HUM 408    THE MODERN

TTH 2-3:15pm LL-406
Professor Maria Rybakova mrybakov@mail.sdsu.edu
Office hours TTH 1-2 (office AL – 634, you have to make an appointment a day in advance) or after class without appointment.

Course overview:
In this course we will examine developments in Western culture throughout the 19th and 20th century in historical and social context. The main focus will be on the main trends in the literary, philosophical and artistic life.

Books you will need:
Stevenson, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Dover, (9780486266886)
Oscar Wilde, The Picture of Dorian Gray, Barnes and Noble (9781593080259)
Franz Kafka, The Metamorphosis and Other Stories, Dover 1996 (9780486290300)
Albert Camus, Stranger, War tr., Vintage (9780679720201)
Charlotte Bronte, Jane Eyre, Penguin (Penguin Classics) (9780141441146)
Virginia Woolf, A Room of One's Own (Annotated), Mariner Books (9780156030410)
Maria Rybakova, Gnedich, Glagoslav (9781784379544)

Course Description and Requirements
Courses that fulfill the 9-unit requirement for Explorations in General Education take the goals and skills of GE Foundations courses to a more advanced level. Your three upper division courses in Explorations will provide greater interdisciplinary, more complex and in-depth theory, deeper investigation of local problems, and wider awareness of global challenges. More extensive reading, written analysis involving complex comparisons, well-developed arguments, considerable bibliography, and use of technology are appropriate in many Explorations courses.

This is an Explorations course. Completing this course will help you to do the following in greater depth:

1) analyze written, visual, or performed texts in the humanities and fine arts with sensitivity to their diverse cultural contexts and historical moments;

2) describe various aesthetic and other value systems and the ways they are communicated across time and cultures;

3) identify issues in the humanities that have personal and global relevance;

4) demonstrate the ability to approach complex problems and ask complex questions drawing upon knowledge of the humanities.

Grading:
reader report = 5 points (2-pages, 12-point, double-spaced, hard copy, due at 2pm on the day of the class, no reports accepted after 2:15pm, no exceptions).
Midterm exam = 30 points
Final exam = 40 points
Final grades will be calculated by Blackboard according to SDSU Letter Grade System: [http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~digger/305/grades.html](http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~digger/305/grades.html)

If you will be absent for religious holidays or have disabilities requiring special arrangements, you must inform the instructor in the first two weeks of the class.

**Tentative schedule:**

- Jan 21     Introduction
- Jan 26     Goethe
- Jan 28     Napoleon
- Feb 2      Byron
- Feb 4      Shelley, Keats
- Feb 9      Realism
- Feb 11     Bronte (reader report due)
- Feb 16     Tolstoy
- Feb 18     Nietzsche
- Feb 23     Dostoevsky
- Feb 25     Stevenson (reader report due)
- Mar 1      Symbolism
- Mar 3      Symbolism
- Mar 8      Oscar Wilde (reader report due)
- Mar 10     review of the material
- Mar 15     **midterm**
- Mar 17     **TBA**
- Mar 22     Impressionism
- Mar 24     New Forms
- Mar 29-31  **Spring Break – No class**
- Apr 5      Psychoanalysis; Surrealism;
- Apr 7      Kafka (reader report due)
- Apr 12     Modernism
- Apr 14     Virginia Woolf (reader report due)
- Apr 19     Existentialism
- Apr 21     Camus (reader report due)
- Apr 26     Film
- Apr 28     Film
- May 3      Film analysis (Rybakova report due)
- May 5      Review of the material

For the date of the final exam, please consult the SDSU final exam schedule.

"The California Faculty Association is in the midst of a difficult contract dispute with management. It is possible that the faculty union will call a strike or other work stoppage this term. I will inform the class as soon as possible of any disruption to our class meeting schedule."