



## HNR100-B, C, & D: Honors Forum on Faith & the Arts I

Fall 2010  
1 credit hour

“Do we love anything but the beautiful? What, then, is the beautiful? And what is beauty? What is it that attracts us and draws us to things we love? For, unless grace and beauty of form were in them, they certainly would not draw us to themselves.” Augustine, *Confessions*, 1.10.5.

### Instructors

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### Course Description

The purpose of this course is to expose students to a broad range of fine arts experiences in order to help them understand the important roles that aesthetic spheres of expression play in a Christian liberal education. In particular, the course challenges students to ponder the unique ways that art, music, theatre, and the literary arts can illuminate the meaning and significance of human life, intellect, and the Christian faith. The intent of such learning experiences is to help students broaden their powers of critical thinking, creativity, and discernment beyond the cognitive limits typically perpetuated by the rationalistic discourses of the modern academy. Through participation in a program of fine arts events, readings, group discussions, and reflective writing, students are equipped to appreciate aesthetic pursuits as integral to lifelong learning and the cultivation of a Christian life well-lived.

HNR 100 B, C, and D (which will eventually be listed as HNR 101) is the first in a four-course sequence that Honors College students take to fulfill their General Education Humanities Fine Arts requirement. This course introduces students to the history and significance of the fine arts in antiquity. The course is limited to Honors College students.

### Learning Outcomes

Through their completion of course requirements, students should gain the following:

- A general understanding of the fine arts and the capacity to reflect critically on artistic expressions from the ancient world.
- A basic proficiency in assessing the meaning and value of works of art, music, drama, poetry, etc.
- A fundamental grasp of the contributions that aesthetics make to the goals of a liberal education.
- A developing comprehension of the theological significance of the fine arts and its implications for pursuing a life of “faith seeking understanding.”

### Requirements

In order to complete HNR 100 B, C, or D, each student will:

1. Complete the **required readings** listed on page 2 of the syllabus. Readings must be completed before attending discussion sections.
2. View six (6) 20-minute **lectures** on art in the ancient world and theological aesthetics. Lectures must be viewed before attending the discussion sections. Links will be provided on Blackboard and/or by email.

3. Participate in an online discussion group on Blackboard throughout the semester. Questions and topics for discussion will be posted regularly on Blackboard.
  4. Participate in two 75-minute **discussion sections**.
    - The week of October 4—you will have several options from which to choose:
      - Tuesday, Oct. 5, 5:30-6:45 pm
      - Tuesday, Oct. 5, 7:00-8:15 pm
      - Thursday, Oct. 7, 5:30-6:45 pm
      - Thursday, Oct. 7, 7:00-8:15 pm
    - The week of November 15—you will have several options from which to choose:
      - Tuesday, Nov. 16, 5:30-6:45 pm
      - Tuesday, Nov. 16, 7:00-8:15 pm
      - Wednesday, Nov. 17, 5:30-6:45 pm
      - Wednesday, Nov. 17, 7:00-8:15 pm
- Watch for an email from [honors.office@indwes.edu](mailto:honors.office@indwes.edu) to sign up for a discussion section that fits your schedule.
5. Attend Athens & Jerusalem Seminar with Dr. Christian Smith, Wednesday, November 10, 4:00-5:00 pm, Globe Theatre.
  6. Complete *at least* **five credits** of **elective events** (see list of elective events, starting on pg. 4).
  7. Complete a **final paper**. Details for this assignment are provided at the end of the syllabus. Assignments must be turned in on Blackboard by **Friday, December 3, at 4:00 p.m.**

## Required Readings

The first three readings should be completed by the time of your first discussion section. All should be done by the time of the second discussion.

Brown, F. B. *Good Taste, Bad Taste, Christian Taste*. Read chapters 1 and 2. Available at the IWU bookstore or for purchase online.

Crouch, A. "The Gospel: How is Art a Gift, a Calling, and an Obedience?" [Chapter 1 in *For the Beauty of the Church*]. Available on Blackboard.

Lockerd, B. G. "The Truth of Beauty: Educating the Moral Imagination." Available at [http://www.staustinreview.com/uploads/issues/Jan\\_Feb\\_2009\\_Lockerd.pdf](http://www.staustinreview.com/uploads/issues/Jan_Feb_2009_Lockerd.pdf) , or through Blackboard.

Plato, *Republic*, Book X, 595a-608b. Available on Blackboard.

Plotinus. "On Beauty," *Ennead* I.6. Available at <http://eawc.evansville.edu/anthology/beauty.htm>, or through Blackboard.

Augustine, *Confessions*, 10.xxxii–xxxv. Available on Blackboard.

## Participation and Attendance Policies

**Discussion Sections:** Full participation in the discussion sections is mandatory for all HNR 100 B, C, and D students. You will have several times from which to choose for each of the two discussions.

**Elective Events:** Participation in **five elective credits** is required. The credit value of each event is listed on pages 5-7. Students may participate in more than five credits of electives, depending upon availability. Students must choose one elective each from the performing, visual, and musical arts.

**Release Form:** A completed release form is required for participation in any off-campus events. The form is available on the website where you reserve events (see the section below for details about event reservation). If you select any off-campus events when you reserve an event for Forum, you must complete the release form and return

an original, signed copy to the JWHC Office in Goodman 203. The form must be turned in **at least a week before the event**, or we will give your spot to someone else.

**Cancellations:** You may cancel your reservation up to two weeks before the date of the event, provided that you have a justifiable reason for canceling. You may also cancel within the two weeks leading up to the event, but you will be responsible for finding another Honors Forum student to take your place. Exceptions for emergency situations will be made on a case-by-case basis. Any questions or requests to cancel an event should be directed to [honors.forum@indwes.edu](mailto:honors.forum@indwes.edu).

## How to Reserve and Confirm Elective Events

**Reservations:** On the left hand side of the JWHC website ([jwhc.indwes.edu](http://jwhc.indwes.edu)), select “JWHC Academics”, then “Honors Forum,” then “Reservation Form.” Click on that link, and type in the **LIMITED** Forum events that you would like to attend this semester. We will confirm all requests via email. All reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis. **If you are willing to drive the IWU van for any of the off-campus events, please let us know in the comments box of the reservation form. Drivers will be given first priority. If a driver cannot be found for a certain event, it will be cancelled, and students will be responsible for finding other elective credits. In order to drive for a Forum event, you must be an approved IWU driver. Even if you have been approved in the past, you will need to resubmit a driver’s application to be re-approved for this year. It is an easy process to become one. Email [honors.forum@indwes.edu](mailto:honors.forum@indwes.edu) for more information.**

**First Date to Reserve Events:** Reservations for elective events will not be accepted prior to Saturday, September 18, at 1:00 pm. Any reservations made before that time will not be accepted.

**Confirmations:** In order to receive credit for any elective that you have attended, you must confirm your attendance online. On the left hand side of [jwhc.indwes.edu](http://jwhc.indwes.edu), select “JWHC Academics,” then “Honors Forum,” then “Confirmation Form.” Click on that link, and enter the number for the event that you attended. **All confirmations must be made within one week after the date of the event. If you fail to confirm within one week of the event, you will be required to write a two-page reflection paper before receiving credit for the event.**

**Attending a “Full” Event:** If you would like to attend an event that is already full, you may still attend and receive credit, but must pay your own transportation and event costs. You will be required to provide proof of attendance, so keep your ticket stubs, playbills, etc.

**How Will I Know If You Have Received My Confirmation?** We use Blackboard to track your Forum elective credits. You may visit Blackboard to find out which events you have confirmed and how many electives you have completed. Please allow about two weeks after submitting your confirmation before you expect to see it posted on Blackboard.

## Additional Information

**Questions and Concerns:** If you have any questions about your elective credits, contact Beth Freije and Annie Brooker at [honors.forum@indwes.edu](mailto:honors.forum@indwes.edu). Beth and Annie will check this account regularly, but not daily. Other questions about the course may be directed to your instructor (see pg. 1 for contact information). In case of an emergency, you may also contact Sara Scheunemann, JWHC Program Coordinator, at ext. 1799, or at [sara.scheunemann@indwes.edu](mailto:sara.scheunemann@indwes.edu).

**Academic Honesty/Plagiarism:** Any form of academic dishonesty and/or plagiarism is deemed to be a serious violation of the fabric of our character as a community. As a result, any confirmed case of academic dishonesty and/or plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course. The student is then referred to the John Wesley Honors College Committee in order that his or her further standing in that community can be reviewed. Confirmed cases of academic dishonesty/plagiarism are also submitted to the Academic Affairs Office of the College of Arts and Sciences and are thus subject to further review.

**Students with Disabilities:** In an effort to meet the aspiration of its mission to develop world changers and to respect federal law, Indiana Wesleyan University provides reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Students need to self-identify in order to be eligible for such accommodations. In partnership with faculty members and administrators, staff members in the Center for Student Success coordinate this process. Please contact Mr. Nathan Herring (Student Center 220, ext. 2257) for further assistance.

## Grading

### **Grading Scale:**

94 – 100% = A	77 – 79.9% = C+	Below 64% = F
90 – 93.9% = A-	74 – 76.9% = C	
87 – 89.9% = B+	70 – 73.9% = C-	
84 – 86.9% = B	67 – 69.9% = D+	
80 – 83.9% = B-	64 – 66.9% = D	

### **Value for Course Requirements:**

Active participation in discussion sections (incl. online discussion) (i.e. showing thoughtful engagement with readings and lectures)	30%
Elective events / Athens & Jerusalem	40%
Final paper	30%

**Late Work:** Each day that any work is late, a 10% deduction will be made to the grade for that item.

# Fall 2010 Forum Elective Opportunities

**Students are required to select *at least one* event from the performing, visual, and musical arts categories.** Due to the need for everyone in Forum to attend at least one Performing Arts elective, it is not likely that students will be able to attend more than one event in this category. The costs of the events are listed. This information is for students who have signed up for the event after the maximum number of students has been reached, but still wish to attend on their own. **If you are signed up for an event with Honors Forum, you will NOT need to pay.**

## Performing Arts

### 1. Doubt

*Thursday, September 30, 2010, 7:00 p.m.*

IWU, PPAC, Black Box Theater

Includes mandatory discussion in the Black Box following the performance.

Maximum Students: 20 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: \$6

### 2. Eurydice

*Saturday, October 9, 2010, 2:00 p.m.*

Butler University

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: \$5

\*\*Driver Needed

\*\*\* Release form required for off-campus event

### 3. Romeo & Juliet

*Friday, November 12, 2010, 7:30 p.m.*

IWU, PPAC, Black Box Theater

Includes mandatory discussion in the Black Box following the performance.

Maximum Students: 20 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: \$6

### 4. A Streetcar Named Desire

*Saturday, November 20, 2010, 7:00 p.m.*

Taylor University

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: \$ 10

\*\*Driver Needed

\*\*\* Release form required for off-campus event

### 5. A Christmas Carol

*Saturday, December 4, 2010, 7:00 p.m.*

Indiana Repertory Theatre

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: \$15 (student group price)

\*\*Driver Needed

\*\*\* Release form required for off-campus event

## **6. World Literature (ENG 180) Trilogy Performances**

*Date TBA, Time TBA*

IWU, PPAC, Black Box Theater

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

## **Visual Arts**

### **7. Faculty Art Show**

*Monday, September 20, 2010, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.*

Beard Arts Center

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

### **8. Indianapolis Museum of Art (with focus on ancient art)**

*Saturday, October 16, 12:30-6:30 p.m.*

The trip is led by Dr. Kent Stiles.

Maximum Students: 11 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: Free

\*\*\* Release form required for off-campus event

### **9. Silver Codex CIVA 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show**

*Monday, October 18, 2010, 4:00-6:00 p.m.*

Beard Arts Center

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

### **10. Roger Varland Landscapes of Faith**

*Monday, November 15, 2010, 4:00-6:00 p.m.*

Beard Arts Center, IWU

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 2

Cost: Free

\*\*Includes Mandatory Discussion/Artist Talk

### **11. Art Attack 1 (Student show)**

*Monday, November 8, 2010, 4:00-6:00 p.m.*

Beard Arts Center, IWU

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

## **Musical Arts**

### **12. Guest Cellist**

*Wednesday, September 22, 2010, 7:30 p.m.*

IWU, Baker Recital Hall

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

**13. Brass Woodwind String Chamber Ensemble**

*Tuesday, October 12, 2010, 7:30 p.m.*

IWU, Baker Recital Hall

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

**14. IWU Wind Ensemble Concert**

*Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 7:30 p.m.*

IWU, PPAC Auditorium

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

**15. Sarah Eyerly (Butler Faculty): Lecture and Recital on Moravian Music**

*Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 7:30 p.m.*

Butler University, Eidson-Duckwall Auditorium

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: Free

\*\*Driver Needed

\*\*\* Release form required for off-campus event

**16. IWU Jazz Ensemble/Jazz Combo Concert**

*Friday, November 12, 2010, 7:30*

IWU, PPAC Auditorium

Maximum Students: 15 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 1

Cost: \$5

**17. J. S. Bach Christmas Oratorio**

*Thursday, November 18, 2010, 7:30 p.m.*

Butler University, Eidson-Duckwall Auditorium

Maximum Students: 11 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Credits: 2

Cost: Free

Discussion/coffee to follow with Dr. Peeler

\*\*\* Release form required for off-campus event

**18. Brass Woodwind String Chamber Ensemble**

*Tuesday November 22, 7:30 p.m.*

IWU, Baker Recital Hall

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

**19. University Singers**

*Thursday December 9, 7:30 p.m.*

IWU, PPAC Auditorium

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

**Mississinewa and Lectures**  
(does not fulfill performing, visual, or musical art requirements)

**20. Mississinewa 1812**

*Saturday October 9, Departing at 11:00 a.m. for the Afternoon*

Marion, IN

Credits: 1

Maximum Students: 12 [Limited, you must reserve this event]

Cost: \$ 5

\*\*Driver Needed

\*\*\* Release form required for off-campus event

**23. Dr. Mel Royer - Dynamical Systems: Mathematical Beauty Joins Utility Lecture**

*Monday September 27, 4:00-5:00 p.m.*

IWU, Noogle Bistro Classroom

Maximum Students: Unlimited

Credits: 1

Cost: Free

## Final Reflection Paper

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**Due date:** Friday, December 3, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. Papers must be turned in on Blackboard.

**Length:** 6 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font

**Choose one topic (if you have taken this course before, you must choose topic #2).**

### Topic 1

This semester, you have participated in a variety of aesthetic experiences as part of Honors Forum, from the performing to the visual to the musical arts. Pick one or two experiences that held the deepest meaning for you, and respond to the following prompts. Throughout your responses, be sure to refer to and draw from the works of art (performance, visual, musical, etc.) that you experienced. They are your primary sources for this course.

- 1- Describe your one or two most meaningful aesthetic experiences in Forum, using the questions below to shape your response. It may be helpful to narrate your experience as you would if you were recording the event in a journal, including your self-reflections as they arise within the context of the story.
  - a. How did you enter into the experience? What did you expect?
  - b. Describe the work of art, the play, the musical composition, etc. What message(s) did you hear or see? What do you think the artist/playwright/composer was trying to communicate?
  - c. How did the experience (of the performance, the painting, the music, etc.) affect you intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, perhaps even physically?
  - d. Were you surprised in any way by your response? If so, how?
  - e. How did your Christian faith shape the way that you responded to the performance, music, painting, etc. and its message(s)?
- 2- What role did community have in helping you to understand your aesthetic experience more fully? For example, you may want to reflect on discussions that you participated in as a part of your Forum experiences or perhaps those that you had informally with others, before and after the event.
- 3- How did the readings you have done this semester shape your perception of the experience, positively or negatively?
- 4- What insights did you gain through these experiences and conversations about:
  - a. The potential for the arts, broadly defined, to impact you?
  - b. The power of the arts to teach you about yourself, human relationships, the nature of God, or any other truths that may have been communicated to you through your aesthetic experiences?
  - c. How your participation in the Christian theological narrative provides the context that shapes how you understand and appreciate these aesthetic creations?

### Topic 2

You have read several authors' thoughts on the arts, their relevance to the Christian life, and their suitability in general. You have also viewed lectures regarding the history of the arts in the ancient world. Pick a subject from the ancient world—perhaps an artistic movement, a sculpture, a play, a musical work, an architectural example, or something else—and reflect on its significance based on these readings. How would Socrates and Glaucon, the speakers in the excerpt from *The Republic*, react to your topic? Would Augustine have any thoughts if he experienced this work of art? Is it aesthetically tasteful, and, what does that really mean? Please make some specific references to the readings, and feel free to reference additional works, as well.