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LS 152L.80: Introduction to the Humanities

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LS 152 (Honors): Spring 2006

Readings

1. Dante, Inferno
2. More, Utopia
3. Shakespeare, Hamlet
4. Descartes, Discourse on Method
5. Rousseau, Discourse on Inequality
6. Tolstoy, Death of Ivan Ilych

In addition, readings from the LS 152 fac-pac will be assigned periodically.

Attendance

Attendance at the Thursday plenary lecture (either morning or evening) is mandatory, as this hour accounts for the fourth credit of this four-credit course.

Three cuts classes are permitted; for each subsequent absence a grade will be deducted from a paper. Use your three absences wisely.

Assignments

Once a week each student is to hand in three questions on the reading at hand. (Monday, A-H; Wednesday, I-P; Friday, Q-Z). No late questions accepted. Questions that are meaningful, well-worded, grammatical, and properly spelled will receive credit. Ten or more CR's will equal an A; 8-10 = B; 6-8 = C; 4-6 = D; 0-3 = F. This cumulative grade will count equally with the grades of two papers and the final exam.

Paper 1: Discuss the issue of loyalty and disloyalty in Hamlet, tying in (if you like) other readings from Dante forward. Due March 17.

Paper 2: What constitutes living well? Discuss this issue with regard to Tolstoy's Death of Ivan Ilych, tying in (if you like) other readings from the 18th century forward. (Note: Tolstoy was a disciple of Rousseau.) Due May 3.

Papers are to be a *minimum* of 1500 words. In all cases be sure to have a thesis, state it clearly, quote accurately and with care, and follow accepted principles of composition. Hacker's Pocket Style Manual is reliable.

Plagiarism

Strictly forbidden, as the UM Catalog states.

Final Exam

Essays. Comprehensive.

Stewart Justman
LA 156
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