General Studies Program
The Colorado College
Spring 2006 - Blocks 5 and 6

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General Studies 101
FREEDOM & AUTHORITY
125 Palmer Hall

BLOCK 6: 20 FEBRUARY – 15 MARCH

Required Texts for Block Six

Voltaire (Francois Marie Arouet), Candide, or Optimism (Penguin Classics, 1972)
Jean Jacques Rousseau, Basic Political Writings (Hackett, 1987)
Isabelle de Charrière, Letters of Mistress Henley Published by Her Friend (MLA, 1993)
David Brooks, Bobos in Paradise: The New Upper Class and How They Got There (Simon & Schuster, 2001)

Additional E-Reserve Readings (articles and selections, as noted on the calendar section of the syllabus)

Immanuel Kant, “What Is Enlightenment?” (1784), in Internet Source Book, ed. Paul Halsall,


Lorenz Krüger, Lorraine Daston, and Michael Heidelberger (Bradford, MIT Press, 1987)


John Locke, “Of Property” and “Of Political or Civil Society,” in Second Treatise of Government (Bobbs-Merrill, 1952)


<http://www.policyreview.org/JUN02/kagan_print.html>

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, TOPICS, AND ASSIGNMENTS

Note: All assignments are to be completed before class.
Class will meet from 9:20 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., with a 15-minute break, unless otherwise noted
* Indicates electronic reserve reading.

V. Reason, Science, and Religion: Competing Authorities?

Monday, 20 February
**Class Meets at Noon**
**Lunch Served**

Enlightenment: Rationalizing Authority and Realizing Freedom?
a. Voltaire, *Candide, or Optimism*, pp. 19-144.

RESEARCH PAPER ASSIGNMENT DISTRIBUTED

Tuesday, 21 February

Reading and Research Day
b. Begin researching your paper topics, and read Kuhn for Wed.

Wednesday, 22 February

How Does Science Work and What Is Scientific Authority?

Afternoon: meetings to discuss your research projects.

Thursday, 23 February
**Meet in Manitou Springs**
**9:30 AM – 2 PM**

Précis Presentations
a. Students present their précis, and are assigned to bibliographical research groups.
b. Lunch in Manitou Springs with fall F&A students at 12:30.

Afternoon: Groups meet with Krystyna Mrozek to work on your bibliographies.

Friday, 24 February
**Leave from Tutt 9:20 AM**
**Return by 12:30 PM**

Approaching the New Fundamentalism
a. Field trip to visit the Focus on the Family Visitor Center.
b. Continue working on your bibliographies.

Monday, 27 February

How the New Fundamentalism Works

VI. Modern Society: Basis for Freedom or Its Loss?

Tuesday, 28 February

How to Be Autonomous: Classical and Early Modern Contrasts

Afternoon: Groups meet to finish editing bibliographies.
Wednesday, 1 March  
**Bibliography and Reading Day**

- **Meet at ID House**  
  a. Morning: individual meetings with each group, at which each presents their bibliographic work. Meet at ID House.
  b. Read Rousseau.

**GROUP ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHIES DUE**

Thursday, 2 March  
**The Critique of Modern Society**


Friday, 3 March  
**The Promises of Modern Man and Women?**

- b. *Isabelle de Charrière, Letters of Mistress Henley*, pp. 3-42.

Monday, 6 March  
**Questioning Contractual Society**

  
  Afternoon: screening of “Control Room”

**VII. Freedom: Perception and Presentation**

Tuesday, 7 March  
**Social Constructivism**


Wednesday, 8 March  
**The Technology of What Is Called Modern Democracy**


Thursday, 9 March  
**Reading and Writing Day**

- a. Individual meetings to discuss your papers.
- b. Read ahead!

**RESEARCH PAPER DRAFTS DUE BY 5 PM**

Friday, 10 March  
**Television, Civility, Power: The End of Free Thinking?**

  
  Afternoon: Group workshop meetings to read drafts.
Monday, 13 March  U.S.A. Today: Meritocratic Utopia or Narcissistic Sleepwalkers?
      Afternoon: individual appointments to discuss drafts.

Tuesday, 14 March  Reading and Writing Day
   a. No reading – read ahead for Wednesday.
   b. Individual appointments to discuss your papers.
      RESEARCH PAPERS DUE AT 2 PM

Wednesday, 15 March  The New World Disorder/The Promise of Democracy?
   c. *Barber, Jihad vs. McWorld, selections TBA.
      FINAL 4-PAGE REACTION PAPER DUE

Two-Page Summary and Reaction Statements

Note that the summary and reaction paper assignment from block 5 continues into block 6. During block 5, all students were to write six reaction papers, spread over three periods in the block. If, during block 5, you received less than full credit (a check) for a reaction paper, write extra papers during block 6. We will take your best 12 papers over the term.

During block 6, each student will be required to write an additional six reaction papers. Two should come from each of the following groups:

1. Kuhn, Ruthven, Sharlet, Aristotle, Locke
2. Rousseau, Constant, Charrière, Pateman, Mills
3. Hirschman, Gamson, Schumpeter, Postman, Putnam, Brooks

NOTE: STUDENTS CAN WRITE ONLY ONCE ON AN AUTHOR FOR CREDIT.

IN ADDITION, ALL WILL WRITE AN ADDITIONAL 4-PAGE REACTION PAPER ON THE FINAL READINGS (KAGAN AND BARBER), REFLECTING ON THE COURSE AS A WHOLE. BARBER AND KAGAN ARE THEREFORE NOT IN CATEGORY 3 ABOVE.

Other Policies

All other policies listed on the block 5 syllabus will carry over to this block, including the grading policy. Dennis’ office hours will remain the same. Tonja will announce her office hours in class.