Instructor: Benjamin Cluff  
Office: HH 371  
Office Hours: W and F 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. or by apt.  
E-Mail: bcluff@uci.edu  
Lecture: M, W 9:00 - 9:50 a.m. in Biological Sciences III, Room 1200  
Section Meeting Times: M, W, F 11:00 - 11:50  
HCC Website: http://hcc.humanities.uci.edu/humcore/Student  
Class Web Page: sites.uci.edu/humcorecluff/  
Final Exam: Dec. 11, 8-10am. Mark your calendars today. This exam may not be rescheduled.

Course Description  
The Humanities Core Course (HCC) is an interdisciplinary introduction to the humanities for freshmen that is designed to develop reading, writing, note-taking, research, and discussion skills. You will be expected to challenge your abilities in argumentation, interpretation, and research; and you will actively participate in your immediate intellectual community, your Core section. As you explore this year’s topic, War, you will investigate how people have represented, rationalized, propagandized, memorialized, evaluated, or understood war. During this quarter, you will examine texts such as Homer’s Iliad, Bertolt Brecht’s Mother Courage, Sun Tzu’s Art of War, and Michael Walzer’s Just and Unjust Wars, which approach war as an event that requires us to evaluate decisive philosophical positions or strategies. You will speculate on the many justifications given for engaging in war; whether, in fact, some wars are just or unjust; and how peoples and nations construct meaning out of the inevitable ashes of war.

Enrollment  
All add and drop requests must be processed by Dawn Jenison in the Core Office (HIB 185). You are responsible for filing this paperwork, as enrollment changes are not automatic, regardless of whether or not you attend this section.

Required Texts  
The following details the required texts for HCC during the fall quarter. These materials are available from the UCI Bookstore in a course pack. If you seek out an alternative vendor or electronic versions of these texts, please make sure that you acquire the same edition and translation. There are many translations of the Iliad and Mother Courage, for instance; however, lectures and assignments will be based off of these exact texts. This is also, incidentally, the proper MLA citation format for these texts (happy birthday):


Additional course readings may be posted as PDF files to the course website. These readings may not appear on your syllabus, so you should be prepared for minor changes to your assignments. In compliance with fair use practices, I will give you a passcode to access these readings. Please do not share course passcodes with others.

**Attendance, Preparedness, and Participation**

Attendance in lecture and section is mandatory. More than two absences will result in the loss of a full letter grade. More than three absences will be grounds for failure in the course. Chronic tardiness will be treated as commensurate with unexcused absence. You will also be required to meet with me for several individual and small group meetings outside of class this quarter. Students are expected to complete all assigned readings before class and to bring all readings and assignments to both lectures and section meetings. Students will be asked to participate in active and informed discussion during class time. During peer review workshops, students will be expected to provide detailed and constructive criticism of one another’s work. Provided that you remain engaged and do not use your device inappropriately during class time, I do not have an issue with you reading PDF texts on your computer or tablet.

**Writing Requirements**

The writing grade is determined by performance on three writing assignments [Assignment #1 (Blog), 30%; Essay Assignment #1 (Iliad), 25%; Essay Assignment #2 (Machiavelli), 35%] and participation in several required research and writing exercises. Although the writing participation requirement numerically accounts for 10% of your writing grade, *failure to participate is grounds for failure in this portion of the course*. The writing participation grade will be determined by library assignments, participation in peer editing and the drafting process, your final portfolio of writing, in-class writing activities and quizzes, and mandatory instructor conferences. Perps turned in without having completed pre-writing, drafting, and revisions, will not be graded and will receive a failing grade. Drafting is a required component of this course. In accordance with HCC policy, I will comment extensively on your written work but will not line-edit your papers.

All drafts, assignments, and final essays written outside of class must be typed. Written assignments will be submitted on paper or to EEE Dropboxes as Word Documents (.doc or .docx files) as detailed on the syllabus or announced in class. All assignments should be double-spaced and use a legible, 12-point font (e.g. Times New Roman, Arial, or Helvetica). The margins of your document should be set to one inch on all sides, the first line of paragraphs one half-inch from the left margin. Create a header that numbers all pages consecutively and gives your last name in the upper right-hand corner, one-half inch from the top and flush with the right margin. Final drafts are to be turned in with previous drafts and peer-editing comments. It is a good habit to begin saving all of your work (either to an external hard drive or the Cloud), as you are responsible for backing up texts composed on a computer. Failures of software or hardware are not acceptable reasons for a late assignment.
All written work should follow Modern Language Association (MLA) format for both in-text citations and the list of works cited. This is a mandatory component of the course, and essays that do not use MLA format will be ineligible for a passing grade. You should consult the following free guide about any MLA formatting questions:

Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) Guide to MLA Formatting and Style

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

Please note that your first assignment requires you to create a website with a blog component. You will be developing this website over the course of the quarter, but your first blog post will be due at the end of week one. While you will need to create a website on which to house your blog, it need only be basic at the outset of the quarter and should take a minimal amount of time. As the quarter progresses, you will have opportunity to develop your site and revise your blog. If you have a site builder you prefer, you are welcome to use it. If you have no preference, you may want to briefly research the templates offered by different hosts, such as Google Sites (a site building tool available to all UCI students) WordPress, or Blogger. Directions for creating a website on Google Sites and Wordpress are linked to the HCC website. However, I recommend attending one of the upcoming Blog Workshops that will be held in weeks one and two (information forthcoming). Please pay special attention to the site access settings, which can restrict access to your website in a number of ways. If you have concerns about your own privacy, you are welcome to use a pseudonym to make your identity anonymous.

Lecture Requirements
The lecture grade is determined by performance on the midterm examination (40%), final examination (50%), and participation in several required argument and interpretation exercises. Although the lecture participation requirement numerically accounts for 10% of your lecture grade, failure to participate is grounds for failure in the course. The lecture participation grade will be determined by lecture attendance, responses to weekly reading and discussion questions, postings to your Humanities Core webpage, and in-class discussion and debate. Though your work for the lecture portion of this course mostly takes place in section, lecture attendance is a mandatory element of the course.

Plagiarism and Fair Use
Plagiarism is a serious matter and will be handled by the appropriate authorities. Turning in any work which is not your own and not properly acknowledged as such will result in a recommendation for failure on your assignment and subject you to further action by the university. You are responsible for complying with the university policy on academic dishonesty and speak to me if you have any questions:

Supervisors and instructors in this course regularly review suspect papers. As part of a program-wide effort to discourage plagiarism, you will be asked to upload electronic copies of your essays to http://www.turnitin.com. Our section turnitin ID and password are: 10781521 / EdwinStarr

Upon submitting your papers to turnitin.com, you allow the Humanities Core Course to use your work for various teaching purposes, such as training instructors and providing examples for other students. Your work will always be used anonymously. If you prefer not to have your work used for educational purposes, you may email me with a refusal of consent (please also cc the HCC Writing Director, Larisa Castillo, at larisa.castillo@gmail.com).

Of Special Note
The texts for this course will be challenging, stimulating, and sometimes upsetting. If you have any concerns or questions about content, do not hesitate to contact me during office hours. The Humanities
Core Course has numerous resources to help you both academically and personally. If you are struggling emotionally with this difficult material, your transition to college life, or other issues in your personal life, you might also want to seek out the services of the UCI Counseling Center, where all students have access to free, confidential care.

**Schedule of Lectures, Readings, and Assignments**

Unless otherwise noted, all readings and assignments are due on the day they are listed. This schedule is may be subject to change and revisions will be posted to the section website

**Week Zero**
- **Friday, Sept. 25**
  - No lecture in lecture hall. Students meet only in discussion sections.

**Week One: The Iliad**
- **Lecturer: Professor Oren Izenberg**

  **Monday, Sept. 28**
  - Reading: Homer, *The Iliad* (Books 1-2; p. 77-115 line 583); Simone Weil, “The Iliad, or the Poem of Force” (*HCC Guide and Reader*); “The Core Guide” (in *HCC Reader*, pp. 1-20); *HCC Writer’s Handbook*, “Analyzing War” (Burke), “What are the Humanities?” (Pan), “Writing in the Humanities” (Morse/Castillo); Assignment #1 (add link)
  - Writing: In-Class Diagnostic

  **Wednesday, Sept. 30**
  - Reading: Homer, *The Iliad* (Books 3-6; p. 128-213); *HCC Writer’s Handbook*, “Literary Analysis” (Izenberg); “Writing and Translation” (Malinverni); “Writing Strong Claims and Paragraphs” (Castillo); “Designing What You Write” (Lunsford, et.al. pdf link)
  - Writing: Blog Post #1 due on Friday, Oct 2
  - E-learning Quiz 1 (Writing in the Humanities: Thinking about Your Role and Your Readers) to be completed by Friday, Oct. 2. Your instructor will post this quiz to EEE and will have a record of your completion.

**Week Two: The Iliad**
- **Lecturer: Professor Oren Izenberg**

  **Monday, Oct. 5**
  - Reading: Homer, *The Iliad* [Books 7, 9, 11, 12; p. 296-299 (through line 96), 316 (line 704)-324, 325-328 (through line 105)]; *HCC Writer’s Handbook*: “Claims, Evidence, Warrants” (Morse)
  - E-learning Quiz 2 (Posing Questions, Building Arguments). Your instructor will post this quiz to EEE and will have a record of your completion.

  **Wednesday, Oct. 7**
  - Reading: Homer, *The Iliad* [Books 14, 15 (p. 387-396, through line 311); 16, 18, 19]
  - Writing: Blog Post #2 Due
Week Three: Memorial  
Lecturer: Professor Oren Izenberg  

Monday, Oct. 12  
- Reading: Homer, The Iliad [Book 20 (503-508 through line 190), 21, 22, 23 (559-567 through line 285), 24; HCC Writer’s Handbook, “Transitioning” (Short)  
- Writing: Essay Assignment #1—Rough Draft  

Wednesday, Oct. 14  
- Reading: Alice Oswald, Memorial: A Version of Homer’s Iliad  
- Writing: Essay Assignment #1—Peer Review  

Week Four: War Stories I: The Thirty Years War in Grimmelshausen  
Lecturer: Professor John H. Smith  

Monday, Oct. 19  
- Reading: Hans Jacob Christoffel von Grimmelshausen, The Adventures of Simplicius Simplicissimus (Book 1, p. 1-52); Andreas Gryphius “Tears of the Fatherland” (HCC reader); HCC Writer’s Handbook, “Representing History” (Newman)  
- Writing: Essay Assignment #1—Final Draft  
- E-learning Quiz 3 (Exploring Library Resources). Your instructor will post this quiz to EEE and will have a record of your completion.  

Wednesday, Oct. 21  
- Reading: Hans Jacob Christoffel von Grimmelshausen, The Adventures of Simplicius Simplicissimus (Book 2, p. 53-105)  

Week Five: War Stories II: Brecht’s Thirty Years War in Mother Courage and Her Children  
Lecturer: Professor John H. Smith  

Monday, Oct. 26  
- Writing: Blog Post #3  

Wednesday, Oct. 28  
- Reading: Brecht, Mother Courage [Acts 6-12, p. 61-104]  

Week Six: The Thirty Years War: The Movie  
Lecturer, Professor John H. Smith  

Monday, Nov. 2  
- Viewing: Walter, Theater of War (2008)  
- Reading: HCC Writer’s Handbook, “Analyzing Film” (Buchanan)  
- Writing: Blog Post #4 Due
Wednesday, Nov. 4
- Viewing: Walter, Theater of War (2008)
- Writing: Midterm

Week Seven: The Practice of Power (leadership and realpolitik)
Lecturer: Professor Georges Van Den Abbeele

Monday, Nov. 9
- Reading: Machiavelli, The Prince, chapters 1-14 (pg. 39-86); HCC Writer’s Handbook, “Analyzing Philosophical Texts” (Fogli)

Wednesday, Nov. 11—Veteran’s Day Holiday. No Lecture, No Section.

Week Eight: The “Art” of War
Lecturer: Professor Georges Van Den Abbeele

Monday, Nov. 16
- Reading: Machiavelli, The Prince, chapters 15-26 (pg. 87-123)

Wednesday, Nov. 18
- Reading: Sun Tzu, The Art of War, chapters 1-13
- Writing: Final Blogpost and Website Due

Week Nine: “Ethics” of War (jus ad bellum/jus in bello)
Lecturer: Professor Georges Van Den Abbeele

Monday, Nov. 23
- Reading: Walzer, Just and Unjust Wars, pp. 21-33, 51-73
- Writing: Essay Assignment #2, Rough Draft

Wednesday, Nov. 25—No Lecture; Sections Meet

Thursday-Friday, Nov. 26-7, Thanksgiving Holiday. Campus Closed.

Week Ten:
Lecturer: Professor Georges Van Den Abbeele

Monday, Nov. 30
- Reading: Walzer, Just and Unjust Wars pp. 34-47, 138-59
- Peer Editing Assignment #2

Wednesday, Dec. 2
- Reading: Walzer, Just and Unjust Wars pp. 34-47, 138-59
- Writing: Essay Assignment #2, Final Draft

Finals Week: December 7-11
Final Exam: Dec. 11, 8-10am. Mark your calendars today. This exam may not be rescheduled.