

University of Houston-Downtown

Course Prefix, Number, and Title: UHD 2304 University Seminar–Language, Philosophy and Culture

Component Area Option/Foundational Component Area: Language, Philosophy and Culture

Credits/Lecture/Lab Hours: 3/3/0

Prerequisites: ENG 1301; sophomore standing or departmental approval

Course Description: Within the context of the discipline and the special topic, these courses introduce students to higher-level critical thinking through the exploration of how ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience. These special topics courses focus on the exploration of ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures. Written and oral communication in the context of the topic's related discipline are emphasized. These courses also provide opportunities for transfer students to link to their intended majors early in their academic careers at UHD. Strategies for academic success are practiced within the context of the special topic and discipline.

Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to:

- Describe how ideas, values, beliefs and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience
- Analyze fundamental ideas that foster intellectual and aesthetic creation across human cultures
- Evaluate assumptions, concepts, and language to develop defensible conclusions based on analysis and interpretation of information relevant to course content
- Synthesize and deliver well-constructed analyses and arguments about course content using multiple modalities (including written, oral, and visual formats)
- Investigate ethical dimensions of behavior and language use in different cultural contexts
- Connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making through the analysis of ethical dilemmas explored through literature, philosophical, or intercultural texts
- Research and define academic and career goals within the discipline and develop learning strategies to support academic success and attainment of academic and career goals