CC 201: The Renaissance

Fall 2004
Tuesday, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
School of Management Auditorium

Faculty
Archie Burnett (Editorial Institute, English)
Brian Jorgensen (English)
Marcia Karp (Core)
Michèle Mendelssohn (Core)
Christopher Ricks (Editorial Institute)
Sassan Tabatabai (Core)
Diana Wylie (History)

The third semester of the Humanities Core continues our multidisciplinary survey with some of the most significant literary, artistic, and philosophical works from the Renaissance, an era in which the foundations of the modern world were laid. The semester will carry us from the early fourteenth century through the late seventeenth century.

Refer to the Core website (www.bu.edu/core) for a regularly updated calendar of events for announcements, recommended lectures, performances, and film, as well as images and music used in this course.

Your seminar instructor determines your final grade, based on a combination of written work, examinations, and participation, as follows: Participation 10%; Seminar Papers 55%; Mid-term Exam 15%; Final Exam 20%.

Attendance at lectures and seminar discussions is an important part of the course. Absences from lecture and seminar will be weighed seriously by your section leader, and will bring down your final grade.

Required texts
Petrarch, Selections from the Canzoniere and Other Works, tr. Mark Musa (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985)
William Shakespeare, King Lear, ed. Russell Fraser (New York: Signet, 1963)
John Milton, Paradise Lost and Paradise Regained, ed. Christopher Ricks (New York: Signet, 1968)
Johann Sebastian Bach, “Arias and Choruses from the St. Matthew Passion” (Arkiv Production, John Eliot Gardner conducting)
CC 201 Lecture Series and Reading Assignments

**Tuesday, 9/7/04:** Petrarchan Beginnings
Reading: ‘The Ascent of Mount Ventoux’ (pp. 11-19); Selections from the *Canzoniere*: Poems 1, 3, 5, 22, 35, 61, 126, 132, 134, 190, 199, 264, 323, 365

Lecture (1): Professor Christopher Martin (Dept. of English)

**Tuesday, 9/14/04:** Michelangelo and Renaissance Visual Art
Viewing: Michelangelo Buonarotti (1475-1564), images from the Sistine Chapel, at “Art, Poetry, and Music” tab on the Core website ([www.bu.edu/core](http://www.bu.edu/core)). User ID and Kerberos password needed.

Lecture (2): Mr. Frederick Ilchman, Curator of European Art, Museum of Fine Arts

**Tuesday, 9/21/04:** Machiavelli’s World
Reading: Niccolò Machiavelli (1469-1527), *The Prince*

Lecture (3): Professor James Johnson (Dept. of History, Core)

**Tuesday, 9/28/04:** Religion, Reformation, and Irreverence
Reading: François Rabelais (*c.* 1494-1553), *Pantagruel* (pp. 165-278)

Lecture (4): Professor Jon Westling (Dept. of History, Core)

**Tuesday 10/5/04:** The Essayist: Montaigne

Lecture (5): Professor George Hoffmann (Dept. of Romance Languages and Literatures, Univ. of Michigan)

**Tuesday 10/12/04:** Shakespeare’s *King Lear*
Reading: William Shakespeare (1564-1616), *King Lear*

Lecture (6): Professor David Green (Core, Writing Program)

**Tuesday, 10/19/04:** From Lear to Quixote - Images of tragedy and comedy
Reading: *King Lear*; begin reading Miguel de Cervantes (1547-1616), *Don Quixote*, Part I (pp. 11-243)

Lecture (7): Professors Christopher Ricks (Editorial Institute) and Jonathan Ribner (Dept. of Art History)

**Tuesday, 10/26/04:** Jousts with Reality: Cervantes
Reading: begin Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (1547-1616), *Don Quixote*, Part I (pp. 11-243) and from Part II (pp. 966-82)

Lecture (7): Professor Alan Smith (Dept. of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures)

**Tuesday, 11/2/04:** Renaissance Philosophy: Descartes
Reading: René Descartes (1596-1650), *Meditations*, Books 1-5 (pp. 67-126)
Lecture (8): TBA

**Tuesday, 11/9/04:** NO LECTURE - Thursday’s class schedule

**Tuesday, 11/16/04:** Milton’s *Paradise Lost*
Reading: John Milton (1608-1674), *Paradise Lost*, Books 1-4

Lecture (10): Professor Archie Burnett (Editorial Institute)

*Evening Piano Performance - Lecture: Bach and the Baroque*
*Lecture and performance by Professor James Johnson*
*The Castle, 225 Bay State Road*
*7:00 p.m.*

**Tuesday, 11/23/04:** The Music of J. S. Bach
Listening: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), Arias and Choruses from the *St. Matthew Passion*

Lecture (12): Professor Johnson

**Tuesday, 11/30/04:** Milton’s *Paradise Lost*
Reading: *Paradise Lost*, Book 8 (lines 140-end), Books 9-10, Book 12 (lines 552-end)

Lecture (11): Professor Brian Jorgensen (Dept. of English, Core)

**Tuesday, 12/7/02:** Donne and the Voice of Feeling

Lecture (8): Professor Ricks

**Final Exam - Saturday, December 18, 9:00-11:00**

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