



Origins of Ideas and Ideas of Origins

IDH 1001 – Fall 2018

Classrooms and Professor Contacts

Lecture/Large-group classes:

Tuesdays at 11:00 – 12:15 in Engineering & Computer Science 135

Discussion/Small-group classes meet on Thursdays 11:00 – 12:15 as follows:

Ruben Garrote

GC 271A

Office Hours By Appointment, DM 233

garroter@fiu.edu 305-348-4100

Janet McDaniel

GC 273A

Office Hours By Appointment, DM 233

jmcdanie@fiu.edu 305-348-4100

Helen Cornely

PC 445

Office Hours By Appointment, AHC 3-538

cornelyh@fiu.edu 305-348-1968

Pioneer Winter

CP103

Office Hours By Appointment, DM 233

pwinter@fiu.edu 305-348-4100

Course Overview

This semester we will be exploring the origins of ideas and ideas of origins or how we became us. We will be looking at the evolution of knowledge through myth, tradition, literature, science and culture. We will investigate the ways in which new knowledge affects our changing worldview through our social phenomenon, political structures and science as practice.

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.
- Improve oral communication skills.

Required Readings

There are no textbooks to purchase for this class. All readings will be posted on Canvas.

Readings must be completed before the Tuesday lecture and assessment of the readings will be incorporated in weekly quizzes and small section discussions.

Attendance and Classroom Etiquette

Class attendance is an important component of your grade. You will be allowed one unexcused absence no questions asked, 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.

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

Guidelines for Written Work

All written work must consistently 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 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.

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.

Class Participation (20% of Final Grade) Class participation means active participation. Merely showing up for attendance does not constitute an A in class participation. Points will be deducted if you are engaged in work for another class while this class is in session.

Quizzes (20% of Final Grade)

You will take weekly quizzes at the beginning of class on Tuesdays based on the readings for the week. Your two lowest grades will be exempt from the total.

Essay (10% of Final Grade)

You will write an Essay on your worldview, “How Do I Know What I Know?” This essay is intended for you to think about how you filter knowledge. What factors influence how you understand the world and information you receive?

500 Words Max! Due September 6.

Group-Led Discussions (20% of Final Grade) You will be responsible for weekly group-led discussions for part of the Thursday small-group classes. Instructions on “How to Lead a Class Discussion” may be found on Canvas. Groups will be assigned during the first week of class. This assignment meets the following Honors College Portfolio Learning Outcomes: Research Skill [SLO (a) and (b)], Interdisciplinarity and Connectivity [SLO (a) and (b)], Appreciation of the Creative Arts [SLO (b)], and Leadership and Community Engagement [SLO (b)].

Infographic Group Project on the Origin of Ideas (30% of Final Grade) For this assignment, you will work in groups of 3-4 and create a visual graphic organizer that highlights a major idea discussed in class this semester. Choice topics will be posted on Canvas with additional directions. You may propose your own topic. All topics must be approved by your individual professor by **10/18**. This assignment should be visually appealing and examples will be shown in class. Each group member must submit a bibliography with 1) pertinent readings from class and 2) a minimum of 5 additional ACADEMIC sources. You will receive 3 grades for this assignment each worth 10% of your final grade: one for the presentation, one for the Infographic and another for your individual annotated bibliography. How to do annotated bibliographies will be discussed in class. This assignment meets the following Honors College Portfolio Learning Outcomes: Research Skill [SLO (a) and (b)], Interdisciplinarity and Connectivity [SLO (a) and (b)], Appreciation of the Creative Arts [SLO (a)], and Leadership and Community Engagement [SLO (b)].

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) <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/get-support/disability-resource-center/>

Course Calendar

Subject to change

8/21 Introduction

8/23 Individual Sections: Discussion: What is a worldview?

8/27 LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH REFUND

8/28 Western Intellectual History – **Garote**

8/30 Individual Sections: Discussion

9/4 Allegory of the Cave - **Garrote**

- Plato's *Allegory of the Cave*

9/6 Individual Sections: Discussion

- Due – Worldview Essay

9/11 How did Sapiens become the dominant species? - **Cornely**

- *Sapiens, A Brief History of Humankind*

9/13 Individual Sections Discussion

9/18 Origins: Creation Myths - **McDaniel**

- Thury & Devinney, chapter 3 “Greece – Hesiod” and chapter 5, “The Bible - Genesis,” in *Introduction to Mythology*

9/20 Individual Sections: Discussion

9/25 Destruction, Death and Rebirth: Flood Myths - **McDaniel**

- Thury & Devinney, chapter 12, “Ovid,” and chapter 13, “Genesis,” in *Introduction to Mythology*
- Lopez-Ruiz, C. “Mesopotamian Flood Stories,” in *Gods, Heroes, And Monsters*

9/27 Individual Sections: Discussion

10/2 The Grail, Hermes, Qabalah & Alchemy – **Garrote**

- Reading TBA

10/4 Individual Sections: Discussion

10/9 Tradition: The West - **Garrote**

- *Consilience*, chapters 1-2; Blaise Pascal, Fragment of the Treatise on Vacuum

10/11 Individual Sections: Discussion

10/16 The Enlightenment – **McDaniel**

- *Consilience*, chapter 3, “The Enlightenment”

10/18 Individual Sections: Discussion

- Due – Infographic topic approval

10/23 Scientific Revolution - **Cornely**

- *Consilience*, chapter 4, “The Natural Sciences”

10/25 Individual Sections: Discussion

10/29 Last Day to Drop with a DR

10/30 Genes and Culture – **Cornely**

- *Consilience*, chapter 7, “From Genes to Culture”

11/1 Individual Sections: Discussion

11/6 Art and Epistemology – **Winter**

- *Consilience*, chapter 10, “The Arts and their Interpretation”

11/8 Individual Sections: Discussion

11/13 Creative Impulse – **Winter**

11/15 Individual Sections: Infographic Presentations

11/20 - 11/22 THANKSGIVING NO CLASS

11/27 Question Authority – Winter

- Rorty, "Against Unity"

11/29 Infographic Presentations

- You may NOT use a freebie absence for this date!

Final Exam Week TBA

Honors College Requirements and Policies

Student Portfolios <http://honors.fiu.edu/current-students/portfolio/>

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. 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

Academic Misconduct Procedures and Policies <http://honors.fiu.edu/honors-policies/>

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.

Honors Citizenship Requirements <http://honors.fiu.edu/current-students/citizenship/>

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.

Community Service <http://honors.fiu.edu/current-students/community-service/>

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