, and moving the line simply creates another division further down the scale.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS CLASS IS APPROVED TO SATISFY ONE OF TWO GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS. BY DEFAULT IT SATISFIES THE PR-E REQUIREMENT; SHOULD YOU WISH, YOU MAY CHOOSE TO HAVE IT SATISFY INSTEAD THE PE-T REQUIREMENT-- BUT NOT BOTH. BY UNIVERSITY POLICY, TO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THE A
GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT, YOU MUST ACHIEVE AT LEAST A GRADE OF C! THE GRADE OF C CORRESPONDS TO A FINAL SCORE OF 74-76. A SCORE OF 73.999 WILL EARN A GRADE OF C MINUS. PLEASE KEEP THIS POINT IN MIND AS YOU DECIDE WHAT SCORES SATISFY YOU!

The class satisfies the PR-E requirement. As you will see, collaboration is heavily weighted in the grading of certain assignments. To achieve high marks, you will need to be active and timely in participating.

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:

When you complete a quiz, most of the questions will be automatically graded and your scores will be visible immediately after you finish. However, the short answer questions will be graded manually by the instructor and TAs. If your quiz grade looks too low, it may be because the short answers have not been graded yet.

Lateness :(  
Canvas will provide you with reminders of due dates: BE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR NOTIFICATIONS ON! You can also track due dates in the class calendar, which you will find in the menu to the far left of your browser screen! 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. To allow for the abbreviated time available in Summer Session I open module 10 earlier, on the Monday. Note however that you still must complete Module 9 before moving on to module 10!
- All work for the class must be completed by the final due date. Write me for my policy about exceptions if necessary: documentation for extenuating circumstances is required and must be submitted to me by your college advisor!

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.** I will be unforgiving 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. You will be reminded of these meetings in your calendar (in the menu to the far left) and can find the links to join them under the Zoom tab (in the menu to the immediate left).

I have also posted an additional reminder each week, in the form of "A Note on Office Hours" posted in each module of the class. In note you will find a list of instructor office hours and notes about any changes for that week. I will also send out timely reminders via announcements!

Please note that when you join a meeting you will be asked to register (that way we can give you credit for attendance: see below). Please use your official Canvas name and UCSC email, if you want this credit! To attend you must also be an "authenticated user"—i.e. you must be logged into your UCSC account. When you join the video chat for the first time you may be prompted to download the Zoom app, which you should agree to do.

Please bear in mind that links to office hours will only work during scheduled office hours or by scheduled appointment!

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** you are required to check in to Zoom office hours at least once during the class. You need not stay long, though you are welcome to do so; the purpose of the meeting is to break the ice, touch bases and familiarize yourself with Zoom. If you can not make office hours, arrange to contact an instructor or TA via Zoom by appointment.