CC 201: Humanities III Core Curriculum

The Renaissance

Fall 2005

Seminar leaders:
Archie Burnett (Editorial Institute/English)    Christopher Martin (English)
Christopher Ricks (Editorial Institute)        Sassan Tabatabai (Core)
Diana Wylie (History)                         Laura Yim (Core/English)

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

Seminar meetings:  
B1 TR 9:30-11:00, Burnett, CAS 322  
B2 TR 2:00-3:30, Wylie, SSW 416  
B3 TR 2:00-3:30, Tabatabai, CAS 114A  
B4 MWF 11:00-12:00, Yim, CAS 201  
B5 MWF 1:00-2:00, Yim, CAS 208  
B6 W 3:00-6:00, Martin, CAS 213  
HS MWF 10:00-11:00, Ricks, 143 Bay State Road, 1st floor library

The third semester of the Humanities Core continues our multidisciplinary survey with some of the most significant literary, artistic, musical, 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 for images and music used in this course, as well as a regularly updated calendar of announcements, recommended lectures, performances, and film.

Your seminar instructor determines your final grade, based on the following components: participation 20%; seminar papers 60%; final exam 20%

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

Required Texts (available at Barnes and Noble in Kenmore Square):
- Petrarch, Selections from the Canzoniere and Other Works, tr. Mark Musa (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985)

Students will also need to refer to The Little, Brown Handbook when completing papers throughout the course.

Lecture Series and Reading Assignments:
• Tuesday, 9/6/05: Francesco Petrarcha (1304-1374)  
  Lecturer: Professor Christopher Martin, Department of English, BU  
  Reading: "The Ascent of Mount Ventoux" (pp. 11-19); Selections from the Canzoniere: Poems 1, 3, 5, 16, 61, 126, 134, 189, 199, 264, 319, 365
• Tuesday, 9/13/05: Christine de Pizan (c. 1363-1431)  
  Lecturer: Professor Kathleen Kelly, Department of English, Northeastern University  
  Reading: The Book of the City of Ladies (pp. 116-55); from The Book of the Body Politic (pp. 201-16)
• Tuesday, 9/20/05: Michelangelo Buonarotti (1475-1564)
Lecturer: Frederick Ilchman, Renaissance Collection Curator, Boston Museum of Fine Art

- Tuesday, 9/27/05: Niccolò Machiavelli (1469-1527)
  Lecturer: Professor Michael Corgan, Department of International Relations, BU
  Reading: The Prince

- Tuesday, 10/4/05: François Rabelais (c. 1494-1553)
  Lecturer: Professor Martin
  Reading: Pantagruel (pp. 165-278)

- Tuesday 10/11/05: Love Poetry of the English Renaissance
  Lecturer: Professor Christopher Ricks, Editorial Institute, BU

- Tuesday, 10/18/05: William Shakespeare (1564-1616)
  Lecturer: Professor William Carroll, Department of English, BU
  Reading: King Lear

- Tuesday, 10/25/05: Renaissance Sacred Vocal Music
  Lecturer: Scott Metcalfe, Director, Convivium Musicum
  Listening: Cristóbal de Morales (c. 1512-1553), selections from Lamentations at "Art, Poetry, and Music" tab on the Core website (www.bu.edu/core). User ID and Kerberos password needed.
  Reading: continue King Lear

- Tuesday 11/1/05: Miguel de Cervantes (1547-1616)
  Lecturer: Professor James Iffland, Department of Modern Foreign Languages, BU
  Reading: begin Don Quixote, Part I (pp. 11-243)

- Tuesday, 11/8/05: Artemisia Gentileschi (1593-1652)
  Lecturer: Professor Grace Consoli, The School of Art and Design, Suffolk University
  Reading: continue Don Quixote, Part I (pp. 247-479); from Part II (pp. 966-82)

- Tuesday, 11/15/05: René Descartes (1596-1650)
  Lecturer: Professor Aaron Garrett, Department of Philosophy, BU
  Reading: Meditations, Books 1-5 (pp. 67-126)

- Tuesday, 11/22/05: John Milton (1608-1674)
  Lecturer: Professor Archie Burnett, Editorial Institute and Department of English, BU
  Reading: Paradise Lost, Books 1-4 (pp. 46-148)

- 11/23-27/05: Thanksgiving Break

- Tuesday, 11/29/05: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
  Lecturer: Professor Joshua Rifkin, The School of Music, BU
  Reading: Paradise Lost, Book 9 (pp. 235-67)

- Tuesday, 12/6/05: Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669)
  Lecturer: Professor Martin
  Reading: Paradise Lost, Books 10, 12.552-end (pp. 267-97, 336-39)

- Saturday, 12/17/05: Final Exam, 9:00-11:00 am