INHABITING OTHER LIVES [SELF AND OTHER] IDH 2003
The Honors College
Fall 2004

PROFESSORS
Sneh Gulati  gulati@fiu.edu  The Department of Statistics, DM 402B, 3:30-5PM T/R or by appt. 305 348 2065
Felice Lifshitz  lifshitz@fiu.edu  The Department of History, DM 389, 10-11AM T, 4-5PM R, or by appt. 305 348 3557
John Stuart  stuartj@fiu.edu  The School of Architecture, PCA 376B, 1-2PM T/R, or by appt. 305 348 3178

Web location for course:  http://hon.fiu.edu/~selfandother/files/

INTRODUCTION  SELF AND OTHER
The issues of identity are complex and encompass how we view ourselves and how others view us. Identity markers include, but are not limited to personality, appearance, gender, race, culture, profession, IQ, astrological signs etc. The purpose of this course is to explore as many identity markers as possible. This will be done through the assigned readings and the ensuing discussions.

READINGS
The following readings are assigned in their entirety, and are available for purchase in the FIU bookstore:
Nella Larsen, Passing (1929)

Excerpts from the following readings will be made available on our course website. However, students are welcome to acquire and/or read the books in their entirety, if they so desire, although only a portion of each is assigned as required reading for the course.
Edward W. Said, Orientalism (1978)
Joanne Martine Woolfolk, The Only Astrology Book You'll Ever Need (2001)

ASSIGNMENTS
In addition to the introductory assignments you have already achieved, there will be five quizzes on the readings, four one-page critiques, a five-page midterm paper, a five-page final paper, and a short oral presentation of no more than seven minutes.

PARTICIPATION
Your professors expect your attendance and your full participation at every class meeting. We recognize that things happen in your life, and will assume that three absences should cover all eventualities. We require neither notification nor documentation in connection with those three absences. Your fourth absence, however, will result in the reduction of your final grade by one full letter grade (eg. an A- will become a B-). Every absence thereafter will result in a fractional reduction of your grade (eg. a B- will become a C+).

COURSE EVALUATION
35% Small assignments and quizzes
25% Midterm paper
25% Final paper
15% Presentation and class participation

PLAGIARISM POLICY AND DEFINITION
(Adapted from http://www.fiu.edu/~comptalk/project2/plagiarism.htm)
Plagiarism means to present, as one’s own, the work, writing, words, or computer information of someone else. For correct attributions and references, consult The Chicago Manual of Style, or ask your professor for their preferred reference style. In the case of plagiarism, the instructor may fail the student in the course. And, in consultation with administrators, the instructor may recommend other action in accordance with university policies, including such severe disciplinary action as suspension from the university.
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8/31  Small Group Introductions: the Professors, the Students, the Course
9/2   Plenary Session Introductions: the Professors, the Course, the Issues

9/7   Small Group Discussions: Preliminary Assignments on Identity
9/9   Plenary Session Discussion: Identity

9/14  Small Groups Discussions: Identity
9/16  NO CLASS – ROSH HASHANAH

9/21  Small Group Discussions: The DaVinci Code (short quiz on reading)
9/23  Lecture: The DaVinci Code and Feminist Rage (Lifshitz)

9/28  Small Group Discussions: The DaVinci Code (1 page position paper on lecture DUE)
9/30  Lecture: Math and Measurement in The DaVinci Code (Gulati and Stuart)

10/05 Small Group Discussions: The DaVinci Code
10/07 Lecture: Astrology and Identity (Lifshitz)

10/12 Small Group Discussions: The Only Astrology Book You'll Ever Need (short assignment on reading DUE)
10/14 Lecture: The Bell Curve (cc. 13 – 14) and Statistics (Gulati)

10/19 Small Group Discussions: The Bell Curve (short quiz on reading)
10/21 Lecture: IQ and Identity (Stuart and Lifshitz)

10/26 Small Group Discussions: IQ
10/28 Lecture: Race and Space in America (introduction to Passing) (Stuart)
10/28 5 PAGE TAKE-HOME MIDTERM PAPER DUE

11/2   Small Group Discussions: Passing (short quiz on reading) (1 page position paper on lecture DUE)
11/4   Lecture: The God of Small Things and Indian Culture (Gulati)

11/9   Small Group Discussions: The God of Small Things (short quiz on reading) (1 page position paper on lecture DUE)
11/11  VETERANS' DAY: UNIVERSITY CLOSED

11/16  Plenary Session: Lecture on Orientalism (Stuart) (short quiz on reading)
11/18  Lecture: Vienna 1900, Vienna 2000 (Lifshitz, Stuart)

11/23 Small Group Discussions: Orientalism
11/25 THANKSGIVING: UNIVERSITY CLOSED

11/30 Small Group Meeting: Presentations (of students' paper topics for Spring 2005)
12/2   Small Group Meeting: Continuation of Presentations

12/7   Small Group Meeting: Presentations of student paper topics for Spring 2005
12/9   LAST DAY OF CLASS. Small Group Meeting: Continuation of Presentations
12/9   5 PAGE FINAL PAPER DUE (on second half of course material)