Dr. Robert Harrison -- Humanities 101 – Fall 2023

Office: 113 South Santiam Hall

Office Hours: M, W: 1:50 to 2:50 p.m. on main campus

T, Th: 10 to 11 a.m. on main campus

Before and after class at Benton Center or by appointment

Office Ph#: 541-917-4571. Please leave a message if I am not in.

E-mail: [harrisr@linnbenton.edu](mailto:harrisr@linnbenton.edu). E-mail is the quickest way to reach me. Please include your full name with every e-mail and please include a salutation like “Hi Dr. Harrison”.

Required Book: Ken Follett, The Pillars of the Earth. This is the only book you need to buy for class, and you can get it at the LBCC bookstore.

Course CRN: 28068

Scheduled time/days: Monday evenings, 5 to 7:50 p.m.

Number of credits: 4

Classroom: Benton Center 246

Required Attendance:

Regular Attendance is required in order to pass our class! This is a face-to-face class only--I do not record lectures nor conduct class on zoom, so you must be physically present. I do allow for some absences due to illness and other legitimate causes, but these are limited--extended absences (5 or more unexecused absences) from class will mean that you have to drop the class to avoid a failing grade.

Absences and your grade: I check attendance for every class and missing class will lower your grade. For the first unexcused absence, your final grade will be lowered by 2 points; for the second unexcused absence, 3 points will be deducted from your final grade. Here are some examples of unexcused absences: Car problems beyond one incident (after the first incident, I expect that you can arrange some other way to get to school); attending camp, family vacation or other social event; waking up late; working on school work (whether for our class or another class). I will judge other types of incidents on an individual basis. Unexcused absence 3 will cost you 4 points off your final grade and unexcused absence 4 will cost you 5 points off your final grade, and for every unexcused absence over 4, you will lose 1 letter grade. If you have over 4 or more unexcused absences, you probably won’t be able to pass, and you should drop the course.

Excused absences up to and including 2 will not effect your grade. I excuse absences for sickness (you don't need to bring me a doctor's note); car trouble once (after one event I expect you to find other ways to school); being called in to work (if it's not a regular event). However, for excused absence 3, you’ll lose 1 point from your final grade, and for excused absence 4, you’ll lose 2 points. For every excused absence over 4, you’ll lose 5 points from your final grade. So, once you have missed more than 4 times, even if they are all excused, you’ll need to think about dropping the class before your grade falls too low to pass.

Email me within 24 hours when you miss class: It's important to contact me within 24 hours of missing a class and to let me know why you missed if you think you have a good reason. You should also e-mail me within 24 hours after missing class to see what you may have missed and whether a reading quiz or a lecture quiz is coming up. You can find the assigned reading for each class on the course calendar below.

Be on Time: Please work hard to be in class on time—if you have issues like a job or another class, let me know so I can work with you on it. After two late apperances, unless you come to me with what I consider legitimate reasons for being late, you will lose 1 point off your final average for each time you are late.

Moodle Account Required: You will need a Moodle account, since class readings, assignments, the class syllabus, class power points, and other material will be posted on your Moodle course site. How to get a Moodle account: Go to LBCC’s home page. Then, click on "Current Students" and then click on "Log in to Moodle". Then, follow the instructions on how to access Moodle, especially if you are a first time Moodle user. This film will take you through the entire process, including signing up for my course, which will be listed as “Humanities 101 with Dr. Harrison, Fall 2023” and click the link. Make sure it is the Fall 2023 course, not an earlier one. Please do this by the end of the first week of class.

What are my goals for this class?

I love teaching history because together we can explore how past civilizations have and continue to influence our own society’s response to many economic, social, and political challenges. I also love teaching humanities and the arts because they are powerful ways to understand the complexity of the human condition, both in ancient times and now. These ancient people provided the foundation of our own arts, literature, drama, and sports, and they understood the vital importance of these pursuits in shaping their civilizations. Being a citizen in ancient Athens or in 21st century America means engaging with our communities through the humanities.

Day-by-Day Course Calendar and Reading Assignments on Moodle:

The assigned readings listed below are all on our Moodle class site—notice the name of the reading assignments carefully and the day they are due. If you need help, let me know right away. It is your responsibility to know what to read for each class, and to be ready for in-class quizzes, even if you don’t hear me announce them in class.

Important: You should e-mail me if right away if you miss class to check on any upcoming possible quizzes.

# Week One

September 25 Course Introduction, Pre-historical Cave Paintings, and the Construction and Meaning of Stonehenge. For October 2, read the last 3 pages of "Prehistory and the Birth of Civilization" on Moodle. Start reading at "People and Nature." Also, read the first 8 pages of "Chapter 1 - Mesopotamia" on Moodle.

## Week Two

October 2 Creation Myths from Around the World and Mesopotamian Gods and Heroes. For October 9, read the first 10 pages of "Chapter 2 - Africa" on Moodle. Also, go to the Moodle website titled "Exploring the Pyramids with NOVA" and read the sections titled "Who Built the Pyramids" and "Scaling the Pyramids". Finally, read the Moodle article titled "The Pharaoh Returns"

Week Three

October 9 Egyptian Civilization, Myth, Art, and Architecture.

For October 16, read the Moodle sources titled "Genesis" and "Genesis: A Living Conversation". Also, read the Moodle sources titled "Book of Job" and "Book of Ecclesiastes".

Week Four

October 16 Hebrew Myth, Legend, and Wisdom Literature. For October 24, read the Moodle website titled "Seven Wonders of the World".

Due Today: You must show me your primary and secondary sources for your Meeting of the Minds presentation.

## Week Five

October 23 The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World and Meeting of the Minds, Show #1: Egyptian pharaoh Rameses II, for whom monumental temples were built; Hatshepsut, Egyptian ruler and designer of temples; King David, Hebrew king and writer of psalms; Solomon, Hebrew king and designer of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem; Samson and Delilah, star-crossed lovers from the Bible.

Week Six

October 30 In-class Test #1 on The Pillars of the Earth, covering the Prologue and Chapters 1 through 4.

For November 6, read the first 11 pages of "Chapter 4 - Greece"  
 on Moodle. Read down to "The Individual and the Community". Also, read the source titled "Ancient Olympics at British Museum" on Moodle.

Week Seven

November 6 Minoan Civilization, Mycenaeans, the Iliad and the Odyssey, and the Olympic Games. For November 13, read pages 15-24 in "Chapter 4 - Greece" on Moodle. Start reading at "The Individual and Community" and read down to "Aristotle on Tragedy." Also, read the first 14 pages of "Chapter 5 - The Classical Style". Read down to "The Gold of Greece".

Week Eight

November 13 Greek Drama: Antigone; Greek Sculpture and Architecture and Meeting of the Minds Show #2: Sappho, Greek poet; Milo of Croton, Greek Olympic wrestling champion; Medea, character in a Greek tragedy; Hypatia, Greek scientist, writer, and martyr; Diogenes the Cynic philosopher; Archimedes, engineering genius; Eratosthenes, Greek geographer.

For November 20, read pages 7-25 in "Chapter 6 - Rome" on Moodle. Start at "The Roman Contribution to Literature" and read down to "Roman Paintings and Mosaics." Also, go to the Moodle website titled "Ancient Rome with the BBC"; click on the "Pompeii" link and read all the articles about Pompeii.

Week Nine

November 20 Roman Architecture, the Lost World of Pompeii, and Meeting of the Minds Show #3: Marcus Vitruvius, Roman writer and engineer; Virgil, author of the “Aeneid”; Lady of Oplontis, one of the victims of the Pompeii eruption; Ovid, source of many famous Greek myths; Justinian and Theodora, Byzantine rulers and patrons of the arts.

For November 28, read the first 7 pages of "Chapter 7 - China" on Moodle.

## Week Ten

November 27 Chinese Architecture: Tomb of Qin Shuang-di and the Great Wall. Meeting of Minds, Show #4: Confucius, ancient philosopher; Lady Fu Hao, Chinese queen whose tomb was excavated; Rama and Sita, characters in the Indian epic Ramayana; Sun Tzu, author of "The Art of War"; Mumtaz Mahal, princess for whom the Taj Mahal was built; Ibn Battuta, famous world traveler.

**Finals Week:**

December 4 In-class Test #2 on The Pillars of the Earth", covering chapters 5 through 9.

## Course Requirements:

1) **In-class Quizzes on Assigned Readings on Moodle:** 25% of your final grade

I’ll give you 4 in-class quizzes on the assigned readings on your Moodle class page from "The Humanistic Tradition". These readings are all listed in the course calendar below. Please follow the course calendar carefully and make sure to do all the required reading for each class. Questions for possible quizzes are given only in class--they are not posted on Moodle, so make sure to attend and email me if you miss a class. You’ll take these quizzes in class without using your book, but you may use written or types notes, but not your PC--please print all your notes before class. All quizzes will consist of short essay questions, and their purpose of these quizzes is to prompt you to read carefully and thoughtfully, which means taking notes on the reading and reviewing those notes before class. Each quiz will count equally in this 25% of your grade.

2) **In-class Quizzes on Class Lectures/Films** - 15% of your final grade

I'll give you 2 in-class quizzes over my lectures, including any films we see, and these will be at the start of the next class after the lecture. For example, the quiz on the lecture for Monday's class would be at the beginning of the next class on the following Monday. So, you need to take careful notes in these classes, whether in writing or on your laptop. You can use these notes on your quiz, but please print notes taken on your computer. To prepare for lecture quizzes, you can also review the power points which I used in class, since they will be posted on our Moodle class page. These quizzes will require you to write short answers to 2 or 3 questions, and you can only use your written or printed notes, not your book or any recording. The purpose of these quizzes is to prompt you to be in class and listen carefully to my lectures and watch in-class films carefully. Each of these quizzes will count equally in this 15% of your grade.

3) **In-class Tests on The Pillars of the Earth**: 40% of your final grade

You will read this classic historical novel by Ken Follett and take two in-class tests on it. Each test will cover large sections of the book and will consist of 10 short essay questions. The tests are closed book, but you may use as many notes, written or typed, as you wish. Print notes typed on your computer for the test. I will give you a study guide for each test. Each test is worth 20% of your final grade. These tests will be on October 31 and December 5.

Important: Tests on "The Pillars of the Earth" must be taken on the day assigned--I do not allow make ups for these 2 tests.

**4) Meeting of the Minds: 20% of your total grade**. What if we could resurrect people from the past and talk about their lives? Well, now—with your help—we can! Each of you will portray a historical character as part of a talk show format called the Meeting of the Minds. Your goal is to become the character. I will ask you questions during your performance—you’ll find these questions listed at the top of our Moodle class page under "Meeting of the Minds Character Questions". A costume is required, and you will teach me and your classmates about your character’s life, achievements, and relevance for our lives. You will speak in first-person, using “I”, just as if you were the character. There are also research requirements, involving finding a primary and secondary historical source. 50% of this Meeting of the Minds grade is based on how accurate and informative your performance in class is; 50% is based on your ability to find the proper primary and secondary sources for your information, as explained below.

Each of you should ***choose a first and second choice of characters listed in the course calendar above.*** Let me know of your first and second choice either by e-mail or in person by the end of the first week of class. You should then find the questions you need to know about your character at the top of our Moodle class page in the file "Meeting of the Minds Characters".

**Research Requirements – 50% of your Meeting of Minds grade:**

**1. *Primary and Secondary Sources:***  You will need to read at least 1 primary source and 1 secondary source in preparing your presentation.  A primary source is any source written by your character or any description of your character written by someone who knew them. For primary sources, you can use either online or published material. Examples of acceptable primary sources: letters, diaries, memoirs, or other first-hand accounts written by your character; accounts written by your character by family members or close associates; filmed interviews with your character. A collection of quotations by your character, either online or in a book about them, does not count as a primary source.

Your secondary source must be a book written about your character by a modern scholar, sometimes while the character is still living, but often after this person’s death. You must find a book or biography of your character. Below are tips for finding them in our LBCC library or elsewhere. Articles and online websites are not acceptable as secondary sources.

**2.** **Use a book for your secondary source, not websites. NO Wikipedia, encyclopedias, or any other websites, whether they are .coms or .orgs!** In your research, you must find at least one full-length book or biography about your character. Internet sources are not acceptable secondary sources! These are not in-depth, not scholarly, and not always reliable.

**Show me your primary and secondary sources for your Meeting of Minds character by Monday, October 16--each source is worth 25% of your Meeting of Minds grade. If you are in any doubt about whether a source is suitable, ask me well before October 16.**

**3**. **Searching for a biography**: Start your research on the LBCC library home page—do a keyword or subject search in our LBCC library for your character’s name. Look for the most recent book on your character. If you don’t find any book in our LBCC library or at a neighboring Consortium library, go to World Cat (just google it) and do a keyword search for your character's name. World Cat stands for "World Catalog" and lists books closest to your location--it has everything! You can check out books from the Linn and Benton county public libraries and from Oregon State University’s library. I will show you how to search the Linn Consortium and how to use “world cat” in class. The main thing is to start early!

**In-class Performance – 50% of your Meeting of the Minds Grade**

**1 - Answering My Questions:** Each of you will answer questions asked by me in a talk-show format. You’ll find these questions on my Instructor Website. You will be sitting in front of the class with your fellow guests, and I’ll ask questions. You will have a conversation with me, so please don't read from notes and don't give a prepared speech. Rehearse thoroughly, so your answers to these questions are accurate, detailed, thoughtful, and interesting! Also, I may ask you follow up questions which are not on your list, so be ready for them. Do your homework, but also be enthusiastic and get into your character!

**2 -** **Rehearse and** **Don’t Read!**  You may use note cards during the presentation, but you may not read from them. You should rehearse your answers to my questions. You should speak to us in a natural voice and look at us (unless you need to read a direct quotation).

**3 - Costume is Required**: You must have a costume in order to do the Meeting of the Minds. Without a costume, as I define it, I will not let you present. You will have to present on another day, and it will cost you at least 15 points from your grade. My definition of a “costume” is that it’s at least similar to what the person would have worn—it includes more than a hat or shoes, but an entire outfit. Also, it cannot consist of clothes which you might ordinarily wear. Ask me for help, since I have some costumes which may work for you, but you may also need to come up with an outfit of your own. You are not required to buy anything to create your costume. Please do not wear athletic shoes of any kind as part of your costume.

**Class Policies;**

You are held accountable to the [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.linnbenton.edu/current-students/administration-information/policies/students-rights-responsibilities-and-conduct), which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct.

**1. Paraphrasing**: You will be writing quizzes and tests using sources, and it is very important that you put the information from these sources into your own words.   This is called paraphrasing. You need to do more than just change a few of the words or phrases around.  I want to see that you have read the material, thought about it, and that you can develop your own ideas about the material in your own words.  When you write your tests and quizzes, do not have your books in front of you, but rather use notes in which you have already condensed the information from your sources.  Also, if you are having trouble summarizing what a source says in your own words, see me for help.  I **will not accept any answer on which you follow your sources too closely**.  I will allow you to correct your mistakes, but I will deduct at least 10 points from your grade, ask you to re-do it, and treat it as late.

**2**. **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is when you use information from sources without giving those sources credit—this is academic dishonesty and it is a serious offense. The first offense of plagiarism will result in a 0 for that assignment; a second offense will result in your failing the course.

**3**. **Cheating**: **Make your own notes and do your own work—don’t study together and don’t share notes.** Cheating is not doing your own work—if you give a classmate your notes or note cards, either outside of class or in class, that’s cheating, and it will result in a 0 for you on that assignment. Please don’t study together—if you need help, ask me!

**4**. **Use Only the Required Sources on Assignments – No internet sources or notes allowed!**

I will not give you any credit on an answer from an internet source like Sparks Notes or Cliff Notes. All information on your in-class quizzes must come from your assigned readings on Moodle, and all your information on "The March" tests should come from that book.

**Late Assignment Policy - Read carefully!**

All quizzes should be finished on time unless you have a legitimate problem, and then **you need to talk to me within 24 hours after an assignment is due**.   It is your responsibility to check with me to see if you missed a quiz or test. I may not allow you to make up missed work, but if I feel that you have a legitimate reason for turning in the work late, I will accept it late, but I will deduct at least 10 points from every late assignment, regardless of the reason. After the first late day, I will deduct additional points depending on your reasons and the circumstances, but also depending on your interest, work ethic, and enthusiasm for the class. You need to contact me about why you missed an assignment or quiz within 48 hours after the assignment or quiz was due. Also, I will not accept any work later than 5 class days after it is due, under any circumstances and regardless of the reason.

**Important:** Tests on "The Pillars of the Earth" must be taken on the day assigned--I do not allow make ups for these 2 tests.

**Classroom Rules of Behavior:**

\*You should be quiet and attentive—only one person should be talking at any one time in class, whether it’s me or a student. Please raise your hand if you want to ask a question or make a comment during class.

\*Please sit up in class and pay attention. Don’t sleep or slump forward or backward during class. This kind of body language says to me that you aren’t paying attention and that you don’t really care about the class.

\*Please don’t eat during class—it’s too distracting and too noisy. You may drink a beverage if you’re quiet.

Dealing with classroom behavior: After a first incident, I will give you a friendly reminder; after a second incident, I’ll give you a more serious warning and talk to you in more detail about the problem; after a third incident, I will ask you to discuss the matter with me and the dean of my division to explore the problem in more detail.

### **Don’t use or look at cell phones in class**

## Please don't look at or use your cell phones during class, unless I give you permission. Otherwise, put them away in your bag or pocket; if there is an emergency, you should leave class to take the call.

**E-mail me if you miss class:** It's important to e-mail me within 24 hours after you miss class, so I can let you know about any possible upcoming quizzes and help you get ready for them. However, I will expect you to be ready for any quizzes by following the course calendar, whether or not you contact me.

**Accommodations for Disabilities:**Students who may need accommodations due to documented disabilities, who have medical information which the instructor should know, or who need special arrangements in an emergency, should speak with the instructor during the first week of class. If you have not accessed services and think you may need them, please contact Disability Services, 917-4789.

**LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination**

LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

## LBCC Email and Course Communications

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

## Disability and Access Statement

## LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you

## have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources

## (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in the class, please talk to

## your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may

## need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the

## [CFAR Website](http://www.linnbenton.edu/cfar) for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

## Statement of Inclusion

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

## Title IX Reporting Policy

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can [report](https://linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report/index.php/pid073717?) a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

## Public Safety/Campus Security/[Emergency Resources](http://www.linnbenton.edu/public-safety-emergency-planning):

In an emergency, call 911. Also, call LBCC Campus Security/Public Safety at [541-926-6855](tel:(541)%20926-6855) and [541-917-4440](tel:(541)%20917-4440).

From any LBCC phone, you may alternatively dial extension 411 or 4440. LBCC has a [public safety app](http://lbccpublicsafety.mobapp.at/landing/Desktop) available for free. We encourage people to download it to their cell phones. Public Safety also is the home for LBCC's Lost & Found. They provide escorts for safety when needed. Visit them to learn more.

# Changes to the Syllabus

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class or by LBCC e-mail.