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# IDS 1161: WHAT IS THE GOOD LIFE?

FALL 2020

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## Course Description:

Drawing on the cluster of disciplines that make up the Humanities and the considerable resources at UF in support of the Humanities, this course investigates the very nature and experience of being human. Applying multi-disciplinary and cross-cultural approaches to explore the question what is a good life, students consider the cost of the good life, examine how people have chosen to live as members of local and global communities, and analyze conceptions and expressions of beauty, power, love, and health.

## Course Objectives:

Students are provided instruction in multi-disciplinary approaches used in the humanities to study the good life through an analysis of juxtaposed works of art, architecture, history, literature, music, religion, and philosophy.

Content Objectives: Students will identify how people from different societies across time conceptualize the good life, what meaning and value individuals ascribe to the lives that they live or want to live, and what are the choices, costs, and benefits of the good life.

Communication Objectives: Students will communicate concepts, expressions, and representations of the good life clearly and effectively in written and oral form as stated in the rubrics of the course.

Critical Thinking Objectives: Students will analyze the conflicts and tensions that arise between the individual and the community, the normative and the exceptional, culture and nature, needs and wants, pleasure and happiness, short-term benefits and long-term consequences of the pursuit of the good life. They will critically evaluate the costs and benefits of the good life in order to make sound decisions.

## Instructors:

Russell Schultz: [nyc007@ufl.edu](mailto:nyc007@ufl.edu)

Julie Song-Ross: [msongross@ufl.edu](mailto:msongross@ufl.edu)

Amrita Bandopadhyay: [a.bandopadhyay@ufl.edu](mailto:a.bandopadhyay@ufl.edu)


Jeremy Frusco: [jfrusco@ufl.edu](mailto:jfrusco@ufl.edu)

Sarah Bushey: [sbushey@ufl.edu](mailto:sbushey@ufl.edu)

Due to the size of the class, you will be graded by ONE of the following instructors above. As such, please correspond with the instructor that is grading your section. We will let you know which instructor to communicate after the first week of class.

## Course Communications:

General course questions (regarding material and policies) must be posted on the “Course Questions” discussion located at the top of the Discussions tool. **Prior to posting your questions, do a keyword search for your topic.** If no one else has asked your question, please post (provide several keywords at the top of your message to help others find it.) Remember to subscribe to your post so that you will be e-mailed when it receives a response. Please do not ask the same question if the topic has been asked and answered. This creates confusion and makes more work for everyone.

Questions about grades or personal issues, must be emailed to the TA or instructor through the Canvas interface. To do this, click on the inbox in the upper right-hand corner. Click on the compose a message icon . Be sure to choose this course, IUF1000. Carefully select the people you wish to message as you do not want to send a message about a private matter to the entire class.

## Course Format:

The online version of IDS 1161 is entirely online. There will be no face-to-face meetings for this version of the class.

Each week, students will watch context videos online, complete the required weekly readings and submit posts to an online discussion in Canvas. In some weeks, there may be additional assignments required.

## Required Texts:

Hesse's *Siddhartha* and Sophocles' *Antigone* are **required**. Please use **ONLY** the translations indicated below, as these translations effectively capture the essence of these works. They are available at most bookstores and online retailers both in eBook or paperback form.

- Hermann Hesse, *Siddhartha*, translated by Joachim Neugroschel (New York: Penguin Books, 2002). ISBN: 978-0142437186.
- Sophocles' *Antigone*, translated by Ruby Blondell (Newburyport, MA: Focus Publishing, 1998). ISBN: 978-0941051255.

Please **DO NOT** use any other translations other than the ones specified in the list above.

Additional readings will be provided to you within Canvas.

You are required to have a webcam, headset/speakers and microphone. You'll be using this for your ProctorU exams as well as for your video and audio presentations.

## Grading Scale and Summary:

Assignment	Points	Percentage
Quizzes	60	6%
Video Presentation	60	6%
Discussion Activities	340	34%
Midterm Exam	200	20%
Analytical Essay	250	25%
TIB Audio Essay	90	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>100%</b>

Grade Scale	Grade Value
930-1,000	A = 4.0
900-929	A- = 3.67
870-899	B+ 3.33
830-869	B = 3.00
790-829	B- 2.67
750-789	C+ 2.33

720-749	C = 2.00
690-719	C- = 1.67
660-689	D+ = 1.33
620-659	D = 1.00
600-619	D- = 0.67
0-599	E 0.00

### Assignment Details:

#### Quizzes:

These quizzes will provide you with an opportunity to check your knowledge and understanding of the material covered in each module.

#### Video Presentation:

Each member of the class will prepare a 3-minute video talk on a topic related to one of the course readings. A webcam or other video recording device is required. The video presentations will be peer reviewed. See the Video Presentations Discussion Forum for full instructions.

#### Discussion Board Posts (DBP's):

Each week, students will post a response to a prompt and respond to 2 posts from other members of their discussion groups. Detailed instructions can be found in the Assignment Description of each week's module.

#### Midterm Exam:

There will be one midterm exam containing both short answer and essay questions. The exam will be proctored through ProctorU. Neither notes nor any external resources are allowed on the exam.

#### Analytical Essay:

You'll have the opportunity to delve more deeply into a good life topic through a 1,000 – 1,250 word essay. Visit the Assignments tool to see the full instructions along with grading information.

### TIB Audio Essay:

Finally, the This I Believe Audio Essay will give you an opportunity to synthesize what you have learned this term in a very personal way, connecting your unique experiences to readings and videos we have explored this term.

### **Academic Honesty:**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The [Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### **A Note About Plagiarism:**

It is expected that you will exhibit ethical behavior in this class. Students are expected to do their own work in written submissions, and to reference outside sources appropriately.

It also means you will not plagiarize the words, designs, concepts or ideas of others.

Plagiarism, whether intentional or accidental, has become very easy to commit since the advent of the Web. Plagiarism is defined as, "taking someone else's words or ideas as if they were your own." (Source: dictionary.com).

That means you cannot take even a single sentence from a Web site without attribution. It means you cannot take someone else's design and replace the words and pictures with your own. It means that if you use even a few words of someone else's words verbatim, you must put quotes around them and cite the source.

Plagiarism also includes taking another author's outline, paraphrasing someone else's work and ideas and/or transcribing work of another author in your own words.

Assignments in this course are checked for plagiarism, so please do not do it. UF's policy recently changed. Any work that is submitted with an unusually high match rate from TurnItIn.com is reviewed. If the instructors deem that the paper is significantly similar to the matched paper, then it is an automatic referral to Student Conduct for review. They will then determine the proper course of action going forward. Sanctions from professors without Student Conduct involvement is no longer allowed.

The above appears here with the permission from David Carlson, Executive Director, Center for Media Innovation and Research.

In addition, please note that if you have taken this course before, any work that you submitted previously is NOT ALLOWED under the University of Florida Student Code of Conduct. In other words, it is possible to plagiarize yourself according to UF's Student Code. Again, please do not re-submit work, even if it is original to you. If you have any questions about this, please email your instructor.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

Your instructor is happy to assist you with any accommodation needs. Please do not delay in requesting assistance.

### **Other Policies and Rules:**

1. Handing in Assignments: Assignments must be submitted in the format and manner described in the instructions. They should NOT be e-mailed to the TA or instructor. If you have trouble with file upload, contact the UF Help Desk for technical assistance.
2. Late or Make-Up Assignments: You may receive an extension on an assignment only in extraordinary circumstances and only if the request for the extension is (a) prompt, (b) timely, and (c) accompanied by all necessary written documentation.
  - a. In the case of late work due to participation in an official university activity, observance of a religious holiday, performance of a military duty, or any other conflict (e.g., jury duty) that the student knows about in advance of the scheduled assignment, the student is required to notify the instructor of the conflict before the assignment is due, and if possible at the start of the semester.

- b. If a student does not hand in the Essay on time and an extension has not been granted, there is a 15-point penalty for missing the deadline and a 30-point deduction for every day that passes before the paper is submitted.
    - c. For all other assignments, the students will not be granted an extension or be permitted to make up the assignment without an acceptable reason, such as an illness or serious family emergencies, in accordance with [university policies](#) on absences.
    - d. In the event of technical issues, all requests for time extension MUST be accompanied by a ticket number from the Help Desk. Any requests for extension must be submitted within 24 hours of the incident through e-mail within the Canvas interface to the course TA.
3. **Completion of All Assignments:** You must complete all written and oral assignments and fulfill the requirements for class participation in order to pass the course.
4. **Grading Policy:** If you have questions about your grade on an assignment, please make an appointment to talk with your TA within a week after the assignment has been returned so your TA can explain how you were graded.
  - a. If after speaking with your TA, you wish to dispute your grade, you may email your instructor (within Canvas) to request that the instructor re-grade the assignment.
  - b. The instructor will then re-grade the assignment and the second grade will stand, regardless of whether it is higher or lower than the original grade.
  - c. You may request re-grading or dispute a grade up to one week after the assignment has been returned to you or the grade released.
5. **Course Evaluation:** Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at [evaluations.ufl.edu](https://evaluations.ufl.edu).
  - a. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.
  - b. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.
  - C. The completion of two additional surveys will earn extra credit for the fully online course offering.
6. **Netiquette: Communication Courtesy:** All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. It is the goal of this course to provide a safe place to discuss personal issues in a constructive manner. View the course netiquette guide in the Canvas Syllabus tool for details.

## GETTING HELP:

For issues with technical difficulties for e-Learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu)
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor or TA within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

## PROCTORED EXAMS

To ensure the academic integrity of the degrees awarded by the University of Florida, this course proctors the midterm and final exams. UF Online students are proctored through ProctorU. For details on how this works, please see the instructions in the module. In order to use this service, you MUST have a webcam, headset or working speakers and a microphone. Please go to the ProctorU website for more information. Follow these steps for a trouble-free exam:

- Sign up early!
  - Set up your account during the first week of classes
  - Schedule your exam appointments as early as you can
- Test your equipment well before your exam (that means do it as soon as you receive your camera!)
  - Make certain that your webcam and microphone function properly



- Make sure your equipment is compatible with ProctorU
  - You are strongly urged to take the extra step to connect to a live person
  - Test your equipment again the day before your exam
- Download and install Google Chrome on your computer
  - Chrome is the only supported browser for ProctorU exams
- Use a wired connection
  - This is the number one cause of problems with online exams!
  - The extra load of the proctoring software can cause even the best wireless connection to fail—don't take that chance!
- Find a quiet and private location
  - You will not be able to take your exam in a coffee house or other public location

If you have not followed the steps listed above, any request for a makeup exam will not be granted.

## SYLLABUS CHANGES

This syllabus is subject to change. Any change will be announced in advance of due dates.