

Instructor: Robert Ray
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Textbooks:

Edmundson: *Why Teach?: In Defense of a Real Education*
Emerson: *The Annotated Emerson*
Thoreau: *Walden and Civil Disobedience* (3rd Norton Critical Edition)
Cavell: *Pursuits of Happiness: The Hollywood Comedy of Remarriage*
Duckworth: *The Having of Wonderful Ideas*
Carr: *A Month in the Country*

Photocopies (marked with an *) are available in a packet from Xerographic Copy Center,
927 NW 13th Street.

Assignments and Grading:

The final course grade will result from the following:

1. 6-7 two-page papers (40%)
2. a final 6-page paper, due during exam week (20%)
3. Brief, short-answer, daily quizzes on reading assignments
(lowest 20% dropped) (20%)
4. Class participation (with quality counting more than
quantity) (20%)
5. You are allowed one unexcused absence. Each additional
unexcused absence will deduct 9 points from your
final course grade.
6. You must average at least 90 on the short papers or make at
least 90 on the final paper to get an A or A- in the
course.

PART I: EMERSON AND THOREAU

Jan. 7 (Tues): **Majoring in English**

Edmundson: *Why Teach?*: pp. vii-xiv (“Introduction”), *B-TI* (“Liberal Arts & Lite Entertainment”), 45-47 (from “Dwelling in Possibilities”), 112-118 (“The English Major”), 186-210 (“Teaching the Truths”) (68 pages)

Jan. 14 (Tues.): **Emerson I — Man Thinking**

*Bosco: “Ralph Waldo Emerson — A Brief Biography” (50 pages)

Emerson: *The Annotated Emerson*, pp. 27-29, 31 (from *Nature*), 72-92 (“The American Scholar”), 100-119 (“The Divinity School Address”), 136-137 (from “Literary Ethics”) (46 pages)

Jan. 21 (Tues.) **Emerson II - Self-Reliance and the Simplest Words**

Emerson: *The Annotated Emerson*, pp. 160-185 (“Self-Reliance), 186-198 (“Circles”), 223-247 (“Experience”), 287 (from “New England Reformers”) (65 pages)

Jan. 28 (Tues.): **Thoreau I - *Walden's* Economy**

*Cain: “Henry David Thoreau: A Brief Biography” (43 pages)

Thoreau: *Walden*, pp. 5-70, 329 (67 pages)

Feb. 4 (Tues.): **Thoreau II - Into the Woods**

Thoreau: *Walden*, pp. 71-189, 338, 357-359, 364 (124 pages)

Feb. 11 (Tues.): **Thoreau III - Winter Turns into Spring**

Thoreau: *Walden*, pp. 189-224, 361-363, 375, 394-418 (65 pages)

PART II — STANLEY CAVELL AND THE CINEMA

Feb. 18 (Tues.): **Film Analysis — How to Begin**

*Cavell and Kievan: “What Becomes of Thinking on Film?” (43 pages)

*Cavell: “A Capra Moment” (9 pages)

*Kievan: “Notes on Teaching Film Style” (14 pages)

*Kievan: From “In-Between” (7 pages)

It Happened One Night (1934: Frank Capra; 105 minutes) — see by this date.

Feb. 25 (Tues.): **Cavell — Taking an Interest in Your Own Experience**

Cavell: *Pursuits of Happiness*, pp. 1-42 (42 pages)

*Kievan: “Notes on Stanley Cavell and Philosophical Film Criticism” (11 pages)

*Cavell: From “The Thought of Movies” (17 pages)

Holiday (1938: George Cukor, 93 minutes) — see by this date.

Mar. 4 (Tues.): **Spring Vacation**

Mar. 11 (Tues.): **Film Analysis II — Performance and the Fictional World**

Cavell: *Pursuits of Happiness*, pp. 133-160 (28 pages)

*Kievan: “Living Meaning: The Fluency of Film Performance” (14 pages)

*Perkins: “Must We Say What They Mean?” (6 pages)

*Perkins: “Where Is the World? The Horizon of Events in Movie Fiction” (26 pages)

The Philadelphia Story (1940: George Cukor; 112 minutes) — see by this date.

Mar. 18 (Tues.): **How to Pay Attention — Method, Revisited**

Duckworth: *The Having of Wonderful Ideas*, pp. 63-68, 132-135, 141-155, 173-185 (38 pages)

^Roberts: “The Power of Patience” (5 pages)

*Hammond: From *The Shadow and Its Shadow: Surrealist Writings on the Cinema*, pp. 1-21 (“Off at a Tangent”) (21 pages)

Anatomy of a Murder (1959: Otto Preminger; 160 minutes) — see by this date.

PART III — THE LITERATURE OF EVERYDAY LIFE

Mar. 25 (Tues.): **Restoration**

Carr: *A Month in the Country*, pp. 3-135 (133 pages)

Apr. 1 (Tues.): **TBA** (Perhaps Wallace Stevens)

Apr. 8 (Tues.): **TBA** (Perhaps the New York Poets: Ashbery, Koch, Schuyler, and O'Hara)

Apr. 15 (Tues.): **TBA** (Perhaps New York Poets II)