9-2002

LS 195.84: Ways of Knowing

Robert M. Pack

University of Montana - Missoula

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Ways of Knowing
Liberal Studies 195, sections 84 & 85
Autumn 2002 -- TTh 11:10-12:30

Prof. Robert Pack
section 84, FA 211
243-2567 (office)
cnd3199@blackfoot.net

office: DHC 106
hours: Tth 3:45-5:30
and by appointment

Prof. Lorina Quartarone
section 85, LA 308
243-5637 (office); 251-0325 (home)
quartaro@selway.umt.edu

office: LA 425
hours: MWF 11:30-1:00
and by appointment

Required texts:
"Coursepack #1."
"Coursepack #3."

Course Objectives: to make an enquiry into the various sources, experiences, and types of human knowledge. In essence, we shall engage in a continuing exploration of the primary question "What do we know and how do we come to know what we think we know?" The emphases of the course are engaging in close readings of the primary texts, interpreting, discussing, and writing about those texts.

Please make note of the following important dates:

Thursday, 19 September
Paper 1 Due
Last day to add/drop by Cyberbear (w/refund)

Monday, 23 September
Last day to add/drop by petition (w/o refund)

Monday, 14 October

Thursday, 17 October
Paper 2 Due
Election Day Holiday -- no classes

Tuesday, 5 November
Veteran's Day Holiday -- no classes

Monday, 11 November
Thanksgiving Break -- no classes

Wednesday-Friday, 27-29 November
Thursday, 5 December
Paper 3 Due (Final)
**Course Components:**

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<td>Paper 1</td>
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<td>Discussion Participation</td>
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**Essays:** As you compose your essays, remember that we will grade you primarily on three components: 1) the *quality* of your *direct response* to the question/topic (no fluff, please!), 2) your *use of directly pertinent quotations* from the texts, and 3) *evidence of thought*. If at any time you receive a grade of 'C-' or lower on an essay, we require that you make an appointment to review it and discuss strategies for improvement.

**Notes & Notebooks:** While we suggest that you take notes during class, we request that you do so sparingly (since note taking generally hinders discussion). It will be important to create a course binder in which to keep your essays and notes from our joint classes, discussions, and plenary lectures. You will find this notebook enormously helpful when you review readings and compose your essays.

**Attendance:** Attendance is crucial. You will find our analyses of texts during class time of great importance, as they will provide material for your essays on each segment. It is also impossible to participate in discussions if you are not present. We do take attendance at each meeting.

**Discussion Participation:** Participation is also a significant factor in your course grade. After each meeting, we indicate in our rosters which students have contributed to the class discussion (contributing means *raising a pertinent question, addressing a question raised* (either by the instructors or classmates) during discussion, or *directing* the discussion toward a *fruitful examination*). At the end of the semester, the final tally will reflect your level of discussion activity.

**Office Hours:** Our office hours are listed on the first page of this document. You should always feel at ease to visit our office hours and discuss any aspect of the course you wish. It is important to us that you learn a great deal in this course and that you consider us resources in your education. If office hours should prove difficult times for you, please call to make an appointment.
"WAYS OF KNOWING" -- SYLLABUS

** nota bene: “Lectures” will meet in LA 308; “Discussions” will meet in FA 211 (Pack) or LA 308 (Quartarone)

I. How to "know" God:

A. The Source
Readings: Genesis 1-4 (handout); “Cosmic Timetable” (handout); Pack: poems about the Big Bang & excerpts from Heinz Pagel's *The Cosmic Code* (#1).

T SEP 3 Lecture/Discussion: Drs. Pack & Quartarone
Evening lecture: 7pm in DHC lounge. Dr. Pack

Th SEP 5 Discussion.

B. Faith & Revelation
Readings: Genesis 22 (Abraham & Isaac) & excerpts from Kierkegaard's "Fear & Trembling" (#1).

T SEP 10 Lecture: Dr. Pack
Reading: selections from the Book of John (#1)

Th SEP 12 Lecture: Dr. Borgman
T SEP 17 Discussion

C. Seeking Justice
Reading: *The Book of Job* (Mitchell translation)

Th SEP 19 Lecture: Dr. Pack; **Paper 1 Due**
T SEP 24 Discussion

D. Hinduism
Reading: *the Bhagavad-Gita*

Th SEP 26 Lecture: Dr. Quartarone

II. Nature & Science

A. Rationalism & Empiricism
Readings: Selections from Pre-Socratic Philosophers (#3); Plato: "Allegory of the Cave" (#1), "Diotima's ladder" (#3); selections from Aristotle (#1)

T OCT 1 Lecture: Dr. Quartarone
Th OCT 3 Discussion

B. Historical Perspective
Reading: Selections from Thucydides (#3)

T OCT 8 Lecture: Dr. Drake
C. Visions of Nature

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D. Theory of Evolution
Readings: Darwin: The Origin of Species; Dawkins: selections from "The Selfish Gene" (#3); Chaisson: selections from "Cosmic Evolution" (#3)

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E. Evolution & Morality
Reading: Shakespeare: The Tempest

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III. THE SELF AND SOCIETY

A. Social Constraint versus Instinct

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<td>Discussion (all meet in LA 308)</td>
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B. The Unconscious Mind
Readings: Kafka: Metamorphosis; Wordsworth: "One Summer Evening"; Thomas: "Fern Hill"; Jarrell: "The Truth"

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C. The Birth of the Individual
Reading: Homer: Iliad (Books 1-6, 9, 10, 14, 16, 18-22, 24); Auden: "The Shield of Achilles" (#3)

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D. Possessions & Obligations
Reading: selections from Marx (coursepacks #1 & 3)

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E. Language & Metaphor
Readings: Pinker: selections from "The Language Instinct" (#3); Lakoff: "Metaphors We Live By" (selections,#3); William Carlos Williams: "The Sea-Elephant"
T DEC 3 Lecture: Drs. Quartarone & Pack
W DEC 4 Plenary Lecture: Native American Reflections 7pm

F. The Uses of Art
Readings: Yeats: "Lapis Lazuli"; Nemerov: "Walking the Dog"; Keats: Ode on a Grecian Urn; Frost: The Need of Being Versed in Country Things; Stevens: Large Red Man Reading
Th DEC 5 Lecture: Dr. Pack; Paper 3 Due

G. Men and Women
Readings: Diamond: excerpts from Why is Sex Fun? (#3); Joyce: The Dead; Keats: "La Belle Dame Sans Merci"; Wordsworth: "Nutting"; Hardy: "The Well-Beloved"; Robinson: "Eros Turannos"; Frost: "Two Look at Two"; Ovid: "Teiresias" (#3); Weil: "The Iliad: A Poem of Force" (#3); Cummings: if everything happens
T DEC 10 Lecture: Dr. Pack
Th DEC 12 Discussion (joint meeting)