Course description. This course continues Core's examination of the literary, philosophical, artistic, and religious traditions that produced modern culture in the West. In CC 201 we focus on works produced in the late Middle Ages through to the Early Modern and Baroque periods. We examine the rise of national literatures across Western Europe, the origins of modern political, philosophical and scientific thought, and the beginning of the comic novel. Students examine works by Francesco Petrarch, Niccolò Machiavelli, Michel de Montaigne, Miguel de Cervantes, William Shakespeare, René Descartes, Mary Wroth, Margaret Cavendish, and John Milton, as well as exploring the music of Claudio Monteverdi and the art of Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel.

Grading. Your seminar instructor determines your final grade, based on the following components: participation. 20%; seminar papers. 60%; and 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 seminar leader, and will bring down your final grade.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Objective A. Research Writing:
1. Be able to craft responsible, considered, and well-structured written arguments, using diverse media and modes of expression appropriate to the course material.
2. Be able to read early modern texts and art with understanding, engagement, appreciation, and critical judgment.
3. Be able to write clearly and coherently in a range of genres and styles; an integration of graphic and multimedia elements will be a particular focus.

Learning outcomes for Objective A will be evaluated through essays that engage and analyze the texts read in this course, demonstrating comprehension of the texts' themes, ideas, and concepts, and presenting original analysis in coherent, clear, and well-organized prose. Possible writing assignments include critical abstracts, summaries, responses to peer work, or blog posts as responses to the readings, as well as an assignment that analyzes or responds creatively to at least one work of art at the Museum of Fine Arts or the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and integrates elements of visual culture (graphic and multimedia).
Objective B. Research & Information Literacy:
1. To be able to search for, select, and use a range of publicly available and discipline-specific information sources ethically and strategically to address research questions.
2. To demonstrate understanding of the overall research process and its component parts, and be able to formulate good research questions or hypotheses, gather and analyze information, and critique, interpret, and communicate findings.

Learning outcomes for Objective B will be evaluated through research essay assignments that involve accessing secondary and critical sources and include drafting of research questions in reviewed proposals, and annotated bibliographies. Students will attend a library orientation at Mugar, which will familiarize them with the library’s physical layout and introduce them to the various ways in which information is stored, organized, and accessed.

Required textbooks are available at the BU Bookstore, and can also be borrowed from the Core office:

1. Cervantes  Don Quixote  Penguin  9780142437230
2. Descartes  Discourse on Method and Meditations  Pearson  9780023672606
3. Machiavelli  The Prince  Hackett  9780872203167
4. Milton  Paradise Lost  Penguin  9780451531643
5. Montaigne  The Complete Essays  Penguin  9780140446043
6. Petrarch  The Canzoniere  Oxford  9780199540693
7. Shakespeare  The Sonnets  Penguin  9780451527271
8. Shakespeare  Hamlet  Penguin  9780451526922

In addition to these textbooks, students will be provided with a reading packet for the following units:
- Sonnets of Lady Mary Wroth
- The Convent of Pleasure by Margaret Cavendish
- excerpts from Ovid’s Metamorphoses
- Vasari on Michelangelo
- Alessandro Striggio’s libretto for Monteverdi’s L’Orfeo

On the Core website—www.bu.edu/core—students will find faculty office hours, reading lists, a departmental activities and academic calendar, syllabi, Writing Fellow contact information and writing FAQs, and other resources. At www.bu.edu/core/cc201 you will be able to access video and audio recordings of lectures, and digital versions of the media materials and handouts used by lecturers throughout the semester.

The Core Writing Fellows are graduate students familiar with the works read in the Core who are available to work with you one-on-one and support you at any stage of the writing process. Dylan Maldonado is the at-large Writing Fellow for this semester; he will offer office hours open to all CC 201 students, and can be contacted at dylanmal@bu.edu. Visit www.bu.edu/core/writing to find the most up-to-date instructions for booking an appointment with him, as well as an online writing handbook prepared specifically for Core students.

Learning and testing accommodation. Boston University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you are a student who needs academic accommodations because of a documented disability, you should contact your seminar leader and
present your letter of accommodation as soon as possible. If you have questions about documenting a
disability or requesting academic accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at
access@bu.edu and 617-353-3658. Letters of accommodations should be presented as soon as
possible to ensure that student needs are addressed from the start of the course. Learn more at
www.bu.edu/disability/policies-procedures.

Important Dates. September 16 is the last day you can add this course if there are available places.
October 7 is the last day you can drop this course without a “W” grade. November 8 is the last day you
can drop this course with a “W” grade.

Academic Conduct. All members of the University are expected to maintain the highest standards of
academic honesty and integrity; we have the same expectations of each other in this course. Seminar
leaders take the issue of plagiarism seriously and expect that all the work you do in this course will be
your own. If you have questions about what plagiarism is and how it differs from the appropriate use of
other people’s work, speak with your pinstructor or consult the Academic Conduct Code at
www.bu.edu/academics/cas/policies/academic-conduct.

FALL 2019 SCHEDULE OF CC 201 LECTURES AND READINGS

WEEK 1. Lecture on Tuesday, 9/3: Introduction to the Renaissance:
Lecturer: Kyna Hamill, Core
Reading: Francesco Petrarca, “Letter to Posterity”; “The Ascent of Mount Ventoux”, selections from
the Canzoniere to be assigned by your discussion leader.

Tuesday 9/3: Core Welcome Reception. Visit the Core office to meet faculty, enjoy refreshments,
and learn about activities and opportunities in the Core community. 4-5:30 PM in CAS 119.

WEEK 2. Lecture on Tuesday, 9/10: Niccolò Machiavelli
Lecturer: Susanne Sreedhar, Philosophy
Reading: The Prince

Saturday 9/14: 2019 Core Community Picnic for students, alumni, faculty and their families. Free
tee-shirts, games, crafts, and food. 12-3 PM on the BU Beach, behind Marsh Chapel.

WEEK 3. Lecture on Tuesday, 9/17: Michelangelo Buonarroti
Lecturer: Frederick Ilchman, Museum of Fine Arts
Viewing: Sistine Chapel gallery via www.bu.edu/core/cc201

WEEK 4. Lecture on Tuesday, 9/24: Michel de Montaigne
Lecturer: Irit Kleiman, Romance Studies
“On Repenting”, and “On Experience”

APPLICATIONS FOR FLORENCE TRIP due today.

WEEK 5. Lecture on Tuesday, 10/1: Sonnet Week
Lecturer: Christopher Martin, English
and sonnets of Lady Mary Wroth (packet)
WEEK 6. Lecture on Tuesday, 10/8: Miguel de Cervantes
Lecturer: James Iffland, Romance Studies
Reading: Don Quixote, Book I: Prologue, chapters 1-32

WEEK 7. Tuesday, 10/15: No in-person lecture; substitute Monday schedule.
Reading: Don Quixote Book II: prologue; chapters 1-18

10/18-20: BU Family & Friends Weekend

WEEK 8. Lecture on Tuesday, 10/22: William Shakespeare’s Hamilton
Lecturer: Brian Walsh, English and Core Curriculum
Reading: Hamlet

WEEK 9. Lecture on Tuesday, 10/29: Rembrandt
Lecturer: Michael Zell, History of Art & Architecture
Viewing: art via www.bu.edu/core/cc201

WEEK 10. Lecture on Tuesday, 11/5: René Descartes
Lecturer: Aaron Garrett, Philosophy
Reading: Meditations (refer to your discussion syllabus for specific reading assignments)

WEEK 11. Lecture on Tuesday, 11/12: Early Modern Opera
Lecturer: Katharina Piechocki, Comparative Literature, Harvard
Viewing: performance conducted by René Jacobs, Berlin, 2007 (link via www.bu.edu/core/cc201)
Reading: Striggio’s libretto for L’Orfeo; excerpts from Ovid’s Metamorphoses (packet)

WEEK 12. Lecture on Tuesday, 11/19: John Milton
Lecturer: Erin Murphy, English
Reading: Paradise Lost (refer to your discussion syllabus for specific reading assignments)

WEEK 13. No lecture on Tuesday, 11/26:
Readings: continue with Paradise Lost

11/27-12/1: Thanksgiving recess

WEEK 14. Lecture on Tuesday, 12/3: Margaret Cavendish
Lecturer: Erin Murphy, English
Reading: The Convent of Pleasure

WEEK 15. Lecture on Tuesday, 12/10: Semester Review and Wrap-Up
Lecturer: Core CC 201 Faculty,
Exam questions will be distributed in lecture.

Last Day of Classes: Wednesday 12/11
Study Period: December 12-15

Final exam for all sections: Monday 12/16, 12:30-2:30 PM (tentative)
When the exam time has been confirmed, an announcement will be made to all students.