



Origins of Ideas and Ideas of Origins

IDH 1001 – Fall 2018
Sections U09, U10, U11, U12

Classrooms and Professor Contacts

Lecture/Large-group classes: Tuesdays at 12:30 GC 280
Discussion/Small-group classes meet on Thursdays 12:30-1:45 as follows:

Samah Abukhodeir

CP 115
Office Hours by Appointment, DM 233
305-348-4100

James Sutton

DM 163
Office Hours by Appointment, DM 454
suttonj@fiu.edu 305-348-1270

Bernard Gerstman

CP 103
Office Hours by Appointment, CP 232
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Janet McDaniel

AHC 4-202
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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, law, and justice. We will investigate the ways in which knowledge affects our changing worldview through 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.
- Reflect on contemporary social, moral, political, and scientific issues pertinent to concerns raised in class.
- Recognize and articulate the ways in which perception, conception, memory, and language affect our ideas about the nature and origins of humans.
- Describe and discuss how different ways of knowing can cause conflicts in contemporary society.

- Present advanced work orally.

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. It includes oral participation and adherence to attendance and classroom etiquette. Furthermore, points will be deducted if you are engaged in work for another class while this class is in session.

Quizzes 10% 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.**

Infographic Group Project on the Origin of Ideas (30% of Final Grade) For this assignment, you will work in small groups 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 10% of your final grade for the presentation, 15% for the Infographic and 5% for your individual bibliography. How to do annotated bibliographies will be discussed in class. Further details of this project will be discussed in your small sections. Due dates will vary. 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)].

Final Exam Take Home Essay 30% of Final Grade

I Wish I Knew Then What I Know Now: This essay will reflect back to your essay from the beginning of the semester (i.e. KEEP A COPY OF IT) and focus on Knowledge discussed during the semester. Full directions will be posted on Canvas. **Due 11/29**

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

- 8/21** Introduction – What do we know and how do we know it?
- 8/23** Individual Sections: Discussion: What is a worldview?
- 8/27** **LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITH REFUND**
- 8/28** Allegory of the Cave **McDaniel**
- Reading: Plato’s “Allegory of the Cave” *Republic* 514a – 520a,
- 8/30** Individual Sections: Discussion
- 9/4** Origins: How did Sapiens become the dominant species? **Gerstman**
- Reading: *Sapiens, A Brief History of Humankind*
- 9/6** Individual Sections: Discussion
- **Essay Due: How Do I Know What I Know?**
- 9/11** Origins: Creation Myths – **McDaniel**
- Thury & Devinney, chapter 3 “Greece – Hesiod” and chapter 5, “The Bible - Genesis,” in *Introduction to Mythology*
- 9/13** Individual Sections Discussion
- 9/18** Death of the Old, Birth of the New: From Myth to Democracy – Trial by Jury (McDaniel)
- Reading: Aeschylus, *The Eumenides*
- 9/20** Individual Sections: Discussion
- 9/25** Carnal Knowledge and Courtly Love **Sutton**
- Reading: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*
- 9/27** Individual Sections: Discussion
- 10/2** Medieval Mystical Knowing **Sutton**
- Reading: *Medieval English Mystics*
- 10/4** Individual Sections: Discussion

10/9 The Renaissance Desire for Total Knowledge **Sutton**

- Reading: *The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus*, Christopher Marlowe

10/11 Individual Sections: Discussion

10/16 The Scientific Revolution **Gerstman**

- *The Cambridge Companion to Bacon*, chapter 1 “Bacon’s Idea of Science” pp. 25-46.

10/18 Individual Sections: Discussion

- **Due Infographic Approval Topics**

10/23 The Enlightenment – Social Contract and Individual Rights **McDaniel**

- Primary Source Reading selections on BB
- Wilson, Eduardo. *Concilience*, chapters 1, 2 & 3 “The Ionian Experiment,” “The Great Branches of Learning” and “The Enlightenment.”

10/25 Individual Sections: Discussion

10/29 **Last Day to Drop with a DR**

10/30 What are Human Rights? **Abukhodeir**

- Reading: TBD

11/1 Individual Sections: Discussion

11/6 Rights of Persons with Disabilities? **Abukhodeir**

- Reading: TBD

11/8 Individual Sections: Discussion

11/13 Rights of Immigrants? **Abukhodeir**

- Reading: TBD

11/15 Individual Sections

11/20 Short Stories by Borges **Sutton**

11/22 **THANKSGIVING NO CLASS**

11/27 How Might Society Adapt to Immortality? **Gerstman**

- Reading: Wilson, Eduard O. *Concilience*, chapter 4 “The Natural Sciences” and chapter 7 “From Genes to Culture”

11/29 Individual Sections

- **Due Take Home Final Exam**

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.

Honors Education in the Arts (HEARTS) <http://honors.fiu.edu/current-students/hearts/>

The HEARTS program is designed to give Honors College students opportunities to “explore and appreciate different artistic and cultural traditions and modes of artistic expression. HEARTS will also serve as a clearinghouse (and curatorial framework) for our students to experience the arts on campus and in the community by providing them with information about cultural activities and access to performances with free or discounted tickets.

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.