

FIQWS 10045: SELF: DISCOVERY AND TRANSFORMATION

Fall 2013

M & W 2:00-3:15pm, 3:30-4:45pm

NAC 4/210

Professor Jennifer Morton

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Office Hours: M 3.30-4.30pm, W 11:00am-12:00pm

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Office Hours: MW 1-2pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Novels, memoirs, and aisles of self-help books attest to our desire to find and transform ourselves. Yet understanding what the self is itself proves to be a difficult philosophical problem. In this course we will consider questions such as: What is the self? Can we transform ourselves? How? Readings for this course will be drawn from philosophical, literary, and popular literature.

READING: The required texts are: St. Augustine, Confessions (ISBN: 014044114X); Malcolm X, The Autobiography of Malcolm X (ISBN: 0345376714); Perry, John, A Dialogue on Personal Identity(ISBN: 0915144530); Gilbert, Elizabeth, Eat, Pray, Love (ISBN: 0143038419). Other readings will be available through Blackboard.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: You will be required to turn in 11 one-to-two page polished reading response based on the assigned reading and a prompt I will post on Blackboard. Be ready to share your reading response with the rest of class. You will also be required to give **two** group presentations, write a 3-4 page paper and a final 7-10 page research paper. You will be required to bring a draft of both papers to class for peer review on the assigned date (see schedule). You should expect a few unannounced quizzes during the term and in class writing activities. Participation and attendance will count for a significant portion of your grade.

11 Reading Responses	25%
Paper #1 Draft & Peer Review	5%
Paper #1 (3-4 pages)	15%
Research Paper Draft & Peer Review	5%
Research Paper (7-10 pages)	30%
In-Class Quizzes/Assignments/Group Work	10%
Participation	5%
Attendance	5%

A	95-99%
A-	90-94%
B+	85-89%
B	80-84%
B-	75-79%
C+	70-74%
C	65-69%
C-	60-64%
D	51-59%
F	0-50

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY: Late papers will only be accepted in cases of emergency AND arrangements must be made with me at least **48 hours in advance**. You will have the chance to make-up ONE reading response at the end of the term. You cannot make up missed quizzes.

SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS: A printed copy **AND** an electronic copy (via Safe Assign) should be submitted.

ATTENDANCE: Regular attendance is required. You will be granted up to **3 excused absences** (medical, family emergencies, etc) throughout the term, any absences above that number will affect your grade significantly. If you arrive **late to class**, you **must** contribute to the class discussion in the form of a **thoughtful** question or comment in order to count as having attended the class.

PLAGIARISM: Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will be subject to penalties in conformity with the College's policy on Academic Integrity. All cases of plagiarism will be reported, a failing grade will be issued for the assignment, and your participation grade will be significantly lowered.

LEARNING COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of this course you should: (1) Be able to read philosophy; that is, to identify the thesis of a piece of philosophical writing and the arguments or evidence adduced in support of that thesis. (2) Be able to write philosophy; that is, to present a claim in clear terms and to defend it in a logically coherent manner. (3) Be able to critically apply philosophical ideas.

As part of the College's General Education Curriculum, this course is designed to satisfy the requirements for a *Logical-Philosophical Perspective* course. Students successfully completing this course will develop the following proficiencies: will have had multiple experiences in communicating ideas in writing and speaking by completing assignments totaling at least 3500 words of writing, will have had experiences that emphasize analytic and/or philosophical reasoning to critically examine fundamental questions of ethics, justice and epistemology, and will have had multiple experiences in finding information and evaluating the reliability of this information.

Date		Reading	Composition	Assignment
W	08/28	Introduction	Introduction/Diagnostic	1) Select reading strategy 2) Rhetorical situation (1-3 sentences)
DISCOVERING THE SELF				
M	09/09	Schulz, Kathryn, "The Self in Self-Help" (BB*)	Reading Strategies Bullock, Richard <i>Norton Field Guide</i> 398-413	
W	09/11	Descartes, Rene. Selections from <u>Meditations on First Philosophy</u> (BB)	Theses/Topic Sentences Bullock, Richard <i>Norton Field Guide</i> 312-317 *Bring all readings to date	Reading Response #1
M	09/16	Perry, John, <u>A Dialogue on Personal Identity & Immortality</u>	Claims Bullock, Richard <i>Norton Field Guide</i> 323-337 *Bring all readings to date	
W	09/18	Perry, John, <u>A Dialogue on Personal Identity & Immortality</u> (Continued) Philip Dick, "I Hope I Shall Arrive Soon" (BB)	Getting Started Bullock, Richard <i>Norton Field Guide</i> 259-265, 299-311 *Bring all readings to date	Reading Response #2/ Paper Topics Distributed
THE SELF IN ACTION				
M	09/23	Frankfurt, Harry, "Freedom of the Will and the Concept of a Person" (BB)	Developing Paragraphs Bullock, Richard <i>Little Seagull Handbook</i> 14-26, 34-37	
W	09/25	Velleman, David, "Identification and Identity" (BB)	Practice Workshop Student Selection	Reading Response #3
M	09/30	Taylor, Charles, "Responsibility for Self" (BB)	Workshop	Paper #1 Draft Due
SKEPTICISM OF SELF				
W	10/03	Hume, David, Selections from <u>An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding</u> (BB)	In-class revision work *Bring paper to revise	Reading Response #4
M	10/07	Walpola, Rahula, Chapter 6 from <u>What the Buddha Taught</u> (BB)	Does grammar matter? & Presentation Work	Paper #1 Due
THE NARRATIVE SELF				
W	10/09	Dennett, Daniel "Self as the Narrative Center of Gravity" (BB)	Sentence Presentations 1-5 Sentence Quiz	Reading Response #5
T	10/15	Nietzsche, Selections (BB)[Monday Schedule]	Sentence Presentations 6-9 Sentence Quiz	
W	10/16		Midterm Assessment	
M	10/21	Nehamas, Introduction to "The Art of Living"	Fallacies Bullock, Richard <i>Norton Field Guide</i> 75, 144, 337-340 "The Social Network"	
W	10/23	Library Day	Punctuation 1-5 Punctuation Quiz	Reading Response #6
THE EMBEDDED SELF				
M	10/28	Markus, Hazel R., and Shinobu Kitayama. "Culture and the self:	Punctuation 6-11 Punctuation Quiz	

		Implications for cognition, emotion, and motivation." (BB)		
W	10/30	DuBois, W.E, " "Of Our Spiritual Strivings" (BB) Baldwin, James, "Notes of a Native Son" (BB)	In-class prewriting Bullock, Richard <i>Norton Field Guide</i> 423-427	Reading Response #7/Paper Topics Distributed
M	11/04	Simone de Beauvoir, Introduction to <u>The Second Sex</u> (BB)	Evaluating Sources Bullock, Richard <i>Norton Field Guide</i> 453-456	
TRANSFORMING THE SELF				
W	11/06	St. Augustine, Confessions (Books I-IV)	Library Day /Read Bullock, Richard <i>Norton Field Guide</i> 432-447	Reading Response #8
M	11/11	St. Augustine, Confessions (Books V-VIII)	Diction Bullock, Richard <i>Little Seagull Handbook</i> 262-271	
W	11/13	St. Augustine, Confessions (Books IX-X)	Rubrics	Reading Response #9
M	11/18	<u>The Autobiography of Malcolm X</u>	Practice Workshop Student Selection	
W	11/20	<u>The Autobiography of Malcolm X</u>	Workshop	Reading Response #10
M	11/25	<u>The Autobiography of Malcolm X</u>	Honing for Style Bullock, Richard <i>Little Seagull Handbook</i> 272-281	Paper #2 Draft Due
W	11/27	NO CLASS [Friday Schedule]		
M	12/02	Gilbert, Elizabeth, <u>Eat, Pray, Love</u>	Revision Exercises	
W	12/04	Gilbert, Elizabeth, <u>Eat, Pray, Love</u>	In-class revision work	Reading Response #11
M	12/09	Gilbert, Elizabeth, <u>Eat, Pray, Love</u>	Oral arguments	Paper #2 Due
W	12/11	C.K. Williams "The Clause" (BB)	Final Class	Reading Response Make-Up

*BB = reading on Blackboard