HUM 2305: What is the Good Life?
SUMMER B 2013

Lecture: MWF Period 2

Room: TUR L007

INSTRUCTOR

Jenny Baxley Lee, Lecturer, Center for Arts in Medicine
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Office Hours: MW 3-4 pm and by appointment

TEACHING ASSISTANTS
Tamar Ditzian, tamar@ufl.edu
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DISCUSSION SECTIONS

Section	Time	Location	Teaching Assistant
4E26	TR2	TUR2333	Tamar Ditzian
4B78	TR3	TUR2333	Tamar Ditzian
4B99	TR2	TUR2353	James Crandall
4B79	TR3	TUR2353	James Crandall
4C24	TR2	TUR2328	Joel Parker
4C20	TR3	TUR2305	Joel Parker
4A08	TR2	TUR2349	Alana Lord
4C26	TR3	TUR2342	Alana Lord
4E37	TR2	TUR2350	Cara Cummings
4E44	TR3	TUR2346	Cara Cummings

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the enduring question "What is the Good Life?" from a broad range of humanistic perspectives. Topics include the cost of the good life, how people have chosen to live as members of local and global communities, and conceptions and expressions of beauty, power, love, and health.

COURSE WEB SITE

- General Good Life course site at http://undergrad.aa.ufl.edu/hum-course.aspx
- Course materials are available on Sakai at https://lss.at.ufl.edu/

OVERVIEW

Through a close examination of relevant works of art, architecture, history, literature, music, religion, and philosophy, students will consider the basic question, "What is the Good Life?" The question is especially relevant for a detailed examination as you become more involved in making the decisions that will shape your future and the future of others. In order to make reasonable, ethical, well-informed life choices, you need to examine how you should live both as an individual and a member of local and global communities. The course will serve as an invitation to the Humanities and to a lifetime of reflection on the human condition through the unique opportunities available to the students at the University of Florida.

Drawing on the cluster of disciplines that make up the Humanities and the considerable resources at UF in support of the Humanities, this course inquires into the very nature and experience of being human. Applying interdisciplinary and cross-cultural approaches to explore the question "What is the good life?," it examines a multiform treasury of responses that comprises the cultural and intellectual legacy of world humanity.

Elements common to all sections include a set of core readings, a common humanities lecture, a museum exhibit, and performances at the Phillip Center. The lectures, discussion sections, and other readings are specific to each section of this course.

COMMON ACTIVITIES

This course expects students to become actively engaged in experiences unique to UF. As such, course requirements include attending a performance at the Phillips Center, visiting the Harn Museum, and listening to the Common Good Life Lecture. More information on these activities can be found at the course Sakai site.

THE UNIVERSITY HUMANITIES & GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

As of Summer B 2012, undergraduates are required to take HUM 2305, What is the Good Life, to fulfill 3 credits of the Humanities General Education Requirement. Additional information is available at

- http://undergrad.aa.ufl.edu/Data/Sites/9/media/good_life/humanities_course_requirement.pdf
- https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/general-education-requirement.aspx

TEXTS

Required readings and materials for the course consist of two types: "Gateways" and "Pillars." Gateways are common to all sections of HUM 2305 regardless of the instructor. Pillars have been chosen by the individual instructors. The following required readings are available in local bookstores and online retailers either as eBooks or paperbacks:

- Hermann Hesse, *Siddartha*, translated by Joachim Neugroschel (New York: Penguin Books, 2002). ISBN: 978-0142437186.
- *Sophocles' Antigone*, translated by Ruby Blondell (Newburyport, MA: Focus Publishing, 1998). ISBN: 978-0941051255.

All other required readings and materials are in the Resources folder of the Course's Sakai Website.

CLASSROOM RESPONSE SYSTEM (CRS)

A CRS will be piloted in the Summer to ask students questions in lecture. Students will be required either to use a response device (i.e., "the clicker") or to subscribe to a web-based service (see announcements in Sakai for more information).

ASSIGNMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

1. One 500-word essay (Short Essay), **due 8:00 AM on Friday, July 12, via Sakai**. Students compare and contrast how the Good Life is depicted in two of the required readings (one gateway and one pillar). Detailed instructions will be supplied prior to the due date. (100 points, 10% of course grade)
2. One seventy-five minute Midterm Exam in lecture on **Friday, July 19.** (150 points, 15% of the course grade)
3. One 1000-word essay (Analytical Essay), **due 8:00 AM on Friday, August 2, via Sakai**, on the question: What is the Cost of the Good Life? Detailed instructions will be supplied prior to the due date. (200 points, 20% of course grade)
4. One seventy-five minute (non-cumulative) Final Exam in lecture on **Friday, August 9**. (200 points, 20% of course grade)
5. Six (fill-in-the-blank) Quizzes. Each quiz is worth 20 points (5 questions, 4 points per question). Lowest quiz is dropped. (100 points, 10% of course grade)
6. Participation. (120 points, 12% of course grade)
   a. Participation in weekly discussions. (50 points)
   b. Oral Presentation on one of the gateway or pillar readings as assigned by your teaching assistant. (50 points)
   c. Construction assignment due at the beginning of section on July 23. (20 points)

7. Attendance. (130 points, 13% of course grade)
    a. Lecture Responses. (60 points, based on the student's average on the CRS) *Students will receive the full 60 points if they earn at least 75% on the CRS. Students may not make up missed responses regardless of the reason (e.g., absence, illness, technical error, failure to register with the CRS, etc.). See announcements in Sakai for more information.*
    b. Discussion Attendance. (50 points, 5 points per discussion section meeting, one unexcused absence)
    c. Common Activities. (10 points for the Harn Tour and 10 points for Southland)

GRADING SCALE AND ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY

Grade Proportion	Grade Scale	Grade Value
Attendance: 130 points (13%)	930-1,000 = A	A = 4.0
Participation: 120 points (12%)	900-929 = A-	A- = 3.67
Quizzes: 100 points (10%)	870-899 = B+	B+ = 3.33
Short Essay: 100 points (10%)	830-869 = B	B = 3.00
Analytical Essay: 200 points (20%)	790-829 = B-	B- = 2.67
Mid-Term Exam: 150 points (15%)	750-789 = C+	C+ = 2.33
Final Exam: 200 points (20%)	720-749 = C	C = 2.00
Total: 1,000 points (100%)	690-719 = C-	C- = 1.67
	660-689 = D+	D+ = 1.33
	620-659 = D	D = 1.00
	600-619 = D-	D- = 0.67
	0-599 = E	E = 0.00

**Please note: An earned grade of "C-" will not be a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen. Ed., or basic distribution credit.*

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students must conform to UF's academic honesty policy regarding plagiarism and other forms of cheating. The university specifically prohibits cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation, bribery, conspiracy, and fabrication. For more information about the definition of these terms and other aspects of the Honesty Guidelines, see http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/

All students found to have cheated, plagiarized, or otherwise violated the Honor Code in *any assignment* for this course will be prosecuted to the full extent of the university honor policy, including judicial action and the sanctions listed in 6C1-4.047 of the Student Conduct Code. For serious violations, you will fail this course.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Please do not hesitate to ask for accommodation for a documented disability. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Please ask the instructor if you would like any assistance in this process.

OTHER POLICIES, RULES, AND RESOURCES

1. *Handing in Assignments*: Assignments due in class should be handed directly to your TA. **All other assignments must be submitted online through Sakai.**

2. *Late or Make-Up Assignments*: You may receive an extension on an assignment *only* in extraordinary circumstances and *only* if the request for the extension is (a) prompt, (b) timely, and (c) accompanied by all necessary written documentation.
   - In the case of an absence due to participation in an official university activity, observance of a religious holiday, performance of a military duty, or any other conflict (e.g., jury duty) that the student knows about in advance of the scheduled assignment, the student is required to notify the instructor of the conflict *before the assignment is due*, and if possible at the start of the semester.
   - If an extension is not granted, the assignment will be marked down 1/3 grade (e.g., from B+ to B) for each day late.
   - For further information on University of Florida's attendance policy, consult https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

3. *Completion of All Assignments*: You must complete all written and oral assignments and fulfill the requirement for class participation in order to pass the course.

4. *Common Courtesy*: Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off during class. Students who receive or make calls or text messages during class will be asked to leave and marked absent for the day. The instructors may ask students engaging in disruptive behavior, including but not limited to whispering or snoring, to leave the class. If that occurs, the student will be marked absent for the day.

5. *Counseling Resources*: On-campus resources for students include the following:
   a. University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, personal and career counseling;
   b. Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, personal counseling;
   c. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual counseling; and
   d. Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601.

SCHEDULE

THINKING ABOUT THE GOOD LIFE (July 1-3)

Gateway Reading:

1. Vivien Sung, *Five fold Happiness: Chinese concepts of luck, prosperity, longevity, happiness, and wealth* (San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 2002), 11-12; 18-19; 34, 49, 70-71; 94-95 and 97; 152, 156-157; 204-205; 207; 210-211, 214.

2. Dominik Wujastyk, ed., and trans. *The Roots of Ayurveda* (New York: Penguin, 2003), 61-70.

3. Herodotus, *The History*, translated by David Greene (Chicago: University of Chicago, 1987), I.29-33, 85-87 (on Solon and Croesus).

Pillar Reading:

1. Bronson, P. & Merryman, A. "The Creativity Crisis in America". Newsweek. July 10, 2010.

Common Lecture

President Bernie Machen, "All That & More: The True Purposes of College," delivered on Thursday, January 24, 2013 in the Grand Ballroom of the Reitz Union, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL (see Resources folder in Sakai).

SEEKING THE GOOD LIFE (July 5, 8-9)

Gateway Reading:

1. Hermann Hesse, *Siddhartha*, translated by Joachim Neugroschel (New York: Penguin Books, 2002).

Pillar Reading:

2. Excerpt, Viktor Frankl, *Man's Search for Meaning*, 1959.

CELEBRATING THE GOOD LIFE (July 10-11)

Gateway Readings:

1. Brenda Smith and Ronald Burrichter, Multimedia Lecture on "Leonard Bernstein, Music and the Celebration of Life."

2. Leonard Bernstein's Video on "Ode to Joy."

3. Abraham Joshua Heschel, "A Palace in Time," Chapter One from his *The Sabbath* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005), 12-25.

Pillar Readings:

1. Walt Whitman, "Song of Myself" from Leaves of Grass, 1855

EMBODYING THE GOOD LIFE (July 12)

Gateway Readings:

1. Interview and excerpt from Rebecca Skloot, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* (New York: Crown, 2010). Available online at the National Public Radio website at the following address (37 minutes)

2. Emily Prager, "Our Barbies, Ourselves," originally titled "Major Barbie" by Emily Prager. Originally appeared in the December 1991 issue of *Interview.*

Pillar Readings:

1. Lenore Hervey, Embodied Ethical Decision Making, Journal of American Dance Therapy, 2007, p 91-107.

2. F. Scott Fitzgerald, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button.

Short Essay due 8:00 AM on Friday, July 12 via Sakai.

OWNING THE GOOD LIFE (July 15-16)

Gateway Materials:

1. The Painted Desert
   a. Article by Geraldine Brooks
   b. Australian Exhibit

Pillar Readings:

1. Fritjof Capra and Hazel Henderson, "Qualitative Growth, 2009.

Good Life Performance

Southland on Monday, July 15 and Tuesday, July 16 at 7:15 pm in the Phillips Center (see Common Activities handout in Sakai for more information)

SUSTAINING THE GOOD LIFE (July 17-18)

Gateway Readings:

1. Aldo Leopold, "The Land Ethic," from *A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1948), 201-226.

2. Brochure from the Aldo Leopold Foundation.

Pillar Readings:

1. Aesops' Fables, The Oak and the Reeds.

Mid-Term Exam on Friday, July 19 in Lecture

CONSTRUCTING THE GOOD LIFE (July 22-23)

Gateway Materials:

1. Margaret Carr, Multimedia Lecture.

2. Related Assignment (available in the Resources folder of Sakai). Due by the beginning of section on July 23.

Pillar Readings:

1. William McDonough, "Design, Ecology, Ethics and the Making of Things." 1993.

2. *Randy Hester, "Subconscious Landscapes of the Heart."*

3. Allison Arieff, "Opinionator: A Breath of Fresh Air for Health Care," from the New York Times, 13 December 2009.

GOVERNING THE GOOD LIFE (July 24-25)

Gateway Readings:

1. Sherman A. Jackson, "What is Shariah and Why Does It Matter?"

2. Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen.

Pillar Readings:

1. Augusto Boal. "Globalization, Culture and Art. Theatre of the Oppressed". p. 95-102

2. Sojourner Truth, "Ain't I A Woman", 1851.

FIGHTING FOR THE GOOD LIFE (July 26, 29-30)

Gateway Readings:

1. Martin Luther King, "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (1963).

2. *Sophocles' Antigone*, translated by Ruby Blondell (Newburyport, MA: Focus Publishing, 1998).

3. "Wo-Haw Between Two Worlds," a drawing by Kiowa artist/warrior Wo-Haw, c. 1875.

4. Bessie Head, "The Prisoner Who Wore Glasses" in *Under African Skies*, edited by Charles R. Larson (New York: Farrar, Strauss, and Giroux, 1997), 169-176.

Pillar Readings:

1. Joel Salatin, "Everything I Want to do Is Illegal," Acres v.33, n.9, Sept 2003

Required Enhancement Material:

1. **FILM**: "The Interrupters" by Steve James and Alex Kotlowitz. 2011.

SHARING THE GOOD LIFE (July 31, August 1)

Gateway Readings:

1. Song of Songs.

2. Plato, *Symposium* 210a-212b (Diotima's Ladder of Love).

3. Guido Guinizelli's Manifesto of Love.

Pillar Readings:

1. Patty de Llosa, "The Neurobiology of We". Parabola, 2011.

QUESTIONING THE GOOD LIFE (August 2, 5-6)

Gateway Readings:

1. Henry Thoreau, "Where I Lived, and What I Lived For" and "Conclusion," from *Walden*.

Pillar Readings:

1. Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Nature"

Analytical Essay due 8:00 AM on Friday, August 2 via Sakai.

PERPETUATING THE GOOD LIFE (August 7-8)

Gateway Readings:

1. Chapter Two of Barbara Stoler Miller, trans. *The Bhagavad-Gita: Krishna's Counsel in Time of War* (New York: Bantam Classics, 1986), 31-41.

Pillar Readings:

1. Zora Neale Hurston, "Drenched in Light." 1924.

Final Exam (non-cumulative) on Friday, August 9 in Lecture