**Example HUMANITIES Text for Syllabus**

**GER Statement: Learning Outcomes for this Course**

This course meets UWM General Education Requirements (GER) for the Humanities.

**Definition:** The academic disciplines that investigate human constructs and values, as opposed to those that investigate natural and physical processes, and those concerned with the development of basic or professional skills.

The humanistic disciplines–such as art history, history, language and literature, philosophy, religious studies, film and media studies–are concerned with questions, issues, and concepts basic to the formation of character and the establishment of values in a human context. They also provide literary, aesthetic, and intellectual experiences that enrich and enlighten human life. In these courses, students will use humanistic means of inquiry, such as: the critical use of sources and evaluation of evidence, the exercise of judgment and expression of ideas, and the organization, logical analysis, and creative use of substantial bodies of knowledge in order to approach the subject of study.

This course will address the following two Humanities learning outcomes:\*

(a) **identify** the formation, traditions, and ideas essential to major bodies of historical, cultural, literary, or philosophical knowledge.

(b) **respond** coherently and persuasively to the materials of humanities study through logical, textual, formal, historical, or aesthetic analysis, argument and/or interpretation.

**UW Shared Learning Goal**

As part of the UW System Shared Learning Goals, this course is also expected to foster *effective communication skills* *including listening, speaking, reading, writing, and information literacy.†*

**GER Assessment:**

Here’s how your learning for these GER outcomes will be assessed:

* Learning for Criteria (a) will be evaluated as part of the grading process for the final project paper, where subscores from the grading rubric specific to Criteria (a) will be recorded to help me better gauge student learning.
* Your reflective journal will also be assessed for learning on Criteria (b), using a rubric with performance levels Exceeds, Meets Expectations, Emerging, or No Evidence. This assessment will be *separate* from how the reflective journal is included in the final course grade (see page 3 of the syllabus).
* Effective communication will be assessed through the second portion of your final project paper grade, using the subscore for written communication on the project rubric. Additionally, oral communication will be assessed using your project presentation grade, as evaluated by a rubric that will assess your presentation skills and the quality of your analysis. Your overall presentation score is included in calculating your final course grade.

\*The full list of Humanities Outcomes is below. Each HUM course should incorporate outcome (a) and at least one other of these:

Students will be able to:

(a) identify the formation, traditions, and ideas essential to major bodies of historical, cultural, literary, or philosophical knowledge;

(b) respond coherently and persuasively to the materials of humanities study through logical, textual, formal, historical, or aesthetic analysis, argument and/or interpretation;

(c) apply diverse humanistic theories or perspectives to other branches of knowledge or to issues of universal human concern

*†***UW System Shared Learning Goals**

Select **one** additional learning objective from the options below that will be assessed in your class. Note that Goal 1 is assumed to already be met by all GER courses, and many Cultural Diversity courses will likely also be able to assess aspects of Goal 4. Please choose your additional UWS Shared Goal from among goals 2-5.

1. **Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Natural World** including breadth of knowledge and the ability to think beyond one’s discipline, major, or area of concentration. This knowledge can be gained through the study of the arts, humanities, languages, sciences, and social sciences.
2. **Critical and Creative Thinking Skills** including inquiry, problem solving, and higher-order qualitative and quantitative reasoning.
3. **Effective Communication Skills** including listening, speaking, reading, writing, and information literacy.
4. **Intercultural Knowledge and Competence** including the ability to interact and work with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures; to lead or contribute support to those who lead; and to empathize with and understand those who are different than they are.
5. **Individual, Social, and Environmental Responsibility** including civic knowledge and engagement (both local and global), ethical reasoning, and action.