CC 201, Fall 2000 Humanities III Core Curriculum
The Renaissance
Syllabus

Lectures: T, 12:30-2:00, SMG 105

**Core Professors**
Michael Aeschliman (English)
Dennis Costa (Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures)
James Johnson (History)
Timothy Markey (English)
John Newton (English)
Stephanie Nelson (Classics)

**Seminar Times:**
- B1 MWF 3:00-4:00 pm, Professor Johnson, PSY B47
- B2 TR 11:00-12:30 pm, Professor Markey, CAS 325
- B3 MWF 2:00-3:00 pm, Professor Aeschliman, MCS B33
- B6 TR 2:00-3:30 pm, Professor Costa, CAS B18A
- B7 TR 3:30-5:00 pm, Professor Newton, CAS 233
- B9 W 3:00-6:00 pm, Professor Nelson, CAS 228

**Books:** The books you should purchase and read are available at the Boston University Bookstore. The last page of this syllabus provides a list of these books and of the handouts which will be provided.

**Grading:** Final grades will be determined by the student's seminar instructor. The grade will be based on a combination of written work, examinations, and participation, as follows:
- Seminar Papers 55%
- Mid-term Exam 15%
- Attendance and Participation 10%
- Final Exam 20%

**Attendance** at lectures and seminar discussions is an important part of the course. More than two unexcused absences from seminar, or more than one unexcused absence from lecture will be weighed seriously by your seminar leader, and will bring down your grade.

**Exams** will cover materials in the lectures, seminars, and the readings. Midterm exams will be conducted in seminar and composed by seminar leaders. Final exam will include passages for identification and short and long essay questions. Choices will be offered.
of primary concern, just as they are central to all of the courses in the Core Curriculum.

Beyond the themes and historical developments shaped by the course, a somewhat

The semester concludes with John Milton's Areopagitica, a seminal pamphlet against

Together, said words of the world are the life of the world.

As If

New Heaven,

between poetry and philosophy,

through the genealogical chain.

Course Description: The third semester of the Humanities Core continues our interdisciplinary

Assuming now the genealogical chain in Europe and the semester will carry us

Introduction of new articles, themes, and the new unfolding of what authors called "the historical

Our themes include the rise of individualism: explaining the plot between the ancients

between poetry and philosophy,

between poetry and philosophy,

between poetry and philosophy,

between poetry and philosophy,

between poetry and philosophy,

between poetry and philosophy,
CC 201 Lecture Series and Reading Assignments
Lectures Tuesday, 12:30-2:00, SMG 105

Tuesday, 9/5/00: *The Canterbury Tales: Chaucer (1340?-1400)*
Readings: from Geoffrey Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*, tr. Coghill:
“General Prologue,” pp. 3-26

Lecture (1): Professor Jorgensen

Tuesday, 9/12/00: *The Canterbury Tales: Chaucer (1340?-1400)*
Readings: from Geoffrey Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*, tr. Coghill:
“Host’s Words, Pardoner’s Prologue and Tale,” pp. 239-58;
“Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale,” pp. 258-92;
“Chaucer’s Retraction,” p. 489

Lecture (2): Professor Martin

Tuesday, 9/19/00: *Man, the Being Between Worlds: Petrarch (1304-1374)*
From *Selections from the Canzoniere and Other Works*:
Francesco Petrarcha, “The Ascent of Mount Ventoux,” pp. 11-19;
Poems 1, 2, 3, 16, 17, 35, 52, 61, 90, 126, 129, 132, 189, 264, 310, 319, 365.

Lecture (3): Professor Costa

Tuesday, 9/26/00: *Man Powerless, Man Empowered: Calvin (1509-1564) and Machiavelli (1469-1527)*
Readings from Calvin and Machiavelli:
from John Calvin’s *Institutes of the Christian Religion* (handout);
Niccolo Machiavelli, *The Prince*

Lecture (4): Professors Swanson and Jorgensen
Date and place to be announced,
7:00 p.m.: The Art of the Renaissance
Reading: None
Viewing: Renaissance art

Lecture (5): The Art of the Renaissance

Tuesday, 10/3/00: The Essayist: Montaigne (1533-1592)
Reading: From Michel de Montaigne’s Essays, tr. Frame:
“To the Reader,” p. 3;
from the “Apology for Raymond Sebonde,” pp. 51-71;
“Of Repentance,” pp. 75-91;
“Of Husbanding Your Will,” pp. 92-100;
“Of Experience,” pp. 106-36;
“Of Cannibals” (handout)

Lecture (6): Professor Jackson

Tuesday 10/10/00: Jousts with Reality: Cervantes (1547-1616), Don Quixote
Reading: From Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, Don Quixote Part I:
Chivalry revived: Prologue, pp. 25-30;
Don Quixote’s first expedition and the beginning of his second: chs. 1-10, pp. 31-84; pp. 84-7 of ch. 11 (through “Don Quixote devoted more time to”)
Eros and enchantment: pp. 107-111 of ch. 14 (from “And he was going to read another”) Note: D.Q. is at funeral of a young man who died for love of the young, rich, beautiful Marcela who, to escape her suitors, has been living disguised as a shepherdess. Mourners read the dead youth’s poems. And then, suddenly... chs. 15-18, pp. 111-141;
Liberation and retreat: ch. 22, pp. 171-81; pp. 181-183 of ch. 23 (through “he would not have given a halfpenny for any other adventure”)
A message from Dulcinea: ch. 25, pp. 199-214. Note: D.Q. has forbidden Sancho to engage in extended conversation with him. In the Sierra Morena, D.Q. has gotten into an argument with a mad lover over the virtue of a fictional lady (Queen Madasima) in the romance of Amadis of Gaul; this has ended in D.Q.’s being stoned, and Sancho, defending him, getting into a fight with a goatherd until D.Q. parts them. As chapter 25 begins, Sancho wants to go home.
Return: ch. 30, pp. 267-8 (from “While they were engaged in this conversation”); ch. 31, pp. 268-76

No lecture. Monday Schedule.
Tuesday, 10/17/00:  *Jousts with Unreality:  Cervantes (1547-1616), Don Quixote*  
Reading: from Don Quixote, Parts I and II:  
*Return from the second expedition:* pp. 415-418 of ch. 46 (from “Two days had now passed”)  
*chs. 47-52, pp. 418-458*  
*The third expedition sets out:* chs. 1-3, pp. 471-492;  
*The Other:* ch. 54, pp. 816-822  
*The final return:* pp. 888-891 of ch. 64 (from “Now one morning Don Quixote was riding”);  
*chs. 65-74, pp. 891-940.* Note: A Duke and Duchess, pretending to take D.Q. and Sancho seriously, have been staging elaborate “adventures,” including Sancho’s governorship of an island and a “vision” in which Death announces that Dulcinea can only be freed from enchantment if Sancho “shall deal himself 3,300 / Lashes upon his most ample buttocks.”

**Lecture (7): Professor Smith**

Tuesday, 10/24/00:  *The eldest have borne most: Shakespeare (1564-1616), King Lear*  
Reading: William Shakespeare, King Lear

**Lecture (8): Professor Carroll**

Tuesday, 10/31/00:  *Renaissance Poetry: Shakespeare’s sonnets*  
Reading: William Shakespeare, Sonnets. Read them all, with particular attention to 1, 17, 18, 25, 29, 55, 73, 87, 94, 116, 121, 130, 138, 144, 148.

**Lecture (9): Professor Martin**

Tuesday, 11/7/00:  *Renaissance Philosophy: Francis Bacon (1561-1626)*  
Reading: from Sir Francis Bacon, ed. Jerry Weinberger  
*The Great Instauration, pp. 1-32;*  
*The New Atlantis, pp. 35-83*

**Lecture (10): Professor Costa**
Tuesday, 11/14/00:  Renaissance Poetry: John Donne (1572-1631)
Reading: from the poetry of John Donne:
“Song” (“Go and catch a falling star”), pp. 1-2;
“The Indifferent,” pp. 8-9;
“A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning,” pp. 34-5;
“The Ecstasy,” pp. 35-8;
“A Nocturnal Upon Saint Lucy’s Day,” pp. 39-41;
“The Relic,” pp. 50-1;
“Elegy XIX: To His Mistress Going to Bed,” pp. 64-5;
Holy Sonnets: 1, p. 100; 7-10, pp. 102-3; 14, pp. 104-5.

Lecture (11): Professor Ricks

Thursday, 11/16/00, 7 p.m.,
in The Castle:  The Music of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Reading: None.
Listening: Music of Bach.

Lecture (12): Professor Johnson

Tuesday, 11/21/00:  Renaissance Philosophy: Rene Descartes (1596-1650)
Reading: from Rene Descartes, tr. Lafleur
Discourse on Method Parts 1-4, pp. 3-30;

Lecture (13): Professor Devlin

Thanksgiving Holiday, 11/22/00-11/26/00

Tuesday, 11/28/00:  Renaissance Philosophy: Baruch Spinoza (1632-1677)
Reading: from Baruch Spinoza’s Ethics, tr. Shirley:
from Part I: Concerning God, Definitions and Axioms, pp. 31-2;
props 1-16, pp. 32-43, propositions only; Appendix, pp. 57-62;
from Part III: Concerning the Origin and Nature of the Emotions
Preface, pp. 102-3; props. 6-26, pp. 108-118; Definitions of
the Emotions, pp. 141-51;
from Part IV: Of Human Bondage, Appendix, pp. 195-200;
from Part V: Of the Power of Intellect, or of Human Freedom
Preface, pp. 201-3; prop. 3, entire, p. 204; props. 4-30, pp. 204-216,
propositions only, except all of prop. 20; props. 35-40, entire, pp. 218-222.

Lecture (14): Professor Devlin
Tuesday, 12/5/00:  Milton (1608-1674), Paradise Lost
Reading: From Ricks, ed., John Milton’s Paradise Lost
“The Verse,” p. 45;
Book I entire, pp. 46-69 (Introduction, fall of the angels, construction of Pandemonium)
Book II entire, pp. 69-98 (Counsel of the fallen angels, Satan’s explorations and meeting with Sin and Death);
Book III, Argument, pp. 98-9; II. 1-371, pp. 99-109 (God foresees the fall of man, the Son offers himself as a ransom for man);
Book IV, Argument, pp. 119-20; II. 1-843, pp. 120-143 (Satan in Paradise; Adam and Eve introduced; Satan caught whispering in Eve’s ear while she is dreaming).

Lecture (15): Professor Ricks

Tuesday, 12/12/00:  Milton (1608-1674), Paradise Lost
Reading: From John Milton’s Paradise Lost:
Book V, Argument, p. 149;
Book VI, Argument, p. 174;
Book VII, Argument, p. 199; II. 1-39, pp. 199-200 (Concerning the Muses and the Spirit);
Book VIII, Argument, p. 217; II. 249-653, pp. 224-234 (Adam tells the angel Raphael his memories of his first moments and of the creation of Eve);
Book IX, entire, pp. 235-267 (The Fall);
Book X, Argument, pp. 267-8; II. 383-584, pp. 279-283; II. 720-1003, pp. 287-297 (Satan’s return to Hell; Adam curses his fall and is reconciled with Eve);
Book XI, Argument, p. 298;
Book XII, Argument, p. 322; II. 466-649, pp. 334-9 (Expulsion from Eden).

Lecture (16): Professor Jorgensen

Monday, 12/18/00:  FINAL EXAM, 12:30-2:30 pm
CC 201 Core Humanities II Reading List
Fall 2000

Geoffrey Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales*, tr. Coghill

Francesco Petrarca, “The Ascent of Mont Ventoux”
Selections from the poetry
in Petrarch, *Selections from the Canzoniere and Other Works*, tr. Musa

John Calvin, selections from *Institutes of the Christian Religion*
(handout)


Michel de Montaigne, *Selections from the Essays of Montaigne*, tr. Donald Frame
“Of Cannibals”
(handout)

Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, *Don Quixote*, tr. Cohen

William Shakespeare, *King Lear*

William Shakespeare, *The Sonnets*
(New York: Signet), ISBN: 0-451-51795-4


Sir Francis Bacon, *New Atlantis and The Great Instauration*, ed. Weinberger

Rene Descartes, *Discourse on Method and Meditations*, tr. Lafleur

Baruch Spinoza, *Ethics*, tr. Shirley