



Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic

Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 landscape may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Global Great Books 3003G: Reason and Revelation
Tuesday 10:30-11:30, Thursday 9:30-11:30
Room W-108

All our knowledge begins with the senses, proceeds then to the understanding, and ends with reason. There is nothing higher than reason. – Immanuel Kant

“Love life before its meaning?” “Certainly, love it before logic, as you say, certainly before logic, and only then will I also understand its meaning.” – Fyodor Dostoevsky

Reason has discovered the struggle for existence and the law that I must throttle all those who hinder the satisfaction of my desires. That is the deduction reason makes. But the law of loving others could not be discovered by reason, because it is unreasonable. – Leo Tolstoy



Professor: Dr. John P. Hope
Email: jhope24@huron.uwo.ca
Office Hours: Tuesday 1:30-2:30 & Wednesday 12:30-1:30
Office: A-15
Prerequisites: Global Great Books 1002 or permission of instructor

Learning Objectives

This course aims to help students to:

- Explore ideas about the human condition
- Understand the historical and cultural contexts of ideas
- Analyze and articulate their own beliefs and preconceptions
- Improve their ability to understand and engage with philosophical arguments
- Increase their skills in literary analysis
- Gain familiarity with works from a variety of global traditions
- Hone their ability to write clearly and argue convincingly

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES:

OWL Forum Posts

Included in your class participation grade is the requirement to contribute *at least* eight paragraph-length postings to our OWL discussion board. To encourage consistent participation throughout the semester, you will have three posts due by February 3, three more by March 10, and the last two by the last class, April 7. Doing more than three in the first third of the semester does not get you out of having to write posts for each of the next two parts, and so on, but showing greater engagement can't hurt your grade.

Your posts may take the form of a comment, a question, or an idea you want to try out. I encourage you to read and respond to each other's posts – this is meant to be a discussion. To receive full credit, you should post by 10:00 a.m. the morning of class – this will allow me to incorporate your thoughts and questions into the day's discussion.

Writing Assignments

For this course you will write a short paper (1500+ words) and a longer multi-stage project with several components. The short paper will be an analysis of one of the works we will read. I'll provide more information as the deadline draws closer.

The longer project will be a body of work presenting a work not on the syllabus in the context of the themes and concerns of this course. It will include an annotated bibliography of secondary sources discussing the work you have chosen, an essay introducing the work and discussing its ideas, themes, and contested points, and a plan for presenting the work to a class. More details will be forthcoming. NB: Alternative formats (podcast, video, performance) are also possible. Feel free to discuss your ideas with me.

Possible works include, but are not limited to:

- Works by the Sophists
- Plato, *Theatetus*
- Aristophanes, *The Birds*
- Cicero, *The Nature of the Gods*
- Exodus
- Revelation
- *The Diamond Sutra* and *The Heart Sutra*
- Rumi, selected poems
- Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Notes from Underground*
- Leo Tolstoy, *My Religion* (also translated as *What I Believe*)
- Kahlil Gibran, *The Prophet*

Final Exam

There will be a take-home exam during finals period. The date and time will be announced by the university.

Assessment

Grades will be determined by the following assignments:

- Preparation and participation: 20%
- Short writing assignment: 15%
- Annotated bibliography: 15%
- Essay or other presentation: 20%
- Lesson plan: 15%
- Final exam: 15%

Required Resources

The works below are required for the course. You may buy them in the campus bookstore, or online.

- Plato, *Republic* (Hackett Classics 2004)
 - Farid Ud-Din Attar, *The Conference of the Birds* (Penguin Classics)
 - Yevgeny Zamiatin, *We* (Modern Library)
 - Mikhail Bulgakov, *The Master and Margarita* (Vintage)
 - Søren Kierkegaard, *Fear and Trembling and The Sickness unto Death* (Princeton University Press)
- NB: Kierkegaard's work is also available online through the UWO library website.**

All other readings will be provided on our OWL website.

Attendance

In its essence, this course is meant to be a conversation, and this conversation can only happen if you are there to participate. For your sake and for the sake of your classmates, attendance is mandatory. After three unexcused absences, each additional absence will result in your participation grade being lowered by ten points. If you have a compelling reason to miss class, I ask you to let me know. If you are unsure as to whether your reason is compelling, please discuss it with me. See the appendix to this syllabus for information on academic accommodations.

Technology in the Classroom

All phones must be powered down and put away. I very much prefer that laptops not be used in class, though you may discuss this with me if you need to take notes in this way.

Missed or Late Work

Late assignments will not be accepted, and as a rule I do not grant extensions mere days before an assignment is due. However, some flexibility is possible. I encourage you to look over the syllabus and check it against your schedule. If you have a conflict, I am willing to work with you to set a new deadline, provided that you contact me **well in advance**. For more information on academic accommodations for medical and non-medical reasons please consult the appendix below.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Tue.	1/11	Introduction
Thu.	1/13	Sophocles, <i>Oedipus the King</i>
Tue.	1/18	Euripides, <i>The Bacchae</i>
Thu.	1/20	Plato, <i>Phaedo</i>
Tue.	1/25	Plato, <i>Republic</i> (Books 1-3)
Thu.	1/27	<i>Republic</i> (Books 4, 5)
Mon.	1/31	Choose project topic by today
Tue.	2/1	<i>Republic</i> (Books 6-8)
Thu.	2/3	<i>Republic</i> (Books 9, 10) First three OWL posts due
Tue.	2/8	Farid Ud-Din Attar, <i>The Conference of the Birds</i> , pp. 3-101
Thu.	2/10	<i>Conference of the Birds</i> , pp. 101-176 Short paper due by 11 p.m.
Tue.	2/15	<i>Conference of the Birds</i> , pp. 176-262
Thu.	2/17	Zhuangzi (selections)
Tue.	2/22	<i>Reading Week</i>
Thu.	2/24	<i>Reading Week</i>
Tue.	3/1	Immanuel Kant, "Answering the Question: What is Enlightenment?"
Thu.	3/3	Søren Kierkegaard, <i>Fear and Trembling</i> , pp. 29-60
Tue.	3/8	<i>Fear and Trembling</i> , pp. 61-151
Thu.	3/10	<i>Fear and Trembling</i> , pp. 152-221 Annotated bibliography due by 11 p.m. Next three OWL posts due
Tue.	3/15	Leo Tolstoy, <i>A Confession</i> , pp. 19-51
Thu.	3/17	<i>A Confession</i> , pp. 52-80
Tue.	3/22	Yevgeny Zamyatin, <i>We</i> , pp. 3-122
Thu.	3/24	<i>We</i> , pp. 123-203
Tue.	3/29	Mikhail Bulgakov, <i>The Master and Margarita</i> , pp. 3-109
Thu.	3/31	<i>The Master and Margarita</i> , pp. 110-181
Fri.	4/1	Essay due by 11 p.m.
Tue.	4/5	<i>The Master and Margarita</i> , pp. 185-280
Thu.	4/7	<i>The Master and Margarita</i> , pp. 281-335. Course Conclusion. Final two OWL posts due
Fri.	4/8	Teaching plan due by 11 p.m.

Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Mandatory Use of Masks in Classrooms

Students will be expected to wear triple layer non-medical masks at all times in the classroom as per Huron policy and public health directives. Students are now permitted to drink water in class by lifting and replacing the mask each time a drink is taken. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Huron policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean's Office, and such actions will be considered a violation of the Huron Student Code of Conduct.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The

appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has

already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email hurousss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at hurousss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at hurousss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here:

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.