The Life of the Mind
FSCC 100 First Seminar

Fall Semester 2005

Co-Instructors:
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Office hours: Wednesdays 3-5pm and by appointment

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Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am-12 noon and by appointment

Class meets TR 2:45-4:00 in Sears 552, also in Fourth Hour MW 12:30-1:45 Sears 462.
We will use some but not all of these time slots, you should check the syllabus
regularly to find out which ones you need to come for.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Part I: Life of the Mind

This part of the course discusses aspects of the mind: what is it? how does it interact
with our senses? what makes us human and different from animals? what is creativity?

Week 1: Aug 30/Sept 1

Tuesday What is a seminar? How should we run ours? What is a life of the mind?
Read: (1) The Seminar by Michael Kahn,
http://astroweb.cwru.edu/women/articles2/SEMINAR.pdf
Sacks Preface to “An Anthropologist on Mars” (on e-reserve)

Wednesday Review of documentation for a research paper.
Read Lunsford Chapters 52 and 54.

Thursday Discuss the writing process. In-class writing assignment on learning and
the seminar format.
Read: Lunsford, Chap. 4, 6, & 7

Week 2: Sept 6/8

Tuesday Read An Anthropologist on Mars, Sacks p244-296 (e-reserve)
**Wednesday** Kelvin Smith library visit – meet in the Dampeër room, second floor of the library.

**Thursday** – Animals in Translation
   Read: (1) Practical Passions, George (e-reserve) (2) How Animals Think, Temple Grandin (e-reserve)

**Week 3: Sept 13/15**

First writing assignment (version 1.0) due in class Tuesday 13th. This will be a research paper on a topic of your choice about Human and/or Animal Minds

**Tuesday** – Do animals have minds too, or only humans?
   Read (1) The Whole Animal, de Waal (e-reserve)
   (2) Lunsford, Chap. 18 & 19

**Thursday: SAGES Plenary event** Henry Louis Gates Jr Severance Hall 11:30-1pm (http://www.cwru.edu/events/hlgates)
   Read: Gates paper "American Letters, African voices" (http://astroweb.case.edu/heather/anthology.pdf)

**Thursday** – Sight as a means to knowledge
   Read: Seeing things, K.C. Cole (e-reserve)

**Week 4: Sept 20/22**

First Writing Assignment (version 2.0) due in class Tuesday 20th

**Monday** Academic advising and Major exploration, Strosacker

**Tuesday** Read: The Mind’s Eye, Sacks (e-reserve)

**Wednesday** Botanical Gardens visit

**Thursday** Read: (1) What is the Self? Csikszentmihalyi (e-reserve)
   (2) Living Backwards, Ludwig (e-reserve)

**Week 5: Sept 27/29**

**Tuesday** Read: (1) Everyday Use, Alice Walker (e-reserve) (2) A Chase, Dillard (e-reserve) NB read all of this, not just the Dillard piece.

**Thursday** Read: Lunsford, Chap. 1 & 3
Part II: Lives of the Mind

Week 6: Oct 4/6 Creativity

Monday Major exploration sessions: choose one or more from the sheet handed out in class on Thursday.
Tuesday Read: The Creative Personality, Csikszentmihalyi (e-reserve). Assignment for class: bring a short story about a creative moment in your life to tell others.
Wednesday Major exploration sessions II: choose another area of interest from handout.
Thursday Creativity in inventing your life
   Read: (1) A Mutable Self, Bateson (e-reserve) (2) Emergent Visions, Bateson (e-reserve)

Week 7: Oct 11/13

Second Writing Assignment (version 1.0) due in class Tuesday Oct 11. This will be a personal narrative on the subject of Creativity.

Tuesday Minds of others. Read: Sonny’s Blues, Baldwin (e-reserve)
Wednesday view first half of the movie “Memento” in 4th hour
Thursday Second half of Memento and discussion

Week 8: Oct 18/20

Second Writing Assignment (version 2.0) due in class Tuesday Oct 18.

Tuesday Read: Mrs Cassadore, Fedullo (e-reserve)
Thursday Read: Emergence, Labelled Autistic, Grandin pp 21-47

Week 9: Fall Break, class on Thursday Oct 27 only

Thursday Working with others; Autistics and relating to others. Read: Emergence, Labelled Autistic, Grandin, pp 21-47
Friday Special event: Plenary lecture on Hollywood and the Fascination of Autism, 7:30pm, Gund School of Law, room 158
Week 10: Nov 1/3

Tuesday Examples of position papers. Read: “Reading Critically, Writing Well”, (1) pp447-449, (2) 461-467. This book is on reserve at Kelvin Smith Library, so you will need to go check it out and photocopy the relevant sections. (3) Lunsford, Chap. 36 & 37

Thursday Read “Six Characters in Search of an Author”, pp210-256 in Eight Modern Plays, on reserve at Kelvin Smith Library.

Part III: Lives of Our Minds

The emphasis in this section of the course is on the importance of people working together to create new knowledge. One goal of this section is to engage students in a discussion about the mission of a research university. (We have decided jointly on the topics and readings for this section.)

Week 11: Nov 8/10

Collaboration

Third Writing assignment due in class Tuesday Nov 8. This will be on the topic Collaboration. You should also hand in the names of your group members for the interview project and the person who has agreed to be interviewed by you on Thursday Nov 10.

Monday Special event: class attends final rehearsal of “Six Characters in Search of an Author”. Meet 7pm at Eldred theater.

Tuesday Discuss the short story that was the basis for the movie “Memento”. Read: (1) Ch 6 (pp 158-182) and (2) short story Memento Mori, pp 183-195, both from “The Making of Memento”, on reserve at Kelvin Smith Library.

Thursday Read: (1) Becoming a Man, Monette (e-reserve) (2) The Innateness of Homosexuality (http://astroweb.case.edu/heather/fs/innateness.html), (3) The Ethics of Genetic Research on Sexual Orientation ((http://astroweb.case.edu/heather/fs/ethics.html)

Week 12: Nov 15/17

Tuesday Read: Emergence, Labelled Autistic, Grandin, pp 63-89, 89-119

Wednesday Movie: Requiem for a Dream, first half. Class meets in Sears 462.

Thursday Movie: Requiem for a Dream, second half + discussion.
Week 13: Nov 22 (Thanksgiving Nov 24)

Tuesday Read: Grandin, pp 120-148.

Week 14: Nov 29/Dec 1

Fourth writing assignment due in class Thursday Dec 1.

Tuesday The Waking Life, second half plus discussion.
Wednesday Visit to Cleveland Institute of Art. Meet at 12:30pm in foyer of CIA building next to McDonalds on Euclid. Read: Why art cannot be taught, James Elkins, pp 111 - 140 (e-reserve).
Thursday No class today!!

Week 15: Dec 6/8

Student groups will present their commentaries on the person and subject of their interview project.

The last week will also include discussion and reflection about the course of the semester, and assembly of Writing Folders.

Tuesday Oral presentations
Thursday Oral presentations

Final assignment: hand in Writing folders, Dec 16 at 5pm