The Humanistic Impulse  
Spring 2009  
HUM 5984-001  
Prof. Margaret L. Woodhull

Meeting Time: Wednesday, 5:30-8:20 p.m.  
Room: Plaza M108 Haber Library  
Websites: CUonline Blackboard  
http://blackboard.cuonline.edu and My website:  
http://woodhull.net

Office: MO-01  
Office Hours: Wed. & Thurs. 3:00-5:00 and by appointment  
Contact Information:  
Margaret.woodhull@ucdenver.edu  
Ph.: 303-352-3926

I. COURSE INTRODUCTION:

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES: This course explores the fundamental themes and issues that ground a humanist perspective as it originated in classical and early modern thought and culture. We consider what constitutes H/humanism through the study of a variety of written and visual texts from classical antiquity and its legacy in the writings, philosophy and art of Renaissance Italy. We also consider the narrStudentsbegins with the question what constitutes Humanism and what are its origins? Consideration of some of the major themes of Humanism and their manifestation in aesthetic production.

As a humanities based curriculum, this course aims to provide students with interdisciplinary materials through use of philosophical, literary, artistic, anthropological, and theoretically diverse readings relating to Humanistic themes. During the course of the class, students are expected to exhibit an ability to interpret data (both written and visual) meaningfully and independently in class presentations and written work. Upon completion, students will have read and must understand the diverse methodological and discursive practices presented in the course materials, and they must demonstrate a grasp of these concepts in their final graduate-level written and oral presentations.

REQUIRED TEXTS: Available at Auraria Bookstore:  
- All other readings are at our course Blackboard site: http://www.cuonline.edu/

II. COURSE PROCEDURES:

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Because this is a graduate seminar, discussion of assigned readings is key to a full and enriching experience for all participants. Please read carefully and thoughtfully all assigned texts and be prepared to discuss in class. Non-participation in class will impair your final grade (see grading below).

Likewise, because this is a graduate course, attendance is required. Please be prompt. Avoid arriving late. More than one unexcused absence--e.g., non-medical or emergency related--will incur a letter-grade drop in your final average. What constitutes a valid emergency is at the discretion of the instructor. Students who miss three or more classes should consider withdrawing from the course. It is the responsibility of the student to withdraw according to university rules. Please read all materials...
and complete all assignments each week in order to participate in class. **In order to pass the course students must complete all assignments with a passing grade.**

**COURSE COMMUNICATION:** If necessary, I may communicate with students via email in between classes. Each CU student is provided a university email account. I consider this email to be the official email contact for class communication purposes. Please check it regularly so you do not miss contact and important class information. You are responsible for any messages, including assignments and schedule changes, I send you via email. I can check to ensure that email has been received via Blackboard. You also may contact me via email at the address above, in addition to seeing me during office hours listed above, or by appointment.

Out of courtesy to all participating in this seminar, please turn off beepers and cell phones and put them away during class. Adherence to the Student Conduct Code is expected.

**CLASS ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:** Students have the potential to make 500 points total on all assignments. Grading for assignments late by one day will begin at 80% of the total possible points the assignment can only yield a B at best for a final grade. Each day late thereafter will incur another 10% penalty. Assignments won’t be accepted beyond three days late.

All written work for the course should be appropriately formatted with correct end-, foot-, or internal citation notes using the citation styles recommended in any standard writing guide, such as Kate Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 6th rev. edition, Univ. of Chicago Press.

Please note that I do not accept assignments electronically.

The following is a breakdown of assignments and their values:

- **Short papers:** 100 points (5 papers at 20 points each)
- **Mid-term exam:** 100 points
- **Class Participation:** 50 points
- **Class Presentations:** 50 (two brief, in-class presentations explained below)
- **Final paper presentation:** 100 points
- **Final paper:** 100 points

**CLAS INCOMPLETE POLICY:**

The faculty in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences passed the following policy relating to the awarding of incomplete grades. This CLAS policy is consistent with the UCDHSC campus policy. Incomplete grades (I) are NOT granted for low academic performance. To be eligible for an incomplete grade, students MUST:

- Successfully complete a minimum of 75% of the course
- Have special circumstances beyond their control that preclude them from attending class and completing graded assignments
- Make arrangements to complete missing assignments with the original instructor. Verification of special circumstances is required.
**SHORT PAPERS:** Each student is required to prepare a 300-word maximum essay on a reading or related topic from any of five different classes this semester. The paper must be double-spaced and properly cited (see note above). Please note I will not read longer papers. The point of this exercise is to assist students in developing clear succinct thinking and articulation. Each paper should provide a synopsis of the principal thesis of the reading or idea and highlight the supporting points and/or evidence elaborated therein. As the class progresses these may become more analytic as you develop a critical sense of the material. These will be due to me at the beginning of class. These papers are designed to prepare you for your final paper due at the end of the semester by ensuring the continuous practice of writing about methodological subject matter. I will grade the papers on a 10 point basis, with 10 being the highest mark and 1 being the lowest. I recommend that you bring an extra copy of each to class as they will prove helpful in preparing for class discussion. Short papers constitute 20% of your final grade.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION AND PRESENTATIONS:** Throughout the semester each student will present information on a topic related to the week’s readings in order to establish discussion points for the class. The presentation will focus on a topic I provide for that week. I will hand this out the previous week. This topic is in some way referenced or assumed in the readings, but may need further explication. Images or bullet points should accompany the presentation when appropriate. These are best done via PowerPoint. I will bring my laptop each week for this use. Students may bring a disc or portable drive with their presentations and use my computer. **I will not accept presentations via email before class.** Presentations will be no more than 10 minutes in length—strictly enforced! Class participation—commenting and developing ideas presented in the readings and discussion—is required of all students. You must come to class prepared to address questions and ideas the readings have raised. One fifth of your final grade (20%) is dedicated to this portion of the class experience.

**MID-TERM ESSAY EXAM:** Student will be given a take home mid-term essay exam worth 20% of your final grade.

**FINAL PRESENTATION:** Your final presentations will be similar to your weekly ones, but will be longer and more formal. Students will present the findings of their research for their final paper. Presentation length will depend on the number of students enrolled. Presenter will read his/her work as if presenting a formal paper at a conference. Details will be discussed in class. Worth 20% of the final grade.

**FINAL PAPER:** Each student must produce a 10- to12-page research paper relating to one or more of the readings or themes we study this semester. During the first month of classes I will provide a list of topics from which you may choose to write. Additionally, in the course of preparing your research paper you will be required to submit thesis statements, outlines, and bibliographies. Due dates are listed in the class schedule below.

- The thesis statement should be a paragraph-long formulation of your paper topic including a refinement of the questions you intend to ask and the methods you intend to use to resolve them.

- The outline or conceptually mapped plan should formally layout the process by which your paper will unfold in answering your chosen topic along with at least 8 bibliographic sources
culled from reputable, refereed resources. If you are in doubt as to what this means see me.

The final paper will provide an elaborated statement of your thesis; it will offer a detailed statement of the current scholarly research you have consulted; it will provide an analysis of this material and your critique of it as it addresses your thesis issue; finally it will conclude with a statement about the significance of your inquiry, any new ideas or findings you can bring to the subject, and the relevance of these. Please note: Please include any images under discussion along with their relevant information, such as location of artwork, owning institution, and source for the image. These may be photocopies or black and white printed digital images.

I will accept no final papers in electronic form. And I DO NOT accept late papers. Plan well!

In order to pass this course, students must complete all of the assignments.

**SOME SUGGESTED RESEARCH RESOURCES:**

**REFERENCE BOOKS:**

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Any student with a disability requiring accommodations in this course is encouraged to contact me after class or during office hours. Additionally, students should contact UCD disability support services.

**PLAGIARISM POLICY:** I observe the following definition of plagiarism. The act of appropriating the literary composition of another author, or excerpts, ideas, or passages therefrom, and passing the material off as one's own creation. (as stated at: http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/about/glossary.htm). If a student is caught plagiarising, he or she will fail the course.

**CLASS SCHEDULE:** The following is a tentative list of weekly readings, subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS MEETING DATE</th>
<th>READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS DUE FOR THIS CLASS DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>No reading due</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INTRODUCTION AND</strong></td>
<td>Class will meet, do introductions, and discuss logistics. We’ll take some time to discuss some of the themes we’ll encounter this semester.</td>
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<td><strong>INTRODUCTORY CONCEPTS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>HUMANISM</strong></td>
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<td>Jan. 28</td>
<td>THE GREEKS AND THE HUMAN CONDITION</td>
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<td>Feb. 4</td>
<td>HUMANS AND GODS</td>
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<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>CLASSICAL ORDERS: MIND, ORDER AND SPACES OF HABITATION</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td><strong>CLASSICAL GREECE:</strong> BODIES AND BEAUTY</td>
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<td>Mar. 4</td>
<td><strong>MID-TERM DISCUSSION</strong></td>
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<td>March 18</td>
<td><strong>HUMANIST PHILOSOPHIES</strong></td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>March 25</td>
<td><strong>SPRING BREAK: NO CLASSES</strong></td>
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| April 1  | **RENAISSANCE ITALY’S QUEST FOR THE PAST** | **Readings:**  
Claude Moatti, *The Search for Ancient Rome*, Harry Abrams Discoveries Series, 1993, read sections up through the 17th c. material.  
| April 8  | **RENAISSANCE ARCHITECTURE AND HUMAN ETHICS** | **Readings:**  
| April 15 | **ARTISTS AND HUMAN GLORY**           | **Readings:**  
| April 22 | **HUMANIST ARTISTS IN THE RENAISSANCE** | **Readings:**  
TBA: Critical readings on Boticelli, Raphael, Michelangelo |
| April 29 | **THE RENAISSANCE MAN?**              | **Readings:**  
Vasari, Leonardo., selections |
Please observe the following CLAS Key Registration and Academic Deadlines and Policies:

### Spring 2009 CLAS Academic Policies

The following policies pertain to all students and are strictly adhered to by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS).

- Every student MUST check and verify their schedule prior to the published drop/add deadlines. Failure to verify a schedule is not sufficient reason to justify a late add or drop later in the semester. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure that their schedule is correct prior to the appropriate deadlines.
- CLAS students must use their email.cudenver.edu email address. Email is the official method of communication for all University of Colorado Denver business. All email correspondence will take place using your UCDHSC email address. Go to [http://www.cudenver.edu/registrar](http://www.cudenver.edu/registrar) to update and/or change your email address.
- Students **are NOT automatically added** to a course off a wait list after wait lists are dropped. If a student is told by a faculty member that they will be added off the wait list, **it is the responsibility of the student to complete the proper paperwork to add a course**.
- Students **are not automatically notified** if they are added to a class from a wait-list. Again, it is the responsibility of the student to verify their schedule prior to any official dates to drop or add courses.
- Students must complete and submit a drop/add form to make any schedule changes. **Students are not automatically dropped from a class if they never attended, stopped attending or do not make tuition payments.**
- Late adds will be approved **only** when circumstances surrounding the late add are beyond the student’s control and can be documented independently. This will require a petition and documentation from the student. Late adds will only be approved if the student has not taken any exams, quizzes, or has not completed any other graded assignments. Independent verification of this from the professor of record will be required. Please note that the signature of a faculty member on an add form does not guarantee that a late add petition will be approved. Petitions are available in NC 4011.
- Late drops will be approved **only** when circumstances surrounding the late drop have arisen **after** the published drop deadlines, are beyond the student’s control, and can be documented independently. This will require a petition and documentation from the student. Pre-existing circumstances (circumstances that existed prior to the published drop deadlines) regarding illness, work, family, or other confounding issues will not be considered adequate reason to drop or withdraw from courses after the published University and/or College drop deadlines. Please note that the signature of a faculty member does not guarantee that a late drop petition will be approved. Petitions are available in NC 4011.
- **Undergraduate students wishing to graduate in spring of 2009** must meet with their academic advisor by the end of the drop/add period to obtain a graduation application. This application must be completed and submitted by 5 PM on **February 4, 2009**. You can obtain an application **ONLY after meeting with your academic advisor**. **There are no exceptions to this policy or date.**
- **Graduate students wishing to graduate in spring semester 2009** must complete their Intent to Graduate form and have a Request for Admissions to Candidacy on file with the CLAS Dean’s office.
Students are responsible for completing financial arrangements with financial aid, family, scholarships, etc. to pay their tuition. Students will be responsible for all tuition and fees for courses they do not officially drop using proper drop/add procedures and forms. Students who drop after the published drop/add period will not be eligible for a refund of the COF hours or tuition.

**Important Dates**

- **January 20, 2009:** First day of Class
- **January 25, 2009:** Last day to be added to a wait list using the SMART system.
- **January 25, 2009:** Last day to add a course using the SMART system.
- **January 27-February 4, 2009:** Students are responsible for verifying an accurate spring 2009 course schedule via the SMART registration system. Students are NOT notified of their wait-list status by the university. All students must check their scheduled prior to February 4, 2009 for accuracy.
- **January 26, 2009:** LAST DAY TO DROP WITHOUT DROP CHARGE – THIS INCLUDES SECTION CHANGES.
- **January 26, 2009:** Wait Lists are dropped. Any student who was not added to a course automatically from the wait list by this date and time MUST complete a drop/add form to be added to the class. Students are NOT automatically added to the class from the wait list after this date and time. If your name is not on the official student roster, you are not registered for the course.
- **January 27, 2009:** First day instructor may approve request to add a student to a full course with a Schedule Adjustment Form.
- **February 4, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day to add structured courses without a written petition for a late add. *This is an absolute deadline and is treated as such.* This deadline does not apply to independent study, internships, project hours, thesis hours, dissertation hours, and late-starting modular courses.
- **February 4, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day to drop a spring 2009 course with a tuition adjustment minus the drop charge and no transcript notation – this includes section changes. Drops after this date will appear on your transcript. *This is an absolute deadline and is treated as such.*
- **February 4, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day to completely withdraw from all spring 2009 courses with a tuition adjustment and no transcript notation. Drop charge applies. Drops after this date will appear on your transcript. *This is an absolute deadline and is treated as such.*
- **February 4, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day to request pass/fail option for a course.
- **February 4, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day to request a no credit option for a course.
- **February 4, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day to register for a Candidate for Degree.
- **February 4, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day to petition for a reduction in thesis or dissertation hours.
- **February 4, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day to apply for spring 2009 graduation. You must make an appointment and see your academic advisor before this date to apply for graduation.
- **February 16-25:** Faculty can use the early alert system.
- **April 6, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day for non CLAS students to drop or withdraw from all classes without a petition and special approval from the student’s academic Dean. *This is treated as an absolute deadline.*
- **March 23-29, 2009:** Spring Break.
- **April 20, 2009 at 5 PM:** Last day for CLAS students to drop or withdraw from all classes without a petition and special approval from the student’s academic Dean. Students still need signatures from the faculty and Dean. *This is treated as an absolute deadline.*
- **After April 20, 2009** all schedule changes require a petition. Petitions are available in NC 4011.
• No schedule changes will be granted once finals week has started. There are NO exceptions to this policy.