San José State University
Department of Humanities
Humanities 2B – Modern Culture and Social Institutions
Lecture section 40, Seminar section 41, Spring 2017

Instructor: James Lindahl
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Telephone: 408-924-4501
Email: James.Lindahl@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: MW 10:30-11:30, TR 1:30-2:30, or by appointment
Class Days/Time:
Lecture: MW 10:30-11:45
Seminar: MW 12:00-1:15
Classroom:
Lecture: Washington Square 109
Seminar: SH 241
Prerequisites: Humanities 1A, 1B, and 2A
GE/SJSU Studies Category: The Humanities Honors Program satisfies G.E. Areas: A1 (Oral Communication), A2 (Written Communication 1A), A3 (Critical Thinking), C1 (Arts), C2 (Letters), C3 (Written Communication 1B), D2 (Comparative Systems), D3 (Social Issues), F1 (U.S. History and Constitution), and F2/3 (California Government). The series of courses is organized to meet the area objectives for all of these G.E. Areas.

Course Description
Humanities 2B is the fourth (and final) part of the Humanities Honors Program covering the period extending roughly 1850 to present. The main lecture section (10:30-11:45) covers topics listed in the reading schedule. Seminar sections (12:00-1:15) cover the reading assignments also listed in the reading schedule. The seminar meeting will, in many ways, act as extension of, and supplement to, the main lecture. The seminar will offer you more opportunity to participate and follow up on questions you have concerning the reading and lecture material. This participation is very important and you are expected to come to the seminar meeting ready to discuss the assigned topics. In addition to this, the seminar is the forum for developing writing and verbal skills elemental to the class. You will write essays, long and short, give a speech to the class, and engage in lively discussion.
Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Students who successfully complete the four-semester sequence of Humanities Honors will find that they have satisfied the following objectives:

LO1 Area A1: Oral Communication courses should cultivate an understanding of the social, psychological, political and practical significance of communication, with special emphasis on the roles of public communication in a free society.

LO2 Area A2: Written communication 1A courses should cultivate an understanding of the writing process and the goals, dynamics, and genres of written communication, with special attention to the nature of writing at the university.

LO3 Area A3: Critical thinking courses should help students learn to recognize, analyze, evaluate, and produce reasoning.

LO4 Areas C1-2-2 (9 units): Arts and Letters courses should give students knowledge and understanding of significant works of the human intellect and imagination. Courses should enable students to participate in social and cultural communities associated with artistic and literary endeavors, enriching their personal and professional lives.

LO5 Area D2: Courses in this area will enable students to compare and contrast two or more ethnic groups, cultures, regions, nations, or social systems.

LO6 Area D3: Social Issues courses will enable students to apply multidisciplinary material to a topic relevant to policy and social action at the local, national, and/or international levels.

LO7 Area US1-US2-US3: Courses in American Institutions (US History, US Constitution, and California Government) should expose students to alternative interpretations of the historical events and political processes that have shaped the social, economic, and political systems in which we live.

For specific goals and objectives per G.E. Area, see “Humanities Honors Learning Objectives” posted on the website

Required Texts/Readings

For information on required texts and the reading schedule, see the lecture schedule.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on the Canvas site for this class.

All reading assignments listed in the reading schedule as “website” can be found at:
http://www.sjsu.edu/people/james.lindahl/courses/

Grading Scale:

All assignments will be graded out of 100 points. They will be weighted as indicated above. Final grades will be assigned according to the following grade schema:

Grading information

Seminar Specific Requirements:
It is important to keep up with the reading schedule as indicated in the Humanities 2B semester plan. Assignments specific to the seminar class include:
- Two Research Papers (approx 5-6 pages each) (Topics and details forthcoming)
- Six Pop Quizzes (Covering the assigned reading material)
- Four short (2, or so, page) writing assignments.
- Speech (+ speech outline)
- Report on a visit to a Cultural Event
- Seminar section Midterm Exam
- Lecture and Seminar section Final Exams
- California History Exam

Course Grade Breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Research paper</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Research paper</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six Quizzes</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four short essays</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural event report</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final, Short Answer</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final, Long Answer</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California History Exam</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Schedule of Assignment Due Dates:

- Thurs. Feb. 16 - Writing Assignment #1
- Thurs. March 9 - Writing Assignment #2
- Tues. March 21 - Midterm Exam
- Tues. Apr. 4 - Research Paper #1 due
- Tues. Apr. 11 - Writing Assignment #3
- Thurs. Apr. 27 - California Exam (in seminar)
- Tues. May 2 - Writing Assignment #4
- Tues. May 9 - Research Paper #2 due
- Tues. May 16 - Cultural Report due

Quizzes are “pop” quizzes that will be given at the beginning of selected seminars. They will consist of five or six questions drawn from the reading for that day.
The lowest of your six quiz scores will be dropped.
There is no make-up opportunity for quizzes (don’t miss more than one).
Speeches will be given in the seminar on Thursday between February 23 and May 4. I will make a sign up sheet available soon.
Times and dates of the final exams are listed in the Reading Schedule. They are held on Monday, May 22 and Wednesday, May 24, so don't plan any trips until the 25th.

Full G.E. Credit for the Humanities Honors Program:
All students in the Humanities Honors Program must maintain a minimum “C” or 2.0 GPA in order to get the G.E. credit that the program provides. Should you fall below that, you will get credit for having taken the course, but you will have to repeat the course or take other courses to satisfy some elements of your needed G.E. units.
Writing Skills Test (WST)

In 1977, the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement was implemented system-wide through all the CSU campuses to evaluate university level writing skills. All students must pass both the Writing Skills Test and 100W course in order to satisfy this Assessment Requirement. Registration for the WST requires completion of an English 1A course (GE Area A2), or completion of the second semester Humanities Honors Program course with a "C" or better. Humanities Honors students are expected to register for and take the WST during the third and no later than the fourth semester of Humanities Honors. To plan for your WST, please find WST preparation information at: http://testing.sjsu.edu/wst/wstprep/index.html and registration information at: http://testing.sjsu.edu/wst/wstreg/index.html and check the sign-up schedule to register in a timely manner. Without successful completion of the WST, no student is allowed to take the SJSU Studies requirements, including 100W.

Assignments and Grading Policy

I will provide detailed instructions for all writing assignments on handouts distributed well before the due dates for each assignment. Assignments will be submitted to me, in person, at the end of the class on the day they are due.
Exams will be short-answer / written response tests. I will provide specific information before tests.

I do not want any assignments submitted via e-mail. All assignments will be given to me on real paper in the real world in real time.
It is up to you to keep up on the schedule of assignments. There is a schedule of due-dates for all major assignments above. These are also listed in the reading schedule below. If you miss a handout announcing an upcoming assignment, this does not exonerate you of responsibility for that assignment.
Watch the schedule. If you see an assignment soon due then you would be well-advised to ask me about it or consult the handout on my website to get instructions. Any assignments missing at the end of the semester will be graded “0.” Since I announce upcoming assignments in class, distribute handouts, post them on my web-site and list them in two places on this syllabus, “I didn’t know” is not an excuse for missing an assignment.

Never turn in the only copy of anything!!!! Always back up your work. Do not delete your work after it is submitted. I reserve the right to misplace an essay and request another copy. I will not accept excuses for lost assignments no matter who loses them. I know that hard disk crashes happen (especially for Windows users).
I highly recommend that you save all work to a disc, back-up drive or flash drive and store it somewhere safe in the event that some mishap befalls your original copy. You can tell me stories about hard disc crashes or animals eating essays. They may be true (or not) and I may be amused (or not) but the verdict will always be “give me another copy” even if this requires you to write it again.

I do my best to return essays quickly and with substantial feedback. Given the recent increases in class size (as evidenced by this class), “quickly” may mean 2-3 weeks. I read essays carefully, correct grammar, and respond to content issues. That can take time.
I use a red pen to correct essays. I have been told that this practice is now frowned upon because red ink makes the comments appear critical if not angry. I do not believe it does either. Red stands out against black print. The comments stand out against the page better if they are red. It means neither that I am being critical nor that I am angry. I like red pens.
Occasionally an essay might be returned with torn or tattered edges. This does not correlate to my feelings about the essay in any way. I have a cat that tears the edges off of paper. If your essay is torn around the edges it only means that your essay was on top of the stack when this cat decided she was not getting enough attention.

Keep all of your returned work for the entire semester.

I reserve the right to mis-enter a grade on my spreadsheet and request that you resubmit returned work to verify the correct grade. Keep everything until you see your grade at the end of the semester. Once the semester is over you may then dispose of all work in whatever bizarre (but safe) ritualistic fashion you choose or keep it carefully preserved as part of your eternal legacy. Your final grade will be calculated according to your scores on all assignments weighted as described in the grading section of this syllabus. Missed assignment will dramatically reduce your grade. My computer does the math and generates a grade based on the numbers without considering other factors. I stand by its decision.

Office hours are listed both on this syllabus and on the main page of my website. This schedule is good for the entire semester up to the last day of instruction. I will have office hours during finals but they may be different than those listed.

Late or Missed Assignments:

If you need to miss a deadline, inform me as soon as you are aware of it. I will accommodate some (but not all) late work. Late writing assignments will be penalized 5% per week unless I have given permission for the late submission. Do not miss the tests. It is very difficult to schedule make-ups and none will be offered once a test is returned to the class. Any missing work at the end of the semester will be assigned the score of 0. Do the math; this can do substantial damage to your grade and/or result in failing the class even if you do well enough on other assignments.

University policy F69-24 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf states, “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See University Policy F13-1 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf for more details.

Extra Credit

There will be no extra credit assignments in this class. Do well on the scheduled assignments.

Workload:

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.
**Classroom Protocol**

**Note on your electronic devices:**

Cell phones (smart or otherwise) are taken by yours truly as one of the plagues of the 21st century. While you may choose to remain leashed to everyone you know, chatter, text-message, or twitter incessantly about nothing while life passes you by, use hollow communication as a substitute for your own thoughts, inhibit the elegant flow of life as you blindly stand in every one else’s way oblivious to your surroundings, and continually interrupt the few remaining contexts of silence and/or beauty in the world, you will please render them inoperative during class.

You may, of course, use a laptop to participate in class-related activities and take notes but you should refrain from text-messaging, checking e-mail, playing games, updating facebook, and unrelated net-surfing.

**Smart Phones** as well as cell-phones that are not so smart MUST be put completely away during tests. There shall be no phones out on desks or on laps or even sitting out on top of backpacks during tests. All must be off and completely out of sight. There shall be no earbuds in ears during tests. Any use of a phone or a computer during a test will result in an automatic failure on that test. If you are caught using any communication device during a test, the test will be taken away and you will receive a score of “0” on that test. No make-up opportunities will be offered. No exceptions.

In addition to smart phones, there will be no permitted use of **smart wrist mounted devices** (formerly “watches”) nor the wearing of any **google glasses** during class.

**A word on e-mails:**

I am not one of those who spends hours per day in front of the computer. I am happy to respond to e-mails that require short and to-the-point responses. Do not e-mail requests for me to explain complex concepts or repeat lectures that you may have missed. If I cannot respond in a paragraph, I probably will not respond.

**Some things you should know about e-mail:**

E-mail is not always reliable. Never send an e-mail to me concerning an urgent or important matter and assume that it has been read by me and resolved. There are many reasons why an e-mail may not make it to me:

- I may have (temporary) problems with my server or e-mail account.
- You may have (temporary) problems with your server or e-mail account.
- You may select a heading that looks to me like spam which I delete without reading.
- Your e-mail might be erroneously identified as spam by my filter and sent straight to the trash bin.
- Your message may make it into my inbox on a day when I do not get to all of my e-mails. It might then drift down in the e-mail inbox only to be noticed again four months later.
- I may be having one of my anti-technology episodes, refuse to turn on my computer for a week and instead spend that time at the beach with my wife and dog.

Some of these problems are a feature of the technology, some of them are issues I have. Nothing can be done about either. If whatever you need to communicate to me is of great importance, choose a great medium (like vocal conversation) to convey it. E-mail is just not that trustworthy.

A recent study has shown that there are over 210 billion e-mails sent per day around the world. Think about that. There are only 7 billion people on the planet. A significant percentage of those are
babies in third-world countries who lack the technology to send or receive e-mails. That is not even counting text messages and tweets. Do the math. There are simply too many e-mails. Finally, I do not receive text messages. I have never sent nor received a text message (unless as an email). I have no text messaging device and do not intend on purchasing such a device.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Cheating on a test will result in the assignment of a score of zero on the test. Consulting any notes, paper or electronic, during a test is considered cheating. There will be no use of smart phones during a test for any reason. No smart phones should be visible during a test. All phones should be turned off and put away. Using a smart phone, for any reason, during a test will be considered cheating. Plagiarism is an egregious form of academic dishonesty. If I discover any essay or research paper is plagiarized, I will assign a score of zero for that assignment. There will be no opportunity for making up that assignment. Downloading or copying any content from websites, texts, or previously submitted papers, even partial copying, is considered plagiarism. In both cases, I will, without exception, file a report with the office of Student Conduct. It will be up to them to decide if any further action is necessary.

If you need accommodations or take exams through the AEC, let me know at the beginning of the semester. You would also do well to notify me by email about a week before each major test. I generally remember to deliver tests to the AEC once I have signed the drop-off form but an email reminder is a good way to make double-sure that I have done this.

The semester ends when the semester ends:

The day of the final exam is the last day of the course. When you walk out of the room, it is done. There is no further opportunity for submitting late work, making up work, revising work, or seeking reevaluations of old work. It is over; count it. Once the test is over, I leave campus, crawl into a small cave with only a box of granola bars and a carton of soy milk, and methodically correct all finals and remaining essays. I do not take any communication devices with me and will not be accessing email.
Once I am done correcting everything, I calculate and submit grades. The grade submission deadline for faculty follows the last day of finals by only a couple of days. Grade rosters can only be submitted as a complete class. In other words, it is not possible to submit one student’s grade without all of the others nor is it possible to hold up one student’s grade without holding up all grades. I will not delay the grades for an entire class to accommodate anyone’s desire to submit late work.

The new University policy on incompletes:

The days where you might miss some major assignments during the semester and work out a deal to get an incomplete and finish it later are over. In days of olde, it was not uncommon for students to arrange to finish work long after the semester ended by taking an incomplete instead of a letter grade. The University is cracking down on this practice. It is no longer possible to do this without a formal petition to the Dean’s office in which I explain that the missing work was my fault. It is, of course, never my fault. So, know this from the beginning: You must complete all work on schedule and have everything submitted to me before the final exam period. Anything missing will be counted as a “0” on the gradesheet and there will be no opportunity to submit it after the grades are in. You should know what assignments are made and when they are due. Everything is listed on the greensheet. If you think you have missed a handout, ask me. You can also check the website. You can also ask me at any time to look over the spreadsheet to see if you are missing anything. The semester ends when the semester ends. The numbers, in the end, cannot be changed with negotiations or tears. Be warned in advance.

Life, School, and the tragedies that occasionally befall everyone:

Sometimes, bad things happen to good people. At some point during your college career, it is likely that life will impose difficulties upon you. Difficulties can interfere with your ability to study and generate the work necessary to do well in this class (as well as your others). You may be ill or someone near you may be ill; Someone close to you might pass away; financial hardships could force you to work long hours at a paying job.

If you find yourself in a situation that is likely to undermine your success in this class, speak to me about it. You don’t need to reveal any personal details that you do not wish to but you should keep me informed about your difficulties completing assignments and preparing for tests. During the course of the semester, there are many ways for us to deal with these difficulties and I will work with you to help you complete the class whether it be now or during a future semester. The thing you do not want to do is struggle quietly, do poorly in the class (or fail) and then come to me during finals or after the grades have been submitted and inquire what can be done then. Nothing can be done once the semester is over. I am capable of human compassion and will do what I can to accommodate your needs as you deal with what life rains upon you. Just come to me when I can accommodate you and not after the semester is over.

If you have any needs not described in the preceding or any issues that arise that interfere with your ability fulfill the requirements of this class, please speak to me as soon as possible. It is easier to accommodate your needs and solve problems when I have ample notice rather than trying to address such issues at the last minute.