

The “University Lecture” and Gems

This document clarifies the distribution of points in the class *besides* the tests. To remind you, the three best test scores will be used, allowing a maximum of 360 points. There will be one five-page paper worth 120 points and an oral presentation worth 30 points. Participation in discussion sections is worth another 30 points. Attendance at any of the lectures that we identify as relevant, along with a suitable paragraph, will satisfy the original 30-point requirement of attendance at a University Lecture, which will not be available this semester. A final 30 points is available by using one of the University “gems.” If necessary, two gems can be used, with one substituting for the University Lecture. To get credit for either a lecture or a gem, you must submit a report on the experience, including the relevance to the course.

Information on the paper will be handed out separately. Lectures of possible relevance will be noted in class or by email. You should bring other lectures to our attention. Here is a list of University gems that you could consider.

1. Attend a Star Party held on Wednesdays by the Astronomy Department. Obtain a form showing that you were there from the person running the event; turn this in with your report.
2. Attend a Public Viewing night at the Painter Hall Observatory Friday or Saturday nights. Obtain a form showing that you were there from the person running the event; turn this in with your report.
3. Visit the Texas Memorial Museum and look at the exhibits of fossils, including the dinosaur tracks outside the museum.
4. Visit the Blanton Art Museum. Enjoy the art in general, but find a piece of art that has a connection to any aspect of the course.
5. Visit the LBJ Library and find something connected to the course.
6. Visit the Humanities Resource Center and find something connected to the course.
7. Other ideas that you come up with. Let us know what they are.