

ENG 4936
plr@ufl.edu

Prof. Rudnytsky
4366 TUR
F 4:00-4:45 p.m., and by appt.

Defenses of Humanism

- Mon. Jan. 6 – Fromm, “Humanism and Psychoanalysis”
Wed. Jan. 8 – Kakutani, *The Death of Truth: Notes on Falsehood in the Age of Trump*, chs. 1-3
Fri. Jan. 10 – No class
Mon. Jan. 13 – Kakutani, *The Death of Truth*, chs. 4-6
Wed. Jan. 15 – Kakutani, *The Death of Truth*, chs. 7-9
Fri. Jan. 17 – Orwell, “Such, Such Were the Joys”
Mon. Jan. 20 – MLK
Wed. Jan. 22 – Orwell, “Rudyard Kipling,” “Raffles and Miss Blandish”
Fri. Jan. 24 – Orwell, “Shooting an Elephant,” “Politics and the English Language”
Mon. Jan. 27 – “Looking Back on the Spanish War,” “Why I Write” (all in *A Collection of Essays*)
Wed. Jan. 29 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Forewords & Chapter 1
Fri. Jan. 31 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Chapter 2
Mon. Feb. 3 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Chapter 3, Section 1
Wed. Feb. 5 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Chapter 3, Section 2
Fri. Feb. 7 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Chapter 4
SUN. Feb. 9 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Chapter 5, Section 1 & catch-up
Mon. Feb. 10 – No class
Wed. Feb. 12 – No class
Fri. Feb. 14 – No class
Mon. Feb. 17 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Chapter 5, Sections 2 & 3
Wed. Feb. 19 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Chapter 6
Fri. Feb. 21 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Chapter 7
Mon. Feb. 24 – No class
Wed. Feb. 26 – No class
Fri. Feb. 28 – No class
Mon. Mar. 2 – Spring break
Wed. Mar. 4 – Spring break
Fri. Mar. 6 – Spring break
Mon. Mar. 9 – Fromm, *Escape from Freedom*, Appendix
Wed. Mar. 11 – Dickens, *Hard Times*, Book the First, chs. 1-5
Fri. Mar. 13 – Dickens, *Hard Times*, Book the First, chs. 6-10
Mon. Mar. 16 – Dickens, *Hard Times*, Book the First, chs. 11-16
Wed. Mar. 18 – Dickens, *Hard Times*, Book the Second, chs. 1-4
Fri. Mar. 20 – Dickens, *Hard Times*, Book the Second, chs. 5-8
Mon. Mar. 23 – Dickens, *Hard Times*, Book the Second, chs. 9-12

Wed. Mar. 25 – Dickens, *Hard Times*, Book the Third, chs. 1-5
Fri. Mar. 27 – Dickens, *Hard Times*, Book the Third, chs. 6-9
Mon. Mar. 30 – Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 1-4
Wed. Apr. 1 – Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 5-7
Fri. Apr. 3 – Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 8-10
Mon. Apr. 6 – Orwell, *1984*, One, 1-4
Wed. Apr. 8 – Orwell, *1984*, One, 5-8
Fri. Apr. 10 – Orwell, *1984*, Two, 1-3
Mon. Apr. 13 – Orwell, *1984*, Two, 4-6
Wed. Apr. 15 – Orwell, *1984*, Two, 7-10; PAPER TOPICS DUE
Fri. Apr. 17 – Orwell, *1984*, Three, 1-3
Mon. Apr. 20 – Orwell, *1984*, Three, 4-Appendix
Wed. Apr. 22 – Fromm, Afterword to *1984*; ALL PAPERS DUE
SUN. Apr. 26 – Finale

Course Objectives

This Honors Seminar will focus on two major twentieth-century advocates of radical humanism and democratic socialism, Erich Fromm and George Orwell, the former a psychoanalyst and social theorist, the latter a writer of novels and nonfictional prose. Their work will be considered both in its historical context and for its relevance to our own time. In the spirit of both Orwell and Fromm, emphasis will be placed on close reading, clear writing, and critical thinking. Weekly one-page response papers will provide opportunities for students to demonstrate skills sufficient to earn “clearance for take-off” to write the 15-20 page seminar paper.

Course Requirements & Evaluation Criteria

Your course grade will be based on the following criteria: class participation (35%), response papers (15%), seminar paper (50%). I reserve the right to be more lenient if it seems warranted, but these percentages are the norm. There are no exams. *Seminar papers must follow the guidelines of the Style Sheet.* At least one week before the end of the semester, you must send me an email (*not* an attachment) with a proposal for your topic and setting forth your thesis. I will respond and tell you either to go ahead or ask for further clarification before you proceed. *No outside sources may be used without being specified ahead of time and receiving my permission.* Especially since this is an Honors Seminar, I expect regular attendance, and each absence over *three* may result in a lowering of your course grade by one-half a letter. Course books have been ordered at the UF Bookstore, and please use the editions I will specify in class.

Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office provides information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities in the classroom. Staff will assist any student who registers as having a disability. Official documentation is required to determine eligibility for appropriate classroom accommodations. For more information about Student Disability Services, see: <http://www.ufl.edu/disability/>