

College Seminar 23101
Spring 2008

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Office Hours:
T, T 3:15-4:00
and by appt.

Love

College Seminar

The College Seminar is a unique one-semester course experience shared by all sophomores majoring in the College of Arts and Letters. The course offers students an introduction to the diversity and distinctive focus of Arts and Letters at the University of Notre Dame. Specific sections of the College Seminar vary in their topics and texts, but all feature an interdisciplinary approach, commitment to engaging important questions, employment of major works, and emphasis on the development of oral skills.

Attendance and Participation

Given the oral-intensive nature of the course, and given that the majority of the grade you will receive will reflect your ability to communicate your thoughts clearly and effectively, it is **imperative** that you attend every class meeting. While an excellent attendance record will be rewarded, any unexcused absences (without documentation from your coach, your band director, your doctor, etc.) will affect your grade negatively. This attendance policy includes days before and after holidays and vacations. You should inform me in advance of unavoidable absences. Although missing class is never recommended, departmental policy allows 3 absences without penalty (Keep them for emergencies only!) For every unexcused absence after the third your final grade will be lowered one step (e.g. A to A-, B+ to B, B- to C+).

Homework and Assignments

In order for the class discussions to be fruitful and well-grounded, we will be reading a substantial amount throughout the course of the semester. It is therefore **extremely important** that you come to class prepared: i.e. that you have read the **entire** assignment for class that day, if possible made notes or the like, and thought about the text before class. And given the pace of the semester, it is likewise **crucial** that you keep up with the reading; falling behind will only add to the reading burden and make it difficult, if not possible, to catch up.

In addition, there will be an **Oral Presentation** once a week by each participant of the class on the topic of that week or day. The precise nature of the topic of the presentation is to be determined in advance in consultation with me. The presentation can be given extemporaneously or

from a written text (former preferred), but should be no longer than 15-20 minutes in length. The presentation will be followed by a short discussion of it by the class.

There will also be a short paper and a written final exam.

Honor Code

Throughout all course activities, including written assignments, quizzes, and exams, the Honor Code is in effect: all of this work has to be your own and not anyone else's. To familiarize yourself with the Honor Code, please read the pertinent chapter in *Du Lac* (beginning on p. a-33): particularly section IV, entitled "Student Responsibilities under the Academic Code of Honor," points A through D; or visit http://www.nd.edu/~hncode/IV-Student_Resp.htm. If secondary sources are used for any assignments, these sources should be listed in a bibliography at the assignment's end, and any quoted material should be placed in quotation marks and clearly attributed in a footnote. Plagiarism (i.e., any written work presented as entirely your own and original to the particular assignment that is *not*, in fact, entirely your own and/or original to the particular assignment) is a serious matter. If you have questions about this policy and how it applies to your work for our course, and if you are in doubt about the legitimacy of your activities with respect to this course, please don't hesitate to ask me—before any problems can arise.

Required Texts

Plato, *Phaedrus*
The Letters of Abelard and Heloise
Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*
Stendhal, *Love*
Gustave Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
Thomas Mann, *Death in Venice*
Miguel de Unamuno, *Treatise on Love of God*
Niklas Luhmann, *Love as Passion. The Codification of Intimacy*
Julia Kristeva, *Tales of Love*.

There will also be showings of the opera by Richard Wagner, *Tristan und Isolde*, and of the musical / film, *West-side Story*.

Requirements and Evaluation:

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|---------------------------------|------|
| Attendance, Class Participation | 45 % |
| Oral Presentation | 25 % |
| One Short Essay | 10 % |
| Final Exam | 20 % |

Contacting and Meeting with Professor Norton:

During office hours, I will be in my office in Decio 301, ready to discuss course issues or anything else. If you can't make my office hours, contact me after class or by e-mail; we can then either solve the issue right there or set up a time to meet. E-mail (Norton.15@nd.edu) is a good way to get in touch with me to ask specific questions.

Week One

Tuesday

Jan. 15

Introduction

Assignment:

Plato, *Phaedrus*

Thursday

Jan. 17

Platonic Love

Assignment:

Plato, *Phaedrus*

Kristeva, "Manic Eros, Sublime Eros," in *Tales of Love*, 59-82.

Week Two

Tuesday

Jan. 22

Plato and Kristeva

Assignment:

Abelard, Letter 1 "Historia

Calamitatum," in *Letters of Abelard and Heloise*, pp. 1-43.

Thursday

Jan. 24

Love in the Middle Ages

Assignment:

Letters 2-5, pp. 47-89.

Week Three

Tuesday

Jan. 29

Abelard and Heloise

Assignment:

Kristeva, "God is Love," pp. 139-150;

"Ego affectus est," pp. 151-169.

Thursday

Jan. 31

Abelard and Heloise

Assignment:

Letters. 6-7, pp. 93-129.

Week Four

Tuesday

Feb. 5

Abelard and Heloise

Assignment:

Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*, Act. 1

Thursday

Feb. 7

Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*

Assignment:

Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*, Act. 2

Week Five

Tuesday

Feb. 12

Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*

Assignment:

Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*, Act. 3

Thursday

Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*

Feb. 14 Assignment: Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*,
Act. 4

Week Six

Both classes cancelled this week; make-up TBA

Week Seven

Tuesday Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*
Feb. 26 Assignment: Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*,
Act. 5

Thursday Shakespeare, *Anthony and Cleopatra*
Feb. 28 Assignment: Stendhal, *Love*, 25-62.

Mid-Term Break

Week Eight

Tuesday Stendhal and Modern Love
Mar. 11 Assignment: Stendhal, *Love*, 62-111.

Thursday Stendhal and Romanticism
Mar. 13 Assignment: Stendhal, *Love*, 111-131; 181-203.

Week Nine

Tuesday Stendhal and Europe
Mar. 18 Assignment: Kristeva, "Stendhal and the Politics of
the Gaze," pp. 341-364.

Thursday Stendhal the Feminist?
Mar. 20 Assignment: N. Luhmann, Chapter 2+4-5, *Love as
Passion*, pp. 18-33; 41-57.

Week Ten

Tuesday Theorizing Love
Mar. 25 Assignment: Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*, Part One, pp.
1-63.

Thursday Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
Mar. 27 Assignment: Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*, Part Two, pp.
65-114.

Week Eleven

Tuesday Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
Apr. 1 Assignment: Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*, Part Two, pp.
114-161.

Thursday Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
Apr. 3 Assignment: Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*, Part Two, pp. 161-213.

Week Twelve

Tuesday Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
Apr. 8 Assignment: Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*, Part Three, pp. 215-259.

Thursday Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
Apr. 10 Assignment: Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*, Part Three, pp. 259-327.

Week Thirteen

Tuesday Madame Bovary: C'est moi!
Apr. 15 Assignment: Miguel de Unamuno, *Treatise on Love of God*, Chs. 1-4, pp. 1-39.

Thursday Unamuno and Love
Apr. 17 Assignment: Miguel de Unamuno, *Treatise on Love of God*, Chs. 5-9 plus Appendix, pp. 40-81.

Week Fourteen

Tuesday Tragic Sense of Life
Apr. 22 Assignment: Thomas Mann, *Death in Venice*. pp. 1-74.

Thursday Thomas Mann
Apr. 24 Assignment: Thomas Mann, *Death in Venice*. pp. 75-142.

Week Fifteen

Tuesday Plato Redivivus
Apr. 29 Assignment: Luhmann, Chs. 15+16, pp. 155-178
(For make-up session)