

The History of Arts & Ideas

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Welcome! This course is a survey of Western thought, art and culture from Ancient Greece to today.

What to bring to class:

- A separate binder or a spiral notebook & pocket folder for class notes and handouts
- **Loose leaf** paper for assignments
- Pens . . . **Note:** Please complete assignments in pen, preferably blue or black. Using pencil on assignments will reduce the grade you receive on the assignment.

A Note about Arts & Ideas

A certain level of maturity is essential in studying Arts & Ideas. You will not like everything you see, read or hear in this class as all of our individual beliefs, convictions, and personal tastes differ. This is to be expected. I ask that you keep an open mind about what we study. If you immediately shut out an idea, philosophy or a work of art because you do not care for it, you cannot endeavor to understand it, and if you are dismissively vocal about your personal distaste for something you may prevent others from understanding it or examining it to its fullest. This will not be tolerated in this classroom. So please be respectful and reserve your personal opinions about particular ideas and pieces of art until we have examined them, at which time I will ask for your opinions and we may discuss them in an appropriate and constructive way. In other words, please share your thoughts and opinions, but think and reflect carefully and allow others to do likewise.

Along the same lines, do not take all of the ideas that we study personally. You will not agree with all of them. Some of them may even make you feel a little uncomfortable. If we are studying something you fervently disagree with, do not assume that it is an attack on your ideas. Instead, learn about the other idea and why it was thought. You may change your own mind, you may not, but I hope you will learn how to articulate what you do think in a clearer and more cohesive way and that you may learn about what others think or thought historically and philosophically.

All in all, it has been said by many people that the study of philosophy and art both relate to wonder and reflection. So, please open your mind and reflect, and please share your thoughts (in a non-judgmental way) about what you wonder about and reflect upon. If we all do these things this class is bound to be a lively and enlightening learning environment for all of us.

Grading:

Assignments / Papers & Tests 55%

Please note: this is the majority of your grade in this class. Assignments (whether reading or writing or something else) play an important part of this course, particularly because in doing your work you will encounter material that may not be explained in class (unless questions are asked about it of course). It will also frequently be the basis for class discussions, will help you hone skills and will help me to understand the level of your own understanding about the material at hand. I may not be able to tell this in any other way (especially if you are not participating in discussions). I expect you to complete the readings and written assignments given in this class. To be blunt, homework is not optional; if you choose not to complete assignments on a regular basis, do not expect to pass.

Naturally, all coursework is to be entirely your own work. Please put effort into your work in order to learn the most from each assignment. In order to get full credit, work will need to be completed thoughtfully, thoroughly and according to all directions. Most often directions will be given verbally; failure to pay attention to such directions may mean a zero for the work. Assignments not turned in on time will be worth at most 80% of their original worth. Late assignments will not be accepted for a grade more than one day late.

******Reflection Journal Entries****:** In addition to other assignments, you will be responsible for completing weekly reflection journal entries. The entries can be quite informal, creative, can focus on questions that you have, connections to your life, whatever, ultimately it should show you are thinking (not too much to ask in my opinion). Essentially these assignments should show me that you are keeping up with assigned reading, paying attention to topics discussed in class and all and all that you are critically thinking about the material we've been studying and how it relates to you and other topics of interest. I ask that these reflections be at least roughly a page in length and do not merely summarize what we did in class that week. (I'm not asking for your notes, but your thoughts) Each entry will be due no later than the Monday following the week for which it reflects.

In the event of an absence on the day of a test, project or presentation, you must arrange a time to take or present the assessment ASAP. You must come and speak with me about this outside of class time. It would also be a good idea to check my website to see if I have posted any assignments for the next class (mshotz.net/artsideas.htm). Do not rely upon me to remind you to get assignments or make up tests. Only rarely will I let students take time from class to make up a test, so you will have to set up a time to do this outside of class. If this is not arranged within a day or two of the absence, you will lose the opportunity to make up the test and will receive a zero.

Participation & Learning Habits 35%

This is a discussion based class, it is a requirement that you contribute regularly, constructively and positively, it's one of the best ways for me to assess the level of your thought and effort in this class, which is ultimately why it is such an important part of your grade. Participation is very critical because it shows you are taking an active part in your learning, are expressing your knowledge, and because participation shows intellectual risk taking, an important part of learning to create and support one's opinion. I will do my very best to create a learning environment in which you feel comfortable in asking questions and expressing yourself when appropriate. If there is anything additional I can do to make you more comfortable in class, please let me know.

Learning Habits: An excellent student tends to take ownership over her/his learning, complete assignments on time, push him/herself to exceed minimal standards, use effective note-taking, test-taking, and study skills, assert her/himself while cooperating with others, and come to class on time, with materials prepared to learn and participate in the classroom.

Your Participation /Learning Habits grade will be given on a weekly basis. You have the opportunity to earn roughly 25 points a week based on your promptness, preparedness, cooperation, effort and participation. **You start off with the grade of C in this category.** Points will be deducted for tardiness, being unprepared for class, being off task, and for inappropriate, disruptive, uncooperative or disrespectful behavior. You will earn points through thoughtful and appropriate participation in class discussions and activities. Points will not be earned by sitting quietly in class; you will need to do more than show up to earn credit.

Additional Policies and Procedures:

Attendance

Attendance in this class is mandatory; you will not receive credit for this course if you do not attend class regularly. **Missing discussions, slides, visuals and videos will be essentially impossible to make up, so please make every effort to attend class regularly.** Should you be absent, **it is your responsibility** to find out about and make up for any missed work **immediately**. Again, it would be a good idea to check my website to see if I have posted any assignments for the next class (mshotz.net/artsideas.htm). If you are in the building, yet are not in class (excused or unexcused), it is your responsibility to get any assignments given and to turn them in on time. If you know you will be gone, see me and get any assignments beforehand – this especially applies to known sports activities and field trips. I do not tolerate unexcused absences. Skipping class will affect your grade in a very negative way as you will lose a week's worth of participation points each time you skip. Any work collected on a day you are unexcused will receive a zero, and you will not receive any extra time to complete an assignment given on a day you were unexcused. Being on time is also critical, and three unexcused tardies are equivalent to one unexcused absence in penalty.

Cheating, Copying & Plagiarism

I take all of these **very** seriously. You are expected to complete **your own original** work in this class **at all times** - nothing else is acceptable. Even the simplest copying of assignments, cutting and pasting in a paper or copying portions of other sources is completely unacceptable, as you are not completing **your own** work. (It's pathetic how obvious this is and how often I catch offenders, Wikipedia is not your friend, nor is anyone who copies your work) Any of these practices will amount to an irreversible zero and in some cases may result in a referral, per school policy. Proper citation should be practiced in any paper or project, anything less will amount to plagiarism. If you have questions about formatting of citations, please ask in class.

Computer Issues

It may be asked that some of the papers/essays assigned in this course be word processed if at all possible. A few pieces of advice may prevent disaster. 1. Save and back-up often. 2. *If you choose to word process an assignment, be sure you have the means to print it or email it to me.* **If you have printer problems, email the file to me (as an attachment) at jhotz@madison.k12.wi.us and/or mshotz@mshotz.net.** If you do send me a file, please verbally check with me at school to make sure I received it. East's computers use Microsoft Word 1997-2003 (they can usually read 2007) and can have difficulty opening other formats like Works, WordPerfect etc. – **don't count on printing at school** the day an assignment is due; you may not be able to do so. In general, I can be tolerant and understand that issues arise; however, **having a printer cartridge run out isn't an excuse in itself**. If a presentation will need a computer or other audio-visual technology, be sure to check with me for appropriate availability. It is also important that you plan to get the necessary files to school, burning to a CD or using a thumb drive is usually easiest, but again, emailing me the file(s) can often get around such issues as long as the file is not too large. As far as formatting goes, when in doubt I request that you use 12 point font, no wider than 1 inch margins and 1½ spacing. Specific assignments may have more particular requirements.

Extra Credit

If you keep up with your work and have good learning habits, you will succeed in this class, extra credit should not be necessary. Extra credit **is not** a way to make up for other work you have chosen not to complete. If you would like to improve your grade a little with extra credit, I believe you must have already done the rest of the work for the class. I have very strict rules about accepting extra credit. I will not award extra credit to students that have not turned in work or have skipped class. If you are thinking about doing extra credit you must complete a proposal form that will tell me exactly what you plan to do; that proposal must be approved by me **before** you do the work. Forms are available from me and are also available on my website at mshotz.net/ec.htm. Any work **must** be completed by the Monday before the last Monday of the grading period.

Arts and Ideas – General Units and Readings

You will be assigned three books for this course. *Adventures in the Human Spirit*, by Philip Bishop is a comprehensive humanities text, *Sophie's World* by Jostein Gaarder is a novel written about philosophy, and *The Story of Philosophy* by Bryan Magee is a philosophy text that historically contextualizes the thought of most of the major philosophers of the Western World. Please take care of these – we have limited numbers and they are expensive to replace. In addition, **please turn your books in promptly at the end of the semester** (please don't wait until the end of the school year or right before you graduate when the office is down your neck about obligations), we won't have enough for the next semester if you do not turn them in on time – and it's just not fair for another person to be without a book because it's sitting in your locker or under a pile of stuff in your room.

The following page is a list of the parts of the books that may be used in a given area of study. This list will most certainly be supplemented, and may not all be assigned, but also allows me to say, read the Plato in *Sophie's World* and you will have the page numbers readily at hand. **(So hold on to this packet for further reference!)**

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask. My room is Room 2000, (formerly known as Room 260). I am available before and after school, 1st and 4th hours and during freshman lunch. I'm sometimes running around the building making copies and conferring with other staff in these times so it doesn't hurt to tell me you'll be stopping by so I will know to expect you.

Arts and Ideas – General Units and Readings

Please Note: we have two versions of *Sophie's World* – the first page numbers indicated are for the edition with the globe with wings on the cover, the page numbers in parenthesis are for the edition with the clock and the bust of Socrates on the cover.

1. Introduction to Humanism, Philosophy and Art
 - a. Magee, *The Story of Philosophy*
 - i. An Invitation to Philosophy p. 6-9
 - b. Gaarder, *Sophie's World*
 - i. What is Philosophy? p. 12-14/16-18 (14-20)
2. Ancient Greece
 - a. Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit*
 - i. Chapter 3 (plus p. 38-9)
 - b. Gaarder, *Sophie's World*
 - i. Mythological World Picture p. 21-26 (23-28)
 - ii. Pre-Socratics p. 29-39 (32-42)/ 43-45 (43-7)/51-4 (53-6)
 - iii. Socrates p. 60-9 (62-70)
 - iv. Plato p. p. 81-92 (82-92)
 - v. Aristotle p. 105-117 (105-116)
 - vi. Hellenism p. 127-130 (126-128)
 - c. Magee, *The Story of Philosophy*
 - i. Before Socrates p. 12-19
 - ii. Socrates p. 20-23
 - iii. Plato p. 24-31
 - iv. Aristotle p. 32-39
3. Ancient Rome & the Early Christian Era
 - a. Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit*
 - i. Chapter 4 and 5
 - b. Gaarder, *Sophie's World*
 - i. Hellenism (if we don't do it with the Greeks) 127-130 (126-128)
 - ii. Cynics p. 130-1 (129)
 - iii. Stoics p. 131-2 (129-131)
 - iv. Epicureans p. 132-4 (131-133)
 - v. Neo-Platonists p. 134-6 (133-135)
 - vi. Mysticism p. 136-8 (135-136)
 - vii. Indo European and Early Christian Thought p. 149-164 (148-161)
 - c. Magee, *The Story of Philosophy*
 - i. Cynics p. 40-43
 - ii. Epicureans p. 44-45
 - iii. Stoics p. 46-47
4. The Middle Ages
 - a. Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit*
 - i. Chapters 6 and 7
 - b. Gaarder, *Sophie's World*
 - i. Middle Ages p. 170-187 (167-183)
 - c. Magee, *The Story of Philosophy*
 - i. Saint Augustine p. 50-54
 - ii. Medieval Philosophy p. 54-61
5. Renaissance & Reformation, the Scientific Revolution & Baroque Periods
 - a. Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit*
 - i. Chapters 8, 9, and 10
 - b. Gaarder, *Sophie's World*
 - i. Renaissance p. 197-214 (193-210)
 - ii. Baroque p. 225-232 (222-229)
 - iii. Descartes p. 233-245 (230-242)
 - iv. Spinoza p. 247-256 (244-252)
 - v. Locke p. 261-266 (257-262)
6. The Enlightenment, Revolutions, & Romanticism
 - a. Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit*
 - i. Chapters 11 & 12
 - b. Gaarder, *Sophie's World*
 - i. Hume p. 267-281 (263-282)
 - ii. Berkeley p. 282-285 (278-282)
 - iii. Enlightenment p. 313-320 (309-316)
 - iv. Kant p. 324-340 (320-337)
 - v. Romanticism p. 345-354 (341-354)
 - c. Magee, *The Story of Philosophy*
 - i. Locke p. 102-109
 - ii. Berkeley p. 110-111
 - iii. Hume p. 112-117
 - iv. Burke p. 118-119
 - v. Voltaire p. 122-123
 - vi. Diderot p. 124-125
 - vii. Rousseau p. 126-129
 - viii. Kant p. 132-137
 - ix. Schelling p. 156-157
7. Industrialism, Idealism, Materialism, Modernism & Post Modernism (all that stuff)
 - a. Bishop, *Adventures in the Human Spirit*
 - i. Chapters 13, 14, 15
 - b. Gaarder, *Sophie's World*
 - i. Hegel p. 361-371 (357-366)
 - ii. Kierkegaard p. 373-384 (370-380)
 - iii. Marx p. 391-403 (387-398)
 - iv. Darwin p. 405-428 (400-422)
 - v. Freud p. 431-446 (425-440)
 - vi. Existentialism p. 455-465 (449-458)
 - vii. The Big Bang p. 504-509 (498-503)
 - c. Magee, *The Story of Philosophy*
 - i. Hegel 158-163
 - ii. Marx 164-171
 - iii. Nietzsche 172-179
 - iv. Existentialism 208-213
 - v. More if time