

The Humanities and Our Quest for Meaning
October 20, 2011

1. Defining the Humanities.

Interpretation.

Intertextuality—the ongoing conversation.

Imagination.

Why *what* we read matters.

2. Questioning the *Quest* for Meaning.

Search for external meaning—the Quest metaphor.

Creation of meaning.

Why metaphors matter.

3. Lawrence Thornton's *Imagining Argentina*.

Historical Context: Argentina's Dirty War, 1976-1983

The Disappeared

Madres de la Plaza de Mayo

Competing interpretations of Argentina.

The power of imagination.