



Special Topics: Seminar in Digital Humanities (Fall 2013)

Posted by *Humanities & Cultural Studies* on *Aug 1, 2013* in *Humanities, NMAC*

A s we increasingly begin to define ourselves through our technologies, our ways of knowing

the world and our places within it must also be influenced. The classical role of the humanities, in its academic discipline and study, has always centered on how the cultural expressions of individuals and communities produced art, or the central ideas that define the “human.” The study of the humanities, then, is about how we produce meaning through our works and how we share it.

81071 NMAC 3999.01 MW 3:30-4:50P H/SS-124: SEMINAR IN DIGITAL HUMANITIES | #DIGHUMSEM

This section of NMAC 3999 Special Topics will consider how the humanities are changing in the face of greater reliance on digital technologies. Through various courses readings, research, and discussions, we will consider the academic discipline of what we’re currently calling “Digital Humanities” and examine several cultural expressions that reflect humanity’s move into the digital world for meaning and order. We will explore the question “what does it mean to be a human in the digital age and where are we likely to head because of this ubiquitous technology”?

COURSE GOALS

- To develop motivated and autonomous, critical and creative thinkers.
- To develop students' life-long curiosity and creativity and allow them the tools they need to fulfill these endeavors.
- To develop the students' digital literacies and critical capacities towards several digital media.
- To develop and enhance the students' critical and analytical ability to read and understand the texts of thinkers in various disciplines, their contexts and significance, through and variety of pedagogical strategies.
- To develop and enhance the students' ability to think critically and creatively and to write and to speak effectively about the arts and culture.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will demonstrate:

1. The ability to analyze and evaluate concepts in new media and communication.
2. Skills in research and writing.
3. Understanding of the given course topic.

TEXTS AND VIDEOS

There are no traditional textbooks in this course. Assigned readings will be made available as web links and PDFs via a shared space on [GOOGLE DRIVE](#); other texts for consideration will be submitted by students. Additional small fees might be incurred to purchase or to rent videos and texts for certain

lessons. I will try to keep these expenses to a minimum. See individual lessons below for more information.

COURSE POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Students are held accountable for knowing and practicing each of the course [POLICIES](#) and [PROCEDURES](#). Consider them like the law: the excuse “I didn’t know” will carry no weight. These policies and procedures are applicable to every course I teach.

As a Middle Georgia State College student and as a student in any of my classes, it is your responsibility to read, understand, and abide by the MGSC Student Code of Conduct from the [MGSC STUDENT HANDBOOK](#) (PDF).

Students may withdraw from the course and earn a grade of “W” up to and including the midterm date, which occurs on **October 16, 2013**. After midterm, students who withdraw will receive a grade of “WF.” The MGSC Withdrawal Form, which is available online or in the Office of the Registrar, must be signed by the instructor in advance of withdrawal.

REQUIREMENTS

Digital Humanities is composed of ten lessons, each worth 10% of the a student’s final grade. Students must complete *all lessons* in order to successfully pass the course. Generally, these lessons will be composed of discussion, research, reading, and multimedia presentations. Details will follow in each lesson. See “[HOW TO DO WELL IN MY CLASS](#).”

Lessons will include the following.

PARTICIPATION

This requirement includes all work not included in additional requirements below. Basically, it will be your daily writing practice which will take place mostly in the form of Twitter discussions and discussion posts. Read more about [PARTICIPATION](#).

Part of participation in this course will also involve regular contributions to [HUMX](#). More information will follow.

CREATIVE CONTRIBUTION PROJECT

All students will be responsible for a course research project on any topic relating to the digital humanities. Student may use the medium of their choice — video, blog, audio, animation, etc. — anything but a traditional academic essay. The idea here is to be creative in your approach. More information will follow.

PRESENTATION

All students will be responsible for several presentations and informal reports throughout the semester. See “[PRESENTATION GUIDELINES](#)” for more information.

LESSONS SCHEDULE

Assignments are always due on **the first class meeting of the week**. Due dates are indicated in parentheses after the lesson's title. Some lessons will require more work (reading and research), so you should familiarize yourself with each lesson well before its due date. Be sure to plan ahead and begin lessons early. Most of them require discussion which becomes increasingly difficult as the due date nears.

Please note that while the course has its hashtag (see below, right), each lesson will also have its own hashtag. Be sure to always use the lesson's hashtag when tweeting about the lesson, so I will see your tweets in my evaluation for that week.

Reminder: all recommended texts are available on [GOOGLE DRIVE](#). In order to access it, you must request permission using your email address. Each lesson's texts are filed under a folder labeled with the lesson's hashtag.

1. (DIGITAL) HUMANITIES (#DHS1)

1. What is/are the **humanities**?
2. What is the **digital**?
3. What is **culture**?
4. What is **human**?
5. How is **technology** involved with the first two questions?
6. How is the “digital humanities” related to “**new media**“?

7. Who are the **major figures**: artists, scholars, etc.?
8. What are the **major issues** that (digital) humanists are concerned with?
9. How should we **organize this class**? What are the **major topics** that we need to cover?
10. What other **questions** do we need to ask?

2. . . .

DATES

- Labor Day — No class (9/2)
- **MIDTERM REPORT** (10/04)
- Conferences (Week of 10/08) – Last day to drop (10/16)
- Thanksgiving (11/29)
- Presentations Week (12/03)
- Project Due (12/13)

CATALOG

This is an intensive study of a significant topic in new media and communication not otherwise covered in course offerings.

#DigHumSem

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📌 **DigHumSem, Fall 2013, NMAC 3999**

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Midterm Report >

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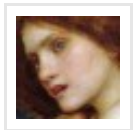
Dr. Gerald R. Lucas

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[Media, Culture, and the Arts](#)
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About LitMUSE

LitMUSE is the courseware web site of Dr. Gerald R. Lucas. This site contains course information, policies, and resources for the students of Dr. Lucas.



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Course Policies

The following are general policies applicable for all the courses I teach, both traditional, in-class courses, and those taught online.

Any additional policies or changes will be outlined under the specific course, so consult your specific syllabus for a more nuanced statement of policies.

As a Middle Georgia State student and as a student in any of my classes, it is your responsibility to read, understand, and abide by the Student Code of Conduct from the [STUDENT HANDBOOK](#) (PDF).

ASSIGNMENTS

Any assignment you submit for evaluation should be the best that you can make it: relatively free of errors, word-processed, and formatted according to MLA guidelines. Late work is unacceptable. Plan ahead and complete

work early so any potential difficulties may be avoided. [[READ MORE...](#)]

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory and will be recorded daily. Class failure will be the result of too many absences. Student conduct should follow the college's guidelines and reflect behaviors that demonstrate their active participation as learners. Class time will be spent on lecture, discussion, and other activities that encourage active class participation for the students. Real learning requires engaging the class materials, and students will be partially evaluated on their participation. [[READ MORE...](#)]

COMMUNICATION

These days, we have so many choices for communicating. However, some ways are better than others, and I encourage you to use those. [[READ MORE...](#)]

Bring your smart phone, your tablet, or your laptop to class with you daily, and expect to use it as an integral part of the lesson. [[READ MORE...](#)]

EVALUATION

Evaluation depends on overall student performance. While the particulars of evaluation might differ between classes, it will usually depend on the successful completion of **all** requirements. [[READ MORE...](#)]

MATERIALS

Course readings are an integral part of the class and should be brought daily. When readings are assigned to be discussed in class, please bring a copy of the reading with your reading notes ready to participate in the discussion.

[\[READ MORE...\]](#)

ONLINE COURSES

Online courses are not for the average student since they require a particular set of skills and dedication. [\[READ MORE...\]](#)

Online courses use this web site for all course-related activities, including lessons. [\[READ MORE...\]](#)

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the theft of another's intellectual property and the attempt to pass it off as original. The punishment will be class failure and potentially result in more serious academic penalties. [\[READ MORE...\]](#)

Last updated: **December 17, 2012 @ 12:11pm**

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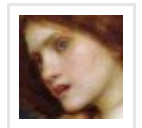
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Contact

OFFICE HOURS, FALL 2013

- MW 2-3:30pm
- TR 12:15-2:15pm

Try me via [GOOGLE HANGOUTS](#) at any reasonable, weekday hour using the email address below. Also, please do not expect a response on Twitter after **6pm on weekdays or anytime during the weekend**. I may be available, but I also need some down time. Thanks for your understanding.

I try to make myself as available as possible during the first couple weeks of a semester, including evenings and weekends.

MIDDLE GEORGIA STATE

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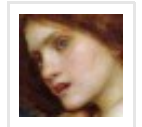
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