Arts and Compassion
FALL B 2024- October 14-December 6

Course: HUM 6308
Meeting Times and Location: Online
Weeks run Monday 8am-Monday 7:59am the following week
Credit Hours: 3

Instructor: Dr. Kelley Sams
Instructor Office Location: Virtual
Office Hours: by appointment on Zoom
Email: Email instructor **through Canvas** for prompt response to course issues.
Only as a *back-up*, email: kcs@ufl.edu
I will do my best to respond to all emails within 48 hours, not including weekends.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

"You write in order to change the world ... if you alter, even by a millimeter, the way people look at reality, then you can change it."
— James Baldwin

What is compassion? How do we show compassion as individuals, citizens, and professionals? What role do artists—visual artists, writers, dancers, thespians, singers and musicians—play in helping us better understand compassion, as well as how to give and receive it?

This online graduate course, Arts and Compassion will examine the historical and theoretical roots of compassion in philosophy, spirituality, religion, psychology, and science. The course will also explore the practical ways artists use their work to represent, embody, enact, and elicit compassion. Students will explore compassion through exposure to a variety of expressive media including literature, music, visual art, movement, and theater.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Define and assess how compassion has been demonstrated though various historical, social, and cultural lenses.
- Identify and articulate arts principles and practices as they relate to human compassion.
- Critique works of art and their ability to communicate about and/or elicit compassion.
- Apply principles of compassion to develop and execute an arts project designed to benefit the community.

REQUIRED TEXTS

hooks, b. (1995). *Art on my mind: Visual politics*. The New Press.

Trzeciak, S., Mazzarelli, A., & Booker, C. (2019). *Compassionomics: The revolutionary scientific evidence that caring makes a difference*. Studer Group.

Additional readings and online resources are posted in Course Materials on the course website and listed in the Course Outline table below.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

The course is an asynchronous course that requires personal time-management and attention to deadlines. The course is three credits, but only 8-weeks long, so it is intense and fast-paced. **As a student you should expect approximately 16 hours of work per week for this course.** There will be between 1-4 hours of module learning. The rest of the time students should be investing their efforts into the discussions, the creative practice blog, and assignments.

(See next page for Course Schedule)

HUM6930 Arts and Compassion

Course Schedule*

Week	Topic	Course Text Readings	Assignment	Due Date/End of Week
1	Defining Compassion	Read Part One of *Compassionomics: The revolutionary scientific evidence that caring makes a difference* (Trzeciak, S., Mazzarelli, A., & Booker, C, 2019, p. 1-46)	Discussion W1 W1 Content Competency	Monday, 7:59am
2	Listening Compassionately	Read Part Two of *Compassionomics: The revolutionary scientific evidence that caring makes a difference* (Trzeciak, S., Mazzarelli, A., & Booker, C, 2019, p. 47-206)	W2 Content Competency W2 Creative Practice	Monday, 7:59am
3	Observing Compassionately	Read Part Three of *Compassionomics: The revolutionary scientific evidence that caring makes a difference* (Trzeciak, S., Mazzarelli, A., & Booker, C., 2019, p. 207-326)	W3 Discussion Compassion & Art Project Proposal	Monday, 7:59am
4	Depicting & Evoking Compassion	Read Introduction *through* Subversive Beauty, *Art on my mind: Visual politics* (hooks, b., 1995, p. xi- 53)	W4 Discussion W4 Creative Practice 2	Monday, 7:59am
5	Compassionate Resistance	Read In our Glory *through* Facing Difference, *Art on my mind: Visual politics* (hooks, b., 1995, p. 54-100)	W5 Content Competency W5 Creative Practice 3	Monday, 7:59am
6	Symbolism & Compassion	Read Talking Art as the Spirit Moves us *through* Architecture in Black Life, *Art on my mind: Visual politics*	W6 Discussion 6 W6 Content Competency	Monday, 7:59am

7	Compassionate Futures	Read Aesthetic Interventions *through* The Radiance of Red, *Art on my mind: Visual politics* (hooks, b., 1995, p. 163-220)	W7 Content Competency **Compassion & Art Project Presentation**	Monday, 7:59am
(hooks, b., 1995, p. 101-162) row above				
8 (short week!)	Course Synthesis		W8 Discussion	Friday, 11:59pm

* The course schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Additional required readings and learning resources may be found on Canvas

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

1. **Content Competency Quizzes** (21% of total grade): The quizzes are designed for students to assess student understanding of the readings and materials assigned for the week. Each content competency will include five questions that evaluate the student's comprehension of the assigned materials. Unless otherwise indicated, the quizzes are open-note quizzes and are not timed. Students have one attempt to complete the quiz.
2. **Creative Practice Blog** (25% of total grade): Students will make original creative art work (visual art, dance, digital art, theater, music, or creative writing) in response to prompts. The blog will document the creative process, the final creative product, and include a brief reflection. The Creative Practice Blog will be hosted on Adobe Spark. See Canvas for assignment details.
3. **Discussion Board** (21% of total grade): Students will participate in eight online discussions (one week in duration each, with minimum of two posts per week) using the Discussion Board on the course website. Students will be asked to complete a task or reflection related to compassion via Discussion with their classmates. See Canvas assignment for details.
4. **Mini-Assignment** (8% of total grade)
   a. **Compassion Project Proposal** (100 points)**:** Students will submit a proposal for their final Compassion Project and Presentation. The proposal will clearly link concepts of compassion to arts engagement for community members. The scope of the project will be able to be executed in 3 weeks or less. See Canvas assignment for details.
5. **Major Assignment** (25% of total grade)
   a. **Arts and Compassion Project and Presentation** (300 points):
      i. Students will design and undertake their own compassionate art-based project using ideas and principles from the course. Students will choose the context and artistic media that best suits their vision of a compassionate art practice. Students will execute this project in their community.
      ii. The presentation of their work will include an overview of the preparation, process, project, and outcomes of their project. It will include a conceptual

analysis of their targeted audience, rationale for the choice of artistic media/processes and articulation of the facilitation process. It will also include a critical analysis of the project impact. Presentations will be video-recorded Pecha Kuchas. See Canvas assignment for details.

EVALUATIONS AND GRADES

Assignment	Points	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Content Competency Quizzes (5)	50 each	250	21%
Discussion Board Posts (5)	50 each	250	21%
Creative Practice Blogs (3)	100 each	300	25%
Project Proposal	100	100	8%
Arts & Compassion Project & Presentation	300	300	25%
	TOTAL	**1200**	**100%**

GRADING SCALE

Letter Grade	% Equivalency	GPA Equivalency
A	94-100	4.00
A-	90-93.9	3.67
B+	87-89.9	3.33
B	84-86.9	3.00
B-	80-83.9	2.67
C+	77-79.9	2.33
C	74-76.9	2.00
C-	70-73.9	1.67
D+	67-70.9	1.33
D	64-66.9	1.0
D-	61-63.9	.67
E	60 or below	0.00

Please note that a C- is no longer an acceptable grade for any course in which a 2.0 GPA is required, for example, any course in the major.

More information about UF grading policies can be found on the website: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

COURSE PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

1. **Course Engagement:** Students must log-in and engage online during the first week of class. It is expected that students will interact with the course materials at least three times during each week of the eight-week course. The class is fast-paced. Missing a week makes it nearly impossible to catch up. Students must not assume that they will be dropped from the class if they fail to participate in the first week or if they stop participating mid-course. For more information link here: http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance

2. **Class Participation/Demeanor:** It is expected that students will complete all course learning materials and all course assignments. Enthusiastic participation will lead to course success. Consistent interactions with the instructor and other students within the course are integral to learning. It is expected all interactions are undertaken with a level of professionalism that demonstrates competencies for a University of Florida graduate student.

3. **Assignment Submission**:
    a. Assignment Due Dates and Times: All assignments, unless otherwise noted, are due at 7:59AM EST on the due date. All due dates and communications for this course assume Eastern Standard Time. *If you are in a different time zone and would like to discuss adjusted deadline times, please email the instructor on the first day of class to arrange. Exceptions will be made at the discretion of the instructor.*
    b. Naming Your Documents: When naming your assignment documents, the following format *must always be used*: AssignmentName_YourlastnameFirstinitial. For example, if I was submitting my Research Paper, I would name the assignment: ResearchPaper_SamsA.
    c. Titling Your Documents: It is expected that all Word or PDF documents submitted as assignments will have a title, the students name, page numbers, and the date at minimum.
    d. Formatting Style for Documents: All work submitted, including discussion board posts and major assignments, must use APA formatting, including document formatting, in-text citations, and reference lists. Be sure to properly cite all sources that are paraphrased or quoted. Students should use direct quotations very sparingly, if at all.
        i. See the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition* or review the online APA Style Guide at the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL): http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/.
        ii. **Formatting from other sources, especially automatic formatting software or Google Scholar, may not be reliable and students will be held accountable as reflected in their grade for assignments.**
    e. Late Assignment Submission Policy: Requirements for assignments and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.
        i. Assignments will be accepted no later than seven days after the due date except in extenuating circumstances with prior approval by the instructor. It is particularly important that students post Discussions on-time so that they benefit from the community of their cohort and vice versa.
        ii. **No discussion posts will be accepted after the learning week that they are due. Other assignments will be accepted up to 7 days late with a**

penalty of 10% per day. After 7 days late, if you have not obtained prior approval from your instructor, late assignments will receive a 0.

    iii. If you fall behind in work, it's always a good idea to email your instructor as soon as possible to see how you can work together to get on track.

    iv. As stated below under "Technical assistance", any requests for late assignment submission due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by ticket number and record received from the UF Helpdesk when the problem was reported to them (http://helpdesk.ufl.edu). The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You are required to e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

    v. If your late assignment is due to a personal crisis you should immediately contact the Dean of Students Office (https://dso.ufl.edu/about/contact/) who can offer you support and work with your instructor to potentially excuse late assignments. For more information link here: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/#illnesspolicytext

  f. Grading Feedback from Instructor: Assignments will have a rubric that the instructor will use to evaluate students' grades.

    i. Rubrics for assignments can be found directly under the assignment instructions. For Discussions, students must click on the three dots at the top right of the Discussion instructions and click "Show Rubric".

    ii. **The Instructor will potentially leave grading feedback in four places**: Rubrics, Submission Comments, Quiz question feedback, or Annotated feedback in the text of the document submitted. *Students are responsible for checking all of these places to benefit from instructor feedback*.

4. **Course Communications**: *It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the instructor promptly concerning any circumstances that might affect participation in the course.* Please do not let any questions or concerns go unattended. In these short 8-week semesters, delaying important communications by even a week can be detrimental to successful completion in the course. It is the instructor's intention to respond to all e-mail communication within 48 hours, not including weekends. ***It is important to email the instructor through the Canvas feature as the instructor prioritizes these emails.***

  a. Netiquette/Communication Courtesy: Written communication and electronic interaction are central to online learning. All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and other communication structures. Students are expected to understand the common principles of netiquette. Additionally, please check spelling, grammar and formatting as is consistent with graduate-level correspondence.

  b. Canvas Notifications: It is **strongly recommended** that students set their Canvas notifications to alert them by email to the following course communications from the Instructor: Announcements, Submission Comments, and Conversations (emails). Students can do this by clicking on their Avatar on the left navigation bar > Click Notifications > and make sure that the checkmark icon is toggled green under "Email Address" for Announcements, Submission Comments, and Conversations. *Students will be responsible for timely responses (within 24 hours) to these Instructor communications even if they don't set their notifications.*

5. **General Course Questions**: Before asking general questions of the instructors, be sure to check the syllabus, the course Canvas website, and Graduate Central, as your

instructor will direct you to these sources. If your question is specific to your own work, progress, circumstances, grade, or is personal in nature, please email the instructor privately using the email function in Canvas.

6. **Technical Assistance**: If you have difficulty accessing online course materials, submitting assignments, or using any component of the online environment, please contact the Help Desk at helpdesk@ufl.edu, 352-392-4357–select option 2, and/or http://helpdesk.ufl.edu. If a technical problem effects an assignment deadline, you must provide the instructor with the ticket number and record provided to you by the UF Help Desk documenting your request for assistance. Only when extenuating circumstances are present or if the help desk could not resolve a timely request for assistance will an extension of a deadline be considered. You MUST e-mail the instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request an extension or make-up.

7. **Online course evaluation**: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

UF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. **Academic Honesty**: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

2. **Students requiring accommodations**: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. *Students requiring accomodations should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester as it can sometimes take up to 3 weeks or more to be seen by the DRC*. Accommodations are *not* retro-active and begin once the letter of accommodation has been submitted to the course instructor.

3. **Software Use:** All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of

Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

4. **Course Evaluation**: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.

5. **Course Complaints**: Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course, please visit http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints to submit a complaint.

6. **Student Privacy:** There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: https://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html

UF RESOURCES

1. **Distance Learning Support:** http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help
2. **Health and Wellness Resources**:
   a. U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student. http://www.umatter.ufl.edu
   b. Counseling and Wellness Center: https://counseling.ufl.edu, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.
   c. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
   d. University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). http://www.police.ufl.edu/
3. **Academic Resources**:
   a. E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu; http://helpdesk.ufl.edu.
   b. Career Connection Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. https://career.ufl.edu.
   c. Library Support, http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
   d. Teaching Center, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu
   e. Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio
   f. Online student complaints, https://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process.

CENTER FOR ARTS IN MEDICINE RESOURCES

1. **Graduate Central:** Includes guide for new students, tips on navigating Canvas, Registration and Course Requirements, Practicum and Capstone Guides, and many other helpful Resources. Access through Canvas at https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/357343
2. **UF Center for Arts in Medicine Graduate Advisor:** Reach out for support *before* there is a problem. The graduate advisor is a second resource for course-related issues

beyond your instructor. Also, the graduate advisor is able to help with course sequencing, enrollment, and other logistics related to the graduate program as a whole. Sometimes advising is only the first stop as a resource. UF Center Graduate Advisor: Ellie Sommers, 352-273-1488 or esommer@arts.ufl.edu

3. **UF Arts in Medicine Library Guide and Research Resources:** A first stop for Arts in Medicine research and access to our dedicated librarian, Cindy Craig, who can help you with your research http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/aim

4. **UF Center for Arts in Medicine Arts in Health Database:** https://arts.ufl.edu/academics/center-for-arts-in-medicine/research-database/

5. **UF Center for Arts in Medicine website:** https://arts.ufl.edu/academics/center-for-arts-in-medicine/