



Continued Great Books

Extra Evaluation Course

Description

This is a sequel to the Foundational Great Books course. The ultimate aim of this course is for the students to develop a deeper and richer appreciation of our entire Christian/Western culture, as well as our place within that culture - in short to cultivate Classical-Christian literacy. Students will delve into these iconic writings, asking questions such as: Do we know what death is? How do we live a good life? What is the nature of art and beauty? They will witness Plato's famous rendition of Socrates' final conversation, and Aristotle's pivotal treatise on art. They will enjoy the beauty of more deeply understanding man's calling through Aquinas, find parallels to their own life through studying the allegory of Christian's journey in *Pilgrim's Progress*, and immerse themselves in the beautiful, but agonizing, Russian world of the *Brothers Karamazov*. These works will make a lasting impact.

Cost: \$300

Course Reading List

- *Phaedo*
- *The Women of Trachis* by Sophocles
- *Poetics* by Aristotle
- *Short works* by Epicurus, Cicero, Seneca, and Justin Martyr
- *On Active and Contemplative Life* by Thomas Aquinas
- Selections from *Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer
- Selections from *The Divine Comedy: The Inferno* by Dante Alighieri
- *Of Experience* by Michel de Montaigne
- *Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan
- *The Brothers Karamazov*, Fyodor Dostoyevsky
- *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

Primary Learning Objectives:

- Students will achieve the confidence, encouragement, and tools to engage with more challenging and advanced works of literature.
- Students will gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of the universal relevancy and appeal of great and classic literature, particularly those works that were most foundational in forming contemporary culture.
- Students are enabled to move beyond basic reading comprehension level of the material to an understanding that these great books can be the gateway to discussing the deepest questions of humanity.
- Students will grow in appreciation for how Truth is objective and universal. As a reader, even if the student does not necessarily relate to the external circumstances of characters or authors, they are encouraged to see that the deepest truths about humanity are universally applicable, resonant, and meaningful.

Assignments	Weight
Week 3: Essay (<i>Art and Mimesis</i>)	17%
Week 6: Essay (<i>Canterbury Tales</i>)	17%
Week 7: Oral Midterm Exam	12%
Week 9: Essay (<i>Pilgrim's Progress</i>)	17%
Week 14: Oral Final Exam	18%
Class Participation	19%

Instructions for essays: Essays should respond substantively to the question posed. They should reflect the student's own thought and not just repeat what is found in the readings. Essays should be no less than 1000 words. The student will be graded on the quality of their thought as well as the clarity of their presentation.

Instructions for oral exams: Oral exams will test both the student's familiarity with the broader course material as well as their critical reasoning ability. In these exams, the tutor will engage the student with a number of questions, to which the student must thoughtfully respond. Oral exams are 20-30 minutes long and will take place in the classroom at a time determined by the student and his/her tutor.