

POLITICAL SCIENCE 4931 /4966

LOVE AND WISDOM: ANCIENT CONCEPTIONS

Marquette University
Fall 2009, MW 3:30-4:45, Wehr Physics 138

Professor Ryan Hanley

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Office Hours: MW 2:30-3:30 and by appointment

I. Course Description.

Today we often assume that love is a thing of the heart and wisdom a thing of the head. But can we really separate what our hearts feel from what our minds believe? This course will examine a variety of ancient perspectives on the relationship of love to wisdom, particularly as expressed in central texts of Greek and Roman philosophy (Plato, Aristotle and Marcus Aurelius), Christian theology (the New Testament, Augustine and Aquinas), and eastern philosophy and religion (Confucianism and Mahayana Buddhism).

In studying these texts, our primary aim will be to acquire mastery of their concepts and arguments. By so doing, we will also seek to fulfill the course's mandate as a senior experience course. By providing participants with opportunities not only to reflect on these concepts and arguments but also to ask how exactly they bear on our own present and future lives, the course aims to bridge the gap between academic inquiry and "real life" in a manner consonant with the University's mission to promote our development as whole people, of hearts and minds alike.

II. Course Requirements.

1. Grading. Your final course grade will be comprised of four components: three 5-page papers (each worth 25%) and class participation (25%).

2. Written Assignments. This course is officially listed as a writing development course. As such, it takes seriously the obligation to provide you with opportunities to improve your writing. These will principally take the form of the opportunity to revise and resubmit your first two written assignments in accord with the following policy. First, students will submit their written assignments in accord with the due dates and times listed in the schedule of assignments below. Within one week of receipt of your assignment, I will return your assignment with a grade and with minimal comments. You will then have the option to either a) accept as final the given grade; or b) revise and resubmit the assignment for a new grade. But be forewarned: along with the revised assignment – which you will submit electronically using the "track changes" function on Microsoft Word, enabling me to compare your revisions to your original – you will also be required to submit a separate, comprehensive memo that details, point-by-point, each of the specific changes that you made to the original. This memo will also need to provide a detailed rationale that explains why you made each of these changes, and justifies them with references to recognized works of English style and grammar. We will discuss these memos at greater length as the due date for the first paper draws near. In the meantime, please note that you will have only two opportunities to submit rewrites and memos for any one assignment. Please also note that the rewrite policy applies only to the first two papers and not to the third and final paper, the timing of which requires that the first draft submitted be accepted as final.

3. Class Participation. This course has an attendance policy (on which see below). But students are expected to do more than simply show up to class and be present. Thorough preparation prior to each

meeting and active participation while in class are also necessary if one hopes to master the material and receive a decent grade. In preparing for class you are expected to read assignments with the maximum possible care. To help you prepare most effectively for our discussions I will distribute a short set of study questions on the assigned readings prior to each meeting. While in class you are expected to listen carefully to the contributions of your colleagues and to engage others through your own contributions. Students can expect to be called on at each meeting if they do not volunteer to speak. Those inexperienced in or uncomfortable with talking in class are encouraged to come see me early in the semester so that we can together develop strategies for effective participation. Finally, note from the above that the quality of your class participation can significantly affect your final grade in either an upward or downward direction.

III. Course Policies.

1. Attendance. Attendance at every meeting is expected. Roll will be taken at each meeting and excessive unexcused absences – defined in this course as missing five or more classes – will result in the student receiving a grade of “WA” if those absences occur prior to the university’s withdrawal deadline, and a grade of “F” if the fifth class is missed after the withdrawal deadline. Students who find themselves unable to attend a meeting of the course due to personal reasons or university-sanctioned activities are encouraged to come to see me as early as possible in the semester so that we can work out a mutually-agreeable means of making up the missed material.

2. Academic Dishonesty. The University has a clear policy on academic dishonesty; see pp. 40-44 of the Undergraduate Bulletin, available online at http://www.marquette.edu/cur_students/documents/ugb.pdf. All instances and suspected instances of academic dishonesty will be handled in accord with the policy there specified.

3. Electronic Devices. Please note that our course has a policy on the use of electronic devices. It’s the same as what governs most airlines in the friendly skies. That is, consider this the moment that our course has just ascended to our cruising altitude of 35,000 feet, and that consequently ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF FOR THE REMAINDER OF OUR FLIGHT. In simple terms, this means that any device with an on-off switch – including especially, but not only, cell phones and laptops – MUST be set to the off position (or, better yet, simply left at home) for the rest of the semester. Violations of this policy will be grounds for removal from the course. The exception will be if you have a legitimate and documentable need to use such a device – in which case please see me as soon as possible. Short of that, you are strongly encouraged to bring nothing more to class than your minds, your texts, and a pen and paper.

4. Late Assignments. Please note that assignments submitted after the due dates and times listed on this syllabus will not be accepted unless I authorize an extension in advance.

IV. Texts. The following required texts are available for purchase at BookMarq; these editions and translations are strongly suggested, though not required. But please note that if you do use a different edition, it will be your responsibility to translate the page or section numbers listed in the assignment schedule below to fit your edition.

C. S. Lewis, *The Four Loves* (Harvest). ISBN: 0156329301
Plato, *Symposium*, tr. Benardete (Chicago). ISBN: 0226042758
Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, tr. Sachs (Focus). ISBN: 1585100358
Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*, tr. Hammond (Penguin). ISBN: 0140449337
Confucius, *Analects*, tr. Lau (Penguin). ISBN: 0140443487
Shantideva, *The Way of the Bodhisattva* (Shambhala). ISBN: 1590303881
The Bible, King James Version (Hendrickson). ISBN: 1565633253
Augustine, *Late Have I Loved Thee* (Vintage). ISBN: 0375725695
Aquinas, *On Charity*, tr. Kendzierski (Marquette). ISBN: 0874622107

V. Schedule of Reading and Written Assignments: This schedule is unlikely to change, but please know that I reserve the right to amend it if necessary. Also note days on which class is cancelled due to the university's vacation schedule or for other reasons.

Week 1 of August 31

M: Introduction

W: Lewis, *Four Loves*, "Introduction," "Affection" and "Friendship" (pp. 1-9; 31-90).

Week 2 of September 7

M: NO CLASS – LABOR DAY

W: Lewis, *Four Loves*, "Eros" and "Charity" (pp. 91-141)

Week 3 of September 14

M: Plato, *Symposium*, 172a-189c (pp. 1-18).

W: Plato, *Symposium*, 189c-206a (pp. 18-36).

Week 4 of September 21

M: Plato, *Symposium*, 206b-223d (pp. 36-54).

W: Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Book 6 (1138b20-1145a12; pp. 102-118).

Week 5 of September 28

M: Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Book 8 (1155a1-1163b30; pp. 143-162).

W: NO CLASS – ASSIGNMENT TBD

PAPER #1 DUE AT 3:30 PM, WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7

Week 6 of October 5

M: Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*, Book 9 (1163b30-1172a18; pp. 162-180).

W: Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*, Books 1-5 (pp. 1-45).

Week 7 of October 12

M: Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*, Books 6-9 (pp. 46-93).

W: Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*, Books 10-12 (pp. 94-122).

Week 8 of October 19

M: Confucius, *Analects*, Books 1-7 (pp. 59-91).

W: Confucius, *Analects*, Books 8-13 (pp. 92-123).

Week 9 of October 26

M: Confucius, *Analects*, Books 14-20 (pp. 124-160).

W: Shantideva, *Way of the Bodhisattva*, Books 1-5 (pp. 51-99).

Week 10 of November 2

M: Shantideva, *Way of the Bodhisattva*, Books 6-8 (pp. 128-228).

W: Shantideva, *Way of the Bodhisattva*, Books 9-10 (pp. 229-286).

PAPER #2 DUE AT 3:30 PM, MONDAY NOVEMBER 9

Week 11 of November 9

M: *Bible*: Matthew 5-7, 18-25; Mark 10-12 (pp. 458-60, 466-72, 481-83).

W: *Bible*: John 13-17; Romans (pp. 516-18, 541-48).

Week 12 of November 16

M: *Bible*: 1 Corinthians and 1-3 John (pp. 549-55, 590-92).

W: Augustine, *Late Have I Loved Thee* (selections TBD).

Week 13 of November 23

M: Augustine, *Late Have I Loved Thee* (selections TBD).

W: NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week 14 of November 30

M: Augustine, *Late Have I Loved Thee* (selections TBD).

W: Aquinas, *Of Charity*, Art. 1-4 (pp. 17-45).

Week 15 of December 7

M: Aquinas, *Of Charity*, Art. 5-9 (pp. 46-80).

W: Aquinas, *Of Charity*, Art. 10-13 (pp. 81-109).

PAPER #3 DUE AT 10:00 AM, FRIDAY DECEMBER 18