Origins of Ideas and Ideas of Origins
IDH 1002 - Spring 2015 (Updated January 14, 2015)
The Honors College
Florida International University

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Classrooms and Professor Contacts

Lecture/Large-group classes: Tuesdays at 2:00 PM in SIPA 125

Discussion/Small-group classes meet on Thursdays as follows:

**Regina Bailey**
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM, GC 273A
Office hours: By appointment, DM 233
regina@thewolf.fiu.edu; (305) 535-2649

**Joan Baker**
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM, GC 275A
Office hours: By appointment, DM 454c
bakerj@fiu.edu; (305) 348-3873

**Whitney Bauman**
11:00 AM – 12:15 PM, DM 144
Office hours: By appointment, DM 301A
wbauman@fiu.edu; (305) 348-2186

**Cynthia Dottin**
9:30 AM – 10:45 AM, GC 289
Office hours: By appointment, GL 233A
dottinc@fiu.edu; (305) 348-2414

**Sian Evans**
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM, GC 275B
Office hours: By appointment, OE 243
sevans@fiu.edu; (305) 238-9981

**Bernard Gerstman**
11:00 AM – 12:15 PM, DM 164
Office hours: By appointment, CP 232
gerstman@fiu.edu; (305) 348-3115

**Adam Gorelick**
11:00 AM – 12:15 PM, DM 163
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM, PC 214
Office hours: By appointment, DM 233
gorelic@fiu.edu; (305) 348-4100

**Elizabeth Hanly**
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM, CP 103
Office hours: By appointment, DM 233
hanlye@fiu.edu; (305) 348-4100

**Scott Kass**
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM, ECS 143
Office hours: By appointment, DM 233
kass@fiu.edu; (305) 348-4100

**Mary Adelyn Kaufmann**
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM, GC 271A
Office hours: By appointment, DM 233
kmaryadelyn@gmail.com; (305) 348-4100

**Joseph Lichter**
11:00 AM – 12:15, DM 193
5:00 PM – 6:15 PM, GC 271A
Office hours: MW 3-5pm, CP307
jlichter@fiu.edu; (305) 348-6209

**Janet McDaniel**
11:00 AM – 12:15 PM, GC 271A
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM, GC 273B
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM, GC 273B
Office hours: By appointment, DM 233
jmcdanie@fiu.edu; (305) 348-4100

**Brian Peterson**
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM, GC 271B
Office hours: By appointment, DM 396
peterson@fiu.edu; (305) 348-2343

**Thomas Pliske**
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM, GC 271A
Office hours: By appointment, DM 233
plisket@fiu.edu; (305) 348-4100

**Diana Valle-Riestra**
9:30 – 10:45 PM, DM 144
Office Hours: By Appointment, ZEB 247-B
Riestrad@FIU.edu; (305) 348-3783

**Juan Carlos Espinosa**
First Year Seminar Coordinator
Office hours: By appointment, DM 233
espinosj@fiu.edu; (305) 348-4100
Course Overview
This semester we will be exploring the origins of ideas and ideas of origins through narrative, science, and culture. We will be building on our work on basic epistemology, myth, philosophy, and narrative. Plato's Republic was at the center of the course and to help us explore his ideas, we not only wrote traditional papers, but we turned to performance. We will be looking at science as practice, as narrative, as social phenomenon. We will also revisit ideas from the Fall semester to discuss the implications of ideas and human action on society and our environment. We will be using narrative and performance in a more direct way this semester. We will be using plays as works of art and as tools to elucidate the topics we are presenting this semester.

The entire class will be reading two important plays, Michael Frayn's *Copenhagen* and Henrik Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*. They will serve as the fictional narratives that bind the science and social in your other readings and activities. In addition, you will be reading a third play chosen by your professor to be read only by your section.

Note that all of the readings are available online. However, your professor may select a play that is available only in print and you will have to purchase a copy. You will be required to purchase a note book for your assignment on Citizen-Science.

“Both ‘scientists’ and ‘non-scientists’ have a tendency to regard science and culture as different and parallel (if not competing) things, between which one can (or must) choose . . . science is not conceived of as an alternative (either neutral or competitive) to culture but rather as a central component of a human culture more broadly understood— a component that existed long before the term ‘science’ was coined and will long outlast current understandings of science as a specialized or privileged activity that can be engaged in only by members of a self-perpetuating professional community.” --- Paul Grobstein

On Tuesdays, the entire first-year class will meet together for a lecture, discussion, film, or other presentation. Students in hybrid sections will access course content via Blackboard. On Thursdays, students will meet in their assigned sections to explore more deeply the subject of the Tuesday session. Students are expected to come to class prepared (i.e., read/listened to assigned material, brought their iClickers) and to participate fully in class discussions and activities. IDH1001-1002 is a web-assisted course using the learning management system Blackboard. Assignments, electronic readings, the discussion board, quizzes, video, music, and supplementary materials will be found there. You MUST use Blackboard to be able to participate in the course. Your usage is diligently tracked by the Blackboard system and is available to your professors. For more information on Blackboard and e-Campus, visit [http://ecampus.fiu.edu/](http://ecampus.fiu.edu/).

Course Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe and discuss seminal issues in the theory of knowledge covered in this course.
- Incorporate into their reflections on contemporary social, moral, political, scientific, issues, etc. apply pertinent concerns raised in class with respect to: what knowledge is, how it is acquired and understood, and the role it plays in societies.
- Recognize and articulate the ways in which perception, conception, memory, and language affect our ideas about the nature and origins of human beings and of our societies.
- Recognize different approaches to the questions of natural and human origins.
- Describe and discuss how different ways of knowing can cause conflicts in contemporary society.

Guidelines for Written Work
All written work must consistently adhere to the [MLA Formatting and Style Guide](http://www.mla.org). Students are advised to carefully proofread all papers before submitting them. All students are encouraged to take advantage of the University resources for writing to be found in the [Center for Excellence in Writing](http://cew.fiu.edu/), a full-service writing center providing writing assistance and feedback to university students.
All written work is submitted through Turnitin. Plagiarism can result in expulsion from the Honors College and will have a negative effect on your entire college career. All written work must include your name, Panther ID number, course number, and the name of the professor on the title page. It must be double spaced, 1-inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) and in 12 point font, Times New Roman or Calibri.

Assignments
There are seven (7) written assignments during the Spring 2014 semester: three (3) short reflection papers, an essay about a topic at the intersection of science, culture, and society, a short research paper, a field notebook (hard copy), and a final examination.

Quizzes will be administered every Tuesday at some point during the class session. The lecturer has the discretion as to when the quiz will be given. Attendance will be taken via the quiz, so being on time and present throughout the entire class is crucial. Please see the section on attendance policy.

Reflection Papers - 30% (3 x 10%)
Science, Culture, and the Society Paper - 20%
Research: Theater of Ideas Project - 15%
Field Notebook - 10%
Final Examination – 20%
Participation – 5%

Reflection Papers (3): The purpose of the reflection paper is to help you prepare for the lectures and to allow you to delve more deeply into the topics presented in class. The paper will cover a topic or topics from the readings and will be due by 11:59 PM on the date noted in the course calendar via Blackboard. The reflection papers may be used as a point of discussion in the following Thursday small sections. Each paper has a minimum requirement of 1,000 words and is worth 10% of your grade. The paper consists of two short answer essays, one question is mandatory, and the other is selected from three additional questions.

- Science/Pseudoscience, due on Monday, February 2 by 11:59 PM
- Science as Narrative, due on Monday, February 16 by 11:59 PM
- Science and the Social, due on Thursday, March 5 by 11:59 PM

Science, Ethics, and Society Paper: Students will take one major claim made by each side of a particular controversy and analyze their arguments for and against. In some cases the claims can be analyzed through the optic of science versus pseudoscience. In other cases, the disagreements have more complex social or cultural elements that are harder to resolve such as the matter of personhood for primates. Students will select a topic in consultation with their instructor. The paper has a minimum requirement of 1,800 words and represents 20% of your grade. The paper is due on Monday, March 16 by 11:59 PM.

Research: Theater of Ideas Project: This is a mixed group/individual project based on the play selected by your instructor. It is in two parts, a short paper (a minimum of 500 words), and a performance. The topic or topics of the paper will be presented by your instructor. The paper is worth 10% of your grade and the performance is worth 5%.

- Short paper due on Monday, April 20 by 11:59 PM
- Performances on weeks 13/14

Field Notebook: Students will engage in a form of observational science on a subject or subjects selected with the consultation of their instructor. The notebook will be kept for the duration of the semester with regular review by the professor or fellow students. Purchase a hard copy notebook appropriate for the nature of the assignment. Notebooks are due near the end of the semester. The notebook represents 10% of your final grade. The notebooks are due on Wednesday, March 20 by 11:59 PM.
Final Examination: This is a “take home” exam. The exam will consist of three (3) questions taken from the material presented throughout the year. Students must submit one (1) copy through Turnitin and another one (1) in hard copy in person at the end of the final session of the course (Week 16).

Course Materials

Required Text
- Ralph Waldo Emerson, *On Nature*
- Michael Frayn, *Copenhagen*
- Garrett Hardin, “Tragedy of the Commons,”
- Henrik Ibsen, *An Enemy of the People*
- Bora Zivkovic, “Telling science stories...wait, what’s a "story"?"

Required Video/Web
- Imre Lakatos, *Science and Pseudoscience*, mp3
- Distinguishing Science and Pseudoscience (Quackwatch)
- Drawing the Line Between Science and Pseudoscience
- What is Citizen Science? How to write field notes
- How to approach writing field notes

Recommended Materials
- Thomas M. Lessl,”The Galileo Legend as Scientific Folklore” (BB PDF)
- Richard Johnson Sheehan & Rode, On Scientific Narrative: Stories of Light by Newton and Einstein (BB PDF)

Course Calendar Outline

Weeks 1 – 2

**Week 1**

January 13

Guest lecturer: Stephen Charman, Psychology

January 15

Discussion of Science and Pseudoscience
- Imre Lakatos, *Science and Pseudoscience*, mp3
- Distinguishing Science and Pseudoscience (Quackwatch)
- Drawing the Line Between Science and Pseudoscience

**Week 2**

January 20

Citizen Science and Field Notes
- Regina Bailey, Sian Evans, and Thomas Pliske
- Ralph Waldo Emerson, *On Nature*
- What is Citizen Science?

January 22

Discussion of Emerson, observational science, citizen-science
- Introduction to Field Notes – students bring in their notebooks
  - How to write field notes
  - How to approach writing field notes
- Recommended:
  - What the panda won’t tell us


**Week 3 – 5**  
**Michael Frayn, *Copenhagen***

**Week 3**  
**Theater of Ideas**  
January 27  
Guest lecturer: Michael Yawney, Theater

January 29  
Discussion of Science as Narrative  
Bora Zivkovic, “*Telling science stories... wait, what’s a “story”?*”  
Recommended:  
- Thomas M. Lessl, “The Galileo Legend as Scientific Folklore”  
- Richard Johnson Sheehan & Rode, *On Scientific Narrative: Stories of Light by Newton and Einstein*

**Week 4**  
**Experimental Science**  
February 3  
Joseph Lichter, Methods of Science  
February 5  
Discussion

**Week 5**  
**Copenhagen as Theater**  
February 10  
Adam Gorelick  
*The Physics of Copenhagen*  
Bernard Gerstman

February 12  
Discussion

**Week 6 – 8**  
**Henrik Ibsen, *An Enemy of the People***

**Week 6**  
**Ethics, Science, and Society**  
February 17  
Whitney Bauman  
Henrik Ibsen, *An Enemy of the People*

February 19  
Discussion

**Week 7**  
**Science and the Social: Personhood**  
February 24  
Sian Evans

February 26  
Discussion

**Week 8**  
**Tragedy of the Commons**  
March 3  
Brian Peterson  
Garrett Hardin, “*Tragedy of the Commons*”  
Recommended: Stephen M. Meyer, *The End of the Wild*

March 5  
Discussion

**Week 9**  
**SPRING BREAK**
Week 10  
Hildegard of Bingen  
March 17  
Joan Baker, Mary Adelyn Kauffman  
March 19  
Discussion  

Week 11  
“Beautiful Data” - Sharing our Notebooks  
March 24  
FINAL EXAM QUESTIONS RELEASED  
March 26  
Discussion  

Week 12/13  
Theater Workshops  
April 7/13  

Week 14/15  
Curated performances of scenes  
April 20/27  

Week 16  
Continue performance of scenes and final examination  
Date TBD  

Class Policies and Procedures  

Policy on laptops and electronic devices for students attending Tuesday sessions in SIPA 125  
The use of all other electronic devices is prohibited. Devices will be subject to confiscation for the duration of the class session and will be returned to students at the end of the session. Laptop use in the individual sections is determined by each professor.  

Attendance/Classroom Etiquette  
Attendance is required and will be reflected in the final grade. You are expected to be on time for class and to remain in class for the duration of the lecture. Material will be covered in class that is not covered in the readings, thus each absence will negatively affect your ability to do well on assignments. Students will be allowed two (2) absences. All other absences will adversely affect your grade. Please see the chart below for more information.  

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<tr>
<th>Number of Unexcused Absences</th>
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Attendance in the large group session will be taken by iClicker. All students must have one by the end of the second week.  

Students will behave in a courteous manner at all times. Talking in class is disruptive and shows a lack of respect for the lecturer, your fellow students, and others present in the room.  

Honors College Requirements and Policies  
Registration in this course implies an acceptance of and compliance with the Honors College policies for students and the FIU Code of Academic Integrity.  

Honors Citizenship Requirements  
Beginning in Fall 2014, Honors College students are required to accumulate at least 20 citizenship points each academic year (Fall and Spring) by attending Honors College activities. Students
attending only one semester (Fall or Spring) are required to accumulate 10 citizenship points. See Honors College Citizenship.

**Student Portfolios**
The Honors College will be using a portfolio method to assess students' learning outcomes. The portfolio allows for maximum flexibility in gauging student learning. Students decide (with instructor consultation) what "artifacts" or assignments to include for consideration in their portfolios to demonstrate successful achievement of each of five key student learning outcomes over the 4-year Honors experience. See Honors College Portfolios.

**Academic Misconduct Procedures and Penalties**
In The Honors College, the term “honor” refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in Honors should therefore adhere to and be held to the highest standards of personal academic accountability. Academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism, is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at FIU. Consequently, an Honors College student found responsible for academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College.

An Honors faculty member may bring charges of academic misconduct against an Honors student if the faculty member suspects plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct. The faculty member will decide whether to pursue informal resolution, file formal resolution charges, or take no further action, and will follow the procedures outlined in the Honors College website (http://honors.fiu.edu/academics/policies/).

Please refer to the following documents for additional information:
- FIU Honors College Academic Misconduct Policy
- FIU Code of Academic Integrity

**Religious Observances**
Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students whose religious practices coincide with class requirements or scheduling. Please make sure to notify your instructor at the beginning of the semester of which dates you will be absent or any anticipated problems with completing course work.

**Physical, Mental, and Sensory Challenges**
Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students who are so challenged. Should you require accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC), if you have not done so already.