

# HUM-1813: SPECIAL TOPICS: THE FAIRY TALE OF NEW YORK

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## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: HUM-1813 : Special Topics: the Fairy Tale of New York**

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2026

**Subject Code**

HUM - Humanities

**Course Number:**

1813

**Title:**

Special Topics: the Fairy Tale of New York

**Catalog Description:**

Students will learn about the history of representing New York City to the American imagination. This will include representations in literature, art, architecture, and music. New York City is considered the premier big city in American and is seen both domestically and abroad as a symbol of what it means to be an American. This class will explore that symbol and ask what it means to be New York.

**Credit Hour(s):**

3

**Lecture Hour(s):**

3

## Requisites

**Prerequisite and Corequisite**

HUM-1020 The Individual in Society or HUM-102H Honors Individual in Society.

## Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Evaluate representations of New York City.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

**Objective(s):**

Examine and analyze characterizations of New York City in order to say something about how national character is represented.

**Course Outcome(s):**

Examine the artistic and intellectual history of New York Cities communities.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Civic Responsibility: Analyze the results of actions and inactions with the likely effects on the larger local and/or global communities.

**Objective(s):**

Discuss the Renaissance in terms of its political function with the various city states of Tuscany.

**Course Outcome(s):**

Analyze the cultural representations of New York City as a melting pot of ideas

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Cultural Sensitivity: Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

**Objective(s):**

We will look at Renaissance writings and the lives of prominent Florentine citizens to discuss what life was like in Tuscany during that era, as well as the political problems of that time.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Write reflections about the works we analyze

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Written Communication: Demonstrate effective written communication for an intended audience that follows genre/disciplinary conventions that reflect clarity, organization, and editing skills.

**Objective(s):**

Be able to write long form essay examinations of analysis of the works we will be examining and discussing for class.

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**Methods of Evaluation:**

Longer Papers  
Short Responses  
Quizzes

**Course Content Outline:**

**Week 1...** New Amsterdam

Histories and Fictions of Old New York

**Week 2:** Finish 1 week 1, begin New York and Democracy

**Week 3...** Finish New York and Democracy

New York and the Founding Fathers

**Week 4:** Begin 19th Century New York

**Week 5...** Finish 19th century New York and Begin Gateway to America

The new York of the 19th Century Imagination

**Week 6..** Finish The Gateway to America

Ellis Island and the Immigrant Experience

**Week 7...** Begin the the Gilded Age

The Age of Innocence

**Week 8...** The Gilded Age

more of The Age of Innocence

**Week 9:** New York and Memory

Read E.B. White

**Week 10...**Harlem Renaissance and beyond

Langston Hughes and James Baldwin

**Week 11...**The Woman of New York

From Suffragettes to feminism to New School Intellectuals

**Week 12...**The Skyline

Architecture

**Week 13...** The Birth of Hip Hop

A new art for a new city

**Week 14...**The New Gilded Age

DeLillo, Cosmopolis

**Week 15...**The New Gilded Age

DeLillo, Cosmopolis

**Week 16...The New Gilded Age**

DeLillo, Cosmopolis

**Religious Accommodation**

Before reviewing the course schedule, students should carefully review the following religious accommodation policy and other required instructional policies:

**Religious Accommodation:**

Students seeking an accommodation for absences permitted under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act must provide the instructor with written notice of the specific dates for which the student requires an accommodation and must do so not later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of instruction. Please submit requests for accommodations at this link: <https://portal2.tri-c.edu/ReligiousAccommodation/ReligiousAccommodationForm>. Students with questions about their religious accommodations under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act may contact the College's Office of General Counsel and Legal Services by phone at 216.987.4856 or via email at [legal@tri-c.edu](mailto:legal@tri-c.edu).

**Other Required Instructional Policies:**

<https://www.tri-c.edu/student-resources/curriculum/documents/syllabus-part-b.pdf>

**Weekly Schedule**

	Topics
Week 1	New Amsterdam  Histories and Fictions of Old New York
Week 2	Begin New York and Democracy
Week 3	Finish New York and Democracy  New York and the Founding Fathers
Week 4	Begin 19th Century New York
Week 5	Finish 19th Century New York  Begin Gateway to America  The New York of the 19th Century Imagination
Week 6	Finish the Gateway to America  Ellis Island and the Immigrant Experience
Week 7	Begin the Gilded Age  The Age of Innocence
Week 8	The Gilded Age  The Age of Innocence continued
Week 9	New York and Memory  Read E.B. White
Week 10	Harlem Renaissance and beyond  Langston Hughes and James Baldwin

Week 11 The Woman of New York  
From Suffragettes to feminism to New School Intellectuals

Week 12 The Skyline

Architecture

Week 13 The Birth of Hip Hop

A new art for a new city

Week 14 The New Gilded Age

DeLillo, *Cosmopolis*

Week 15 The New Gilded Age

DeLillo, *Cosmopolis*

Week 16 The New Gilded Age

DeLillo, *Cosmopolis*

The Course Schedule is subject to change due to pedagogical needs, instructor discretion, parts of term, and unexpected events.

**Required/Recommended Readings**

- Wharton, Edith. *The Age of Innocence*
- Selected poems by Langston Hughes
- Selected works by James Baldwin
- Selected poems by Edna St. Vincent Millay
- Selected essays by Susan Sontag
- Selected poems by Adrienne Rich
- Smith, Betty A Tree Grows in Brookly
- Selected poems by Walt Whitman
- DeLillo, Don. *Cosmopolis*.

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