

CHAPTER 1: Things to Consider

Humanities Course Objectives:

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. become acquainted with the human tradition as expressed in its literature, philosophy, and the arts;
2. become familiar with seminal modern ideas and theories as expressed through literature, philosophy, and the arts;
3. examine underlying assumptions about and ways of seeing literature, philosophy, and the arts;
4. think critically about the humanities by looking outward at the world and formulating thoughtful and informed ideas about it; and
5. understand themselves as persons whose identities are shaped through participation in a wider community and longer history.

Modernism, War & Revolution, The Freudian Revolution, Modern Art, Modernist Poetry, The Birth of Film, Modern Architecture, Music & Dance

As you explore the historical events, key figures, works of art, artistic movements, intellectual movements and political events outlined in Chapter 1, think about the following questions:

1. What discoveries did you make during your exploration of this chapter?
2. How did the discoveries you made during this chapter connect to these learning outcomes?
3. What are the Humanities? Why is it important to study the Humanities?
4. What connections can be made from the content in Chapter 1 to today's society?
5. How do we conduct a visual analysis?
6. What is Psychoanalytic criticism? How can we apply it to a text?
7. What radical ideas and events worked to shape the arts of the early 20th century?
8. Which aspects of Modernism most clearly reflect an assault on tradition? Which reflect a new direction in the arts? Which reflect emptiness?
9. Disjunction and experimentation are two aspects of the early 20th century; how are these reflected in the arts of this era?
10. What changes did WWI bring to the everyday lives of Americans? How lasting were these changes?
11. What role did propaganda play in World War I? How might the absence of propaganda have changed the circumstances or the outcome of the war?
12. What new opportunities did the war present for women and African Americans? What limitations did these groups continue to face in spite of these opportunities?