



**Honors College**  
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

**Origins of Ideas and Ideas of Origins**  
**(Other Ways of Knowing)**  
**IDH 1002 – Spring 2018**  
**T/TH 12:30 – 1:45**  
**SIPA 220**

**Professor Contact Information**

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**Required Text**

Eco, Umberto. *Foucault's Pendulum*. Translated by William Weaver. Harcourt, 1989.

ISBN 978-0-15-603297-1

**Course Overview**

This course will use *Foucault's Pendulum* by Umberto Eco to investigate the nature and need for meaning in life. We will explore esoteric ways of knowing through rituals, faith, love, meditation, and devotion.

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the semester students will have

- Experience of esoteric approaches to knowledge
- Experience differentiating knowledge and pseudo-knowledge
- An understanding of the history of Western esoteric traditions
- Experience in lesson planning and leading a class
- Improved research and analysis skills
- Improved understanding of symbolic language and its uses

### **Attendance and Classroom Etiquette**

Class attendance is an important component of your grade. You will be allowed one unexcused absence with no questions asked and with no penalty. Any additional absence will incur an incremental grade drop per occurrence (e.g. A- becomes B+). If you notify your professor BEFORE class, these penalties may be excused for emergency situations at the discretion of the professor. If you do not notify the professor before class, there is no possibility of waiving the penalty. Since professors will only consider waving the penalty for extreme emergencies, we suggest that you save your one excused absence until the end of the semester.

**YOU MUST TURN OFF AND PUT AWAY ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS.** The use of cellular phones, smart watches or any other device for voice or text communication during class is prohibited. Laptop use must be approved by your individual professor and you must sit in the first two rows.

### **Guidelines for Written Work**

All written work must adhere to your individual professor's guidelines which will be discussed in the individual Thursday sections. 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, a full-service writing center providing writing assistance and feedback to university students. Center offices are located in GL 120 (MMC), Glen Hubert Library, First Floor (BBC), and EC 2780 at the Engineering Center. For more information, go to <http://writingcenter.fiu.edu/>.

All written work must be submitted to Turnitin. In addition, your individual professor may also require a hardcopy. **Plagiarism can result in expulsion from the Honors College and the University.** 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.

## **Course Requirements**

Please take the time to read through the description of each course requirement. If you have any questions, talk to us early in the semester.

### **Student Led Presentations and Class Discussions (30%)**

Using the "How to Prepare for a Student Led Discussion" as a guide, each student will be responsible for leading the class content once during the semester on an assigned section of *Foucault's Pendulum*. The presentation will be 30 minutes long and should:

- 1) summarize the assigned chapters
- 2) provide analysis on
  - a. the connection between the assigned content and its Sephirah/Sephirot
  - b. the introductory quotes for their chapters and the chapter content
- 3) provide background information on traditions, historical content, and people and places mentioned in the chapters
- 4) generate meaningful class discussion questions.

In addition, **each student must submit a Lesson Plan** at the beginning of their presentation. The Lesson Plan should summarize how they will cover the points listed above. The Lesson Plan must be no more than two pages in length.

### **Text as City (25%, four pages)**

You will choose an actual location (castle, city, meeting place, etc.) used by any group discussed in the book. Using archaeological descriptions, maps, and other legitimate historical information, describe how the location was organized for symbolic, secretive, and/or defensive purposes.

Your four page report will include the following:

- 1) A map (single page) of the location that you annotate
- 2) A description of the location (two pages): when was it built, what was its original purpose (was it built by the group that you are reporting on or did your group come to this site after it was built), what aspects of its construction were especially important to your group.
- 3) Bibliography (one page, minimum of five academic sources)

### **Midterm Exam (15%)**

This will be an in-class exam and will require a Blue Book. You may bring in one page of well-organized notes which must be handed-in along with your Blue Book Exam.

### **In-Class Quizzes (10%)**

Quizzes will be given at the beginning of some classes on the readings for that class. You must be on-time. Make-ups will not be allowed.

### **Active Class Participation (20%)**

Each student is expected to demonstrate knowledge of the course content through oral participation during class. Your participation grade rests on your active participation during class. This means contributing to class discussions. It does NOT mean merely attendance or presentations.

### Grading Scale

Grades are based on accumulated points, 100 in total

Letter Grade	Range (%)	Letter Grade	Range (%)	Letter Grade	Range (%)
A	95 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	59 or less

### University Scale and Your GPA

Grade	Points Per Credit Hour
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
D	1.00
F	0.00

### 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).

# Course Calendar – Subject to Change

Updates will be posted on Blackboard

- 1/9** General Intro
- 1/11** Qabalah and Sephirot (McDaniel)
- 1/16** Secrets of Kabbalah <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ibuSPtXG5dg>
- 1/18** Gnosticism (McDaniel)
- Reading: *Thunder Perfect Mind*
- 1/23** Foucault's Pendulum and Keter, chapters 1 - 2 (Gerstman)
- 1/25** Chockmah, chapters 3 – 6 (McDaniel)
- 1/30** Binah, chapters 7 - 9 and 10 - 12 (Students)
- 2/1** Binah, chapters, 13 and 14 -15 (Students)
- 2/6** Binah, chapters, 16 – 17 and 18 – 19 (Students)
- 2/8** Binah, chapters, 20 – 22 and Hesed, chapters, 23 – 25 (Students)
- 2/13** Hesed, chapters, 26 – 28 and 29 – 31 (Students)
- 2/15** Hesed, chapters, 32 – 33 Gevurah, chapters, 34 – 36 (Students)
- 2/20** Gevurah, chapters, 37 - 39 and 40 - 43 (Students)
- 2/22** Gevurah, chapters, 44 - 47 and 48 – 50 (Students)
- 2/27** Gevurah, chapters, 51 – 54 and 55 – 57 (Students)
- 3/1** Gevurah, chapters, 58 – 60 and 61 - 63 (Students)

**3/6** Tiferet, chapters, 64 – 66 and 67 - 69 (Students)

**3/8** Tiferet, chapters, 70 - 72 and 73 - 74 (Students)

### **Spring Break**

**3/20 Midterm**

**3/22** Tiferet, chapters, 75 - 76 and 77 - 80 (Students)

**3/27** Tiferet, chapters, 81 - 83 and 84 - 87 (Students)

**3/29** Tiferet, chapters, 88 – 90 and 91 – 94 (Students)

- **Due Text as City Projects**

**4/3** Tiferet, chapters, 95 – 97 and 98 – 101

**4/5** Tiferet, chapters, 102 – 104 and 105 - 106

**4/10** Nezah, chapters 107 – 108 and 109 - 111

**4/12** Hod, chapters, 112 – 114 and 115 - 117

**4/17** Yesod, chapters, 118 – 119 (Student) and Malkut, chapter 120 (McDaniel)

**4/19** Top Text as City Presentations and Food Day

**Final Exam TBA**

## Honors College Requirements and Policies

### 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/students/policies/> Please refer to the following documents for additional information: [FIU Honors College Academic Misconduct Policy](#) [FIU Code of Academic Integrity](#)

FIU Code of Academic Integrity: <http://www.fiu.edu/~dwyere/academicintegrity.html>

FIU Honors College Student Handbook: <http://honors.fiu.edu/handbook0910.html>

FIU Honors College Plagiarism Policy: [http://honors.fiu.edu/current\\_policy\\_plagiarism.html](http://honors.fiu.edu/current_policy_plagiarism.html)

### Honors Citizenship Requirements

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**.

Each activity has a point value. Students may select which events and activities they want to attend. The new system is designed to be more flexible for students, offering events at various days and times (including some weekend events) and allowing for a variety of ways to meet the requirements. Please plan accordingly. See [Honors College Citizenship](#).

The **point value** of an event **will be noted on emails and flyers** when it is promoted. For a general breakdown, see the value table below.

Activity	Point Value
Leadership Lecture	4
Colloquium	4
Club Meeting	1 (max of 5)
Honors Hour	3
HEARTS Event (all types)	2
Honors College Event – Honors Place	1
Other (Specific HC Sponsored Event)	2
Library Study Room (GL 310A) Visits	10 visits = 1 (max of 1)

\*\* There will be a few online events to choose from as well.

**Because of the added flexibility of the new system, all students must fulfill the annual requirement-no exceptions.**

Students must arrive at the activities on time. After 10 minutes, they will be turned away at the door.

Students will track their points at <http://myhonors.fiu.edu>. We encourage students to earn as many points as they can. At the end of each academic year, the top ten point earners will be recognized by appointment to the **Dean's Citizenship List**.

**Volunteer Hours:** As always, Honors College students must also complete **20 volunteer service hours**. These hours *DO NOT* count toward the 20 citizenship points discussed above.

**Honors Hours:** Honors Hours provide informational sessions, social and entertainment opportunities, and workshops to expand your undergraduate experience. **Each Honors Hour session has a 2-point value.**

For a full list of Honors Hours for the current semester, go to

<http://honors.fiu.edu/events/honorshours/>

If you have ideas for Honors Hours workshops you would like to see, email us at [honors@fiu.edu](mailto:honors@fiu.edu).

**Colloquia:** Every semester we invite Honors College faculty fellows to give presentations on topics of interest.

**Each Colloquium has a 3-point value:** For a full list of Colloquia for the current semester, go to <http://honors.fiu.edu/events/>

**Community Service (20 Hours of Community Service per Academic Year):** An important part of being a member of the Honors College student is demonstrating leadership by serving the extended community. The Honors College service requirement is modest—at least 20 hours per academic year to a non-profit endeavor. There are many ways you can get involved—campus fundraising for non-profit organizations, volunteering for community projects, and so on.. If you're not sure what to do, please contact the Coordinator of Student Programs at 305-348-4100. The Honors College has many community initiatives in which you can participate, particularly



with the City of Sweetwater (e.g., tutoring, computer classes for the elderly, citizenship classes, etc).

**Documenting your Community Service Hours:** To document your community service hours, log on to the [MyHonors](#) website.

### **Student Portfolios**

The Honors College will be using a portfolio method to assess students' learning outcomes. The portfolio method allows for maximum flexibility in gauging student learning. You will decide (with instructor consultation) what "artifacts" or assignments to include for consideration in your portfolios to demonstrate successful achievement of each of the student learning outcomes.

Portfolios provide a rich context for students to show what they have learned and to explain their learning process. Because the Honors curriculum is meant to be thought-provoking and reflective, student self-assessment through portfolios will facilitate learning and provide in-depth assessment.

Each Honors College course includes at least one assignment that could potentially fit portfolio requirements.