

Syllabus

Philosophy 025: Philosophy of Love and Sex

Instructor: Suzanne Senay

Contact: Blackboard email

Office: H322 (North)-A114 (Lakeshore)

Required Textbook

Senay, Suzanne. (Ed.). (2010) *The Philosophy of Love and Sex*. Toronto, Ontario: Canadian Scholar's Press.

Required Coursework

Online Quizzes* – 10% of final mark

In Class Presentation – 20% of final mark

Test 1** – 20% of final mark

Written Assignment – 20% of final mark

Final Exam*** – 30% of final mark

* The due date for ALL quizzes is midnight, the day prior to the final exam. Quizzes are set up so that you may take them as many times as necessary to get a perfect score. Be sure to click the 'save' button for each question and the 'finish' button at the end of the quiz before submitting or Blackboard will not record your answers.

**At the discretion of the instructor, a make-up for a missed test may administered. If you will not be present for a test, you must notify the instructor via Blackboard email before the end of the original test time and date. A make-up must be taken within one week of the original test date.

***If you take the final exam in the test center due to accommodation issues, you must schedule it on or before the same date and time as the rest of the class.

Note: A make-up test for a missed final is given only at the discretion of the Instructor. Students who miss the final in-class test will *not* be given a make-up test unless they can provide formal documentation that they were unavailable on the test date due to an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency AND they have taken all previous term tests on the regularly scheduled dates. Travel plans and work schedules do **not** constitute emergencies. Program exam dates do not conflict with this final exam, so students are expected to attend this final as scheduled.

Note: There are NO extra credit assignments. The mark is based on assigned coursework only.

Feedback

The purpose of feedback is to assess the quality of your work. Feedback by itself does not improve the quality of your work; it notifies you of the level of your work so that you can take steps to improve it.

Quizzes provide feedback on your knowledge of the readings, plus the opportunity to show improvement of your knowledge.

Test 1, the Presentation, and the Paper will each be marked on a 20 point scale. Rubrics will give you detailed criteria for each level. The rubric with the mark will provide feedback on your completed performance.

Grading Criteria for the Course Mark

90-100%: Exceptional. Original ideas. Excellent critical thinking skills shown in analysis and synthesis of material. Extensive knowledge base. Superior understanding of readings, arguments, issues. Creative engagement with course issues. Exceptional language (writing and speaking) skills. No errors of spelling or grammar.

80-89%: Very Good. Comprehensive grasp of material. Demonstrates correct knowledge of readings, lecture notes, and class discussion as well as independent thought about the issues. Work uses student's own words rather than repetition of lecture notes. Very good language skills. Clear, well organized prose. No errors of spelling or grammar.

70-79%: Competent. Generally correct but not superior grasp of subject matter. General but not detailed knowledge of course materials. Strong reliance on and/or repetition of class notes. May contain some minor errors in fact or understanding. Competent language (writing/speaking) skills. Communication can be understood without difficult but may contain a few grammar or spelling errors, or awkward or stilted prose.

60-69%: Adequate. Basic knowledge of some course materials and concepts. Significant gaps and/or errors in fact or understanding. Simple or minimal responses on tests and written work. Basic language skills with errors in grammar, spelling, vocabulary choice. Communication is not standard English.

Below 60 – Not passing. Writing is very difficult to read. Work shows serious confusion about course material. Work falls short of minimum standard. Written answers are vague, irrelevant, or error ridden.

Plagiarism

It is a standard requirement of all professional work to give credit to the sources of ideas. This is the purpose of citations in academic writing and presentations. When research sources are used without citation, then plagiarism has occurred. Plagiarism is a violation of Humber's Academic Integrity policy. Details of the policy can be found at <http://fulltimestudents.humber.ca/academicregulations>.

Explanation of Midterm Marks

The midterm mark is only a reflection of how you have done on the work up to that point. It does not reflect the weighting of assignments and is not used to

calculate the final mark. Midterm marks are not accurate predictors of and do not guarantee final marks.

Suggestions for Success

- Identify, explain, and critically evaluate the main point of each assigned reading.
- Identify, explain, and critically evaluate the main argument(s) supporting the author's point.
- Assess what you are learning in light of your own life, society, literature and the knowledge you have gained from your other studies.
- Know the author of each text, the approximate time period in which he or she wrote, and any important historical circumstances influencing his or her work.
- Relate the text and its arguments to other texts and arguments in the course.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1: (Jan 7-11): What is Philosophy? Plato's Cave

Reading: Plato, *Republic VII* 514-518e. (Textbook, p. 1-5)

Film Clips

Online Quiz 1

Week 2: (Jan 14-18): Should We Love Ourselves? If So, How?

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* (Textbook, p. 217-220)

Online Quiz 2

Week 3: (Jan 21-25): What is Friendship? Is it Essential to a Good Life?

Reading: Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* (Textbook, p. 221-230)

Online Quiz 3

Week 4: (Jan 28-Feb 1): How Does Erotic Passion Affect Us?

Reading: Hesiod, *Theogony* (Textbook, p. 43-46, 48-49)

Sappho, *Fragments 31, 94, 130, 147* (Textbook, p. 95-96)

Online Quizzes 4 and 5

Week 5: (Feb 4-8): Is There Such a Thing as True Love? If So, What Is It Based On? Is True Love Necessarily Lasting? Is Love Essential To A Complete Life?

Reading: Plato, "Speech of Aristophanes" in *Symposium* (Textbook, p.61-66)

Film Clip

Online Quiz 6

Week 6: (Feb 11-15) Test 1

READING WEEK (Feb 18-22)

Week 7: (Feb 25-Mar 1): Test Feedback and Presentation Workshop

Week 8: (Mar 4-8): **Presentations**

Week 9: (Mar 11-15): **Presentations**

Week 10: (Mar 18-22): What is Sex For? A Religious View

Reading: 1) *The Bible*, Genesis 1:1-4; Leviticus 18:1-30; "Letter of St. Paul to the Romans" 1-2:1-4 (Textbook, p. 119-126, 191-192, 193-195).

Online Quiz 7

Week 11: (Mar 25-29): What is Sex For? A Libertine View

Reading: De Sade, *Philosophy in the Bedroom* (Textbook, p. 141-150).

Online Quiz 8

Week 12: (Apr 2-5): What is Sex For? Natural and Perverse Sex

Reading: Ruse, "The Morality of Homosexuality" (Textbook, p. 207-216)

Film Clip: Kinsey

(Friday Class on April 5 Cancelled for Good Friday)

Online quiz 9

Week 13: (Apr 9-13): What is Sex For? A Communion View

Reading: Blackburn, "Hobbesian Unity" and "Disasters" (Textbook, p. 111-118)

Online Quiz 10

Paper Due

Week 14: (Apr 16-20): Review for Final Exam

Week 15: (Apr 23-27): FINAL EXAM