

# Liberal Arts Day

## TEACHER'S GUIDE 2013

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## Schedule for 3 May 2013

We request that all students be on the University campus by 9:15 am. Please remember that transportation is the responsibility of participating schools. Drop off for buses can be arranged in front of the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science building on Saskatchewan Drive. (The organizers clearly see the irony of hosting part of a liberal arts function in a modern, state-of-the-art science building.) We request that you familiarize yourself with the location of this building and the location of your activities by consulting [www.campusmap.ualberta.ca](http://www.campusmap.ualberta.ca). In case of emergency, please be aware of the following muster points:

If you are in	CCIS Building:	Parking Lot E
	CAB:	Main Quad
	FAB:	Parking Lot N
	Timms Centre:	112 <sup>th</sup> Street

### Schedule

<b>9:00 – 9:15 : CCIS 1 430</b>	Arrival and Seating Distribute Student and Teacher Packages
<b>9:15 – 9:45 : CCIS 1 430</b>	Opening Remarks Charity Slobod Dr. Lesley Cormack, Dean of the Faculty of Arts.
<b>10:00–10:50:</b> (Various Locations)	Activity I
<b>11:00–11:50:</b> (Various Locations)	Activity II

The organizers of Liberal Arts Day 2013 thank the Faculty of Arts for their generous sponsorship of this year's event

#### Contact Information:

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# ACTIVITIES

Classes will attend two activities on Liberal Arts Day. Teachers are requested to email Charity Slobod at cslobod@ualberta.ca with a first, second, and third choice. We will endeavour to do our best to accommodate your choices.

## **Anthropology – Understanding Islam**

**Location:** CAB 357  
**Presenter:** Professor Joseph Hill

## **Art and Design – The Biological and the Technological**

As a creative researcher working in the area of visual art, I feel that interdisciplinary research in the arts and humanities plays an essential role in society's exploration of the complex issues raised by science and technology, assisting governments, policymakers, and the broader public to appreciate and understand the social and human dimension of technological innovation. My creative research involves the production of artist's books, prints, drawings, and installations that explore the impact of technology on the environment and our bodies. Specifically, I am interested in creating visual images that blur boundaries between the biological and the technological, the organic and the mechanical, and challenge viewers to consider the implications of this merging. For this lecture I will be speaking about my studio practice as a visual artist, and about several recent international exhibition projects that I participated in.

**Location:** FAB 220  
**Presenter:** Professor Sean Caulfield

## **Classics - We're Everywhere! Greek and Roman Influences on *The Hunger Games*"**

Suzanne Collins' *The Hunger Games* owes a clear debt to Greek and Roman cultures. We will discuss the influence of Greek and Roman mythology and history on the world of *The Hunger Games* and on our own culture. No knowledge of the novel or movie will be required; but there may be spoilers

**Location:** CAB 365  
**Presenter:** Dr. Kelly MacFarlane

## **Cultural Studies – Soccer and Violence: Hooliganism in Perspective**

The violent history of soccer 'hooliganism' can trace its roots throughout Europe. However, in the lead up to the Euro 2012 Championships, the co-hosts of the event, Poland and Ukraine, were put on the spotlight and singled out for their xenophobic, racist and anti-Semitic fans. This session will explore the turbulent legacy of hooliganism, discussing who is to blame and what can be done. Participants will watch excerpts from the British docu-film "Stadiums of Hate," as

well as several news reports on Western European hooliganism. With these materials, students will analyze the potential bias of placing blame solely on Eastern Europe, while uncovering the pan-European origins of hooliganism.

**Location:** CAB 369  
**Presenter:** Shona Allison

### **Drama – Backstage Production Techniques: A Backstage Tour of the Timms Centre**

An extended tour of the backstage and onstage production areas of the Timms Centre for the Arts. As we prepare to mount “The Last days of Judas Iscariot” the students will have an opportunity to see how the costumes, props, sets, lighting and audio will come together on our Mainstage in support of Steven Adley Guirgis’s play about the final fate of Judas Iscariot. Played as a courtroom drama featuring Mother Teresa, Sigmund Freud and even Satan as witnesses, the students will learn the relationship between the physical elements and the text of a play.

**Location:** Meet in the lobby of the Timms Centre for the Arts  
**Presenter:** Professor Jon Price

### **History – The Sound of Canada’s Past**

When history is taught as a series of names and dates, it can get a little boring. Learning about the past, however, can be a lot more exciting than just memorization! This activity will explore the relationship between songs written by the Tragically Hip and Canadian history. Students will learn about World War II, the 1972 Summit Series and Canada’s place in the Cold War - all through music you might already know.

**Location:** CAB 269  
**Presenter:** Rylan Kafara, MA

### **Humanities Computing I - Understanding Violence in Video Games**

When violent events shake a community, members of society, and the media in particular, search for a reason to better understand the events. Frequently, violence in videogames is cited as a direct cause of violent behaviour in real life, particularly when such actions are committed by young men. What, however, does good research actually tell us about the influence of videogames on behaviour? In this session, we will work through some of the issues that shape this discussion, and we will try to better understand the influence violence in video games may or may not have on society.

**Location:** CAB 235  
**Presenter:** Professor Sean Gouglas

## **Humanities Computing II – Story Telling in Video Games**

Video games are a multi-billion dollar industry and a quickly developing medium for interactive entertainment. More and more games of all genres involve story-telling in addition to game play. However, unlike a book or a movie, video games are inherently interactive which creates challenges for authorial control of the story and opens up a number of research questions. For instance: Is there a feasible way to author an exponential number of possible story branches to suit players from a diverse population? What is the best way to communicate available story branches to a player? Should all players be presented with the same menu of available story branches? One way to approach these questions is to explicitly model different play styles. Such styles can be inferred on-line from player's choices and subsequently used as a guide to constructing a story most appropriate to a given player. In this talk, I will present several years of such research conducted in our group in collaboration with the department of psychology. In particular, I will discuss two research test beds we have developed and the user studies these test beds have enabled.

**Location:** CAB 239  
**Presenter:** Professor Vadim Bulitko

## **Law I – Music, the Internet and Law**

Have you ever wondered whether the music you are downloading or a performance you are viewing online is a legal activity? For the most part, the answer to these questions can be found in copyright law. Copyright encourages artistic expression including music by giving artists property rights (which they can sell) in their creations. When a copy is made or an activity is broadcast, copyright is usually involved. So when you are downloading that song, you may be violating copyright. But you may be surprised to learn that the legal answers to these questions are not so clear, both because the law is unclear and technologies keep changing, e.g. bittorrent software. I will discuss these and other issues concerning music, the internet and law

**Location:** CAB 243  
**Presenter:** Professor Cameron Hutchison

## **Law II – Tackling Stem Cell Tourism: Educating the Desperate or Whacking the Mole?**

Stem cell tourism refers to medical travel to foreign destinations for the purpose of receiving scientifically unproven and unapproved stem cell treatments. The phenomenon reflects the hype surrounding stem cells, which scientists believe will someday be used to treat diseases with no existing cures. Although very few stem cell-based treatments have been introduced into clinical care, the promise and potential of the field has led to an explosion of clinics around the world marketing stem cells as a panacea for virtually every ailment known to man. Although estimates vary, it is believed that over 10,000 patients have travelled from destinations such as the Canada, the UK, US, and Australia to receive stem cell treatments in clinics based in China, India, and Mexico. Treatment providers have also been identified in Germany and the US. Studies show that clinics rely on the Internet to attract desperate patients willing to pay exorbitant “out-of-

pocket” costs in hopes of cures. Clinics have been shut down in a few countries, but some simply relocate to countries with permissive or lax regulatory oversight.

Stem cell tourism raises a host of scientific, regulatory and health care challenges, including medical risks to patients, questions regarding physicians’ duties to patients seeking or requesting such treatments, and the potential impacts on both our publicly funded health care system and legitimate stem cell research. This presentation will review these challenges and discuss measures that might be taken to deal with them.

**Location:** CAB 281  
**Presenter:** Professor Ubaka Ogbogu

### **Modern Languages – Romantically Speaking: Learning French and Spanish**

Languages like people belong to a family. In the case of French and Spanish, they belong to the family of Romance Languages, which also includes Portuguese, Italian, and Romanian. In this session, students will have the opportunity to learn basic greetings, conversational phrases, and a hand-full of vocabulary words in both French and Spanish. With the introduction of these phrases, students will be shown how to politely greet, make small talk, and say thank-you in two global languages!

**Location:** CAB 265  
**Presenter:** Geraldine Barandiaran-Munoz

### **Philosophy – Asking Big Questions**

Have you ever wondered why or how something works? Do you like to argue or debate? Do you like to actively touch and use the things you are learning about? Then this session is for you. Filled with activities and student discussion, come play while you work on some intense questions that have puzzled the world for decades. How do teams work? Why do they fail? Is lying okay? When? Technology is taking over, that’s a good thing---right?

**Presenter:** Marnie Ferguson  
**Location:** CAB 273