

Introduction to Humanities

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“It is in Apple’s DNA that technology alone is not enough—it’s technology married with liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields us the results that make our heart sing.”

–*Steve Jobs, in introducing the iPad 2 in 2011*

“Arts education aids students in skills needed in the workplace: flexibility, the ability to solve problems and communicate, the ability to learn new skills, to be creative and innovative, and to strive for excellence.”

–*Joseph M. Calahan, Director of Cooperate Communications, Xerox Corporation*

“Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.”

–*Albert Einstein*

General Course Objectives: Being that God is the Creator, He created us in His image and therefore we have some aspect of creativity within us, this class is a concentrated reference encompassing eight artistic areas while looking at the creativity God embedded in mankind and the expression of that creativity. Students will draw comparisons among the arts, and make cross-disciplinary comparisons as they connect creativity with their future fields of study.

Course Requirements

- Students must be punctual and regularly attend class. Absence and tardiness will disrupt the flow of the whole group.
- Students must complete assigned homework prior to coming to school the day the work is due.
- Students must participate fully. Some of our sessions are designed for participation, so lack thereof will not be tolerated.
- Students must come prepared for class, exams, and their final presentations.

Grading

Tests—25%

Response Papers—20%

Final Presentation—20%

Homework—15%

Creativity Journal—15%

Classwork/Participation—5%

Textbook

- Pink, Daniel H. *A Whole New Mind: Why Right-Brainers will Rule the Future*. New York: Riverhead Books, 2005.
- Sporre, Dennis J. *Perceiving the Arts: An Introduction to the Humanities, 11th ed.* Pearson, 2015.

Additional Resources:

- Schaeffer, Francis A. *Art and the Bible*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 1973.

Materials: Pens (blue or black ONLY) & pencils
Loose-leaf paper in a three-ring binder with a folder
Notebook for notes
Journal (must be separate for collection purposes)

Library and Internet Access: Due to the nature of this class, please make sure the student has adequate access to a local library and/or the internet for research purposes and aids for their final presentations. If this will be a problem, please let Ms. Brown know early in the year.

Field Trips: Trips are being planned throughout the year. Through sponsorships and free programs, we are doing our best to keep the prices minimal.

Response Papers: A short paper answering series of questions in regards to field trips taken will be due three days after each trip. If a student misses a trip, he/she will have to find another creative aspect that matches that of the trip and answer the questions accordingly. For example, if a student misses the trip to the Metropolitan Opera House, then that student must either see one of the livefeed HD performances that is sent to various movie houses or view a performance after school in Ms. Brown's room. No private viewing at home will be permitted for these assignments.

Creativity Journal: Throughout the year, students are to write in preparation for their final presentation. They are to take notes, explore the world around them as process each chapter studied, and write reflectively in their journal. This will be collected periodically throughout the year and graded based on consistency of entries and relevance to subject matters studied.

Final Project: The students must use what they learned in the class to prepare a final presentation entitled "How Creativity/Innovation Can Be Used in My Field of Study". The presentation must be ten to fifteen minutes in length or a 12-page paper typed double-spaced in Times New Roman font (MLA format). Presentations and/or papers will be presented or collected in May.