INHABITING OTHER LIVES [SELF AND OTHER] IDH 2005
The Honors College
Spring 2006

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SELF AND OTHER

In the second semester of Honors II, we will build on the themes developed in the first semester. In the first half of the semester we will focus on religion, nationalism, family, and technology through readings, media, and lectures. We will be using two films, and therefore scheduling special evening group viewings. Students who cannot make those events have two options: to purchase or rent the films themselves, or to watch them on reserve at the Honors College or in the Green Library. There will also be one weekend trip to the Wolfsonian-FIU, located on 10th St. and Washington Ave. (Miami Beach.

The readings will be drawn from:
Gabriel A. Almond et. al., Strong Religion: The Rise of Fundamentalisms around the World (available for purchase in the FIU bookstore)
Donna Haraway, “The Cyborg Manifesto” (available on the course website)

The second half of the semester will be devoted to student presentations of their projects. Our goal is to be able to select some of the projects for submission as a session (or sessions) to a national level conference (or conferences).

ASSIGNMENTS
There will be:
(1) 5 quizzes
(2) 4 brief assignments
(3) a five-page post-midterm paper
(4) a semester project which can be either a substantial (approximately 15 pages) written essay or, with permission of the instructor, something else appropriate to the project, and
(5) an oral semester project presentation of approximately twenty minutes.
Note: Students should be prepared to update the instructor and their fellow students on the progress of their project, in the small groups, periodically over the course of the semester.

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 (e.g. an A- will become a B-). Every absence thereafter will result in a fractional reduction of your grade (e.g. a B- will become a C+).

COURSE EVALUATION
30% Small assignments and quizzes
20% Midterm paper
30% Final Project
10% Presentation
10% Class participation
Plagiarism Policy of the Honors College

1. Honor in Honors

a. The Honors College, the term “honor” refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in Honors should therefore adhere to and be held to the highest standards of personal academic accountability. Academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism, is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at FIU. Consequently, an Honors College student found responsible for academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College.

b. Academic misconduct is a violation of the University Code of Standards, the Code of Academic Integrity, the ethical relationship between the student and the academic community, and especially between the student and the instructor. It is the responsibility and prerogative of the instructor to make an initial determination about the extent and severity of an instance of academic misconduct; the instructor may opt to make a referral for further adjudication in appropriate cases.

2. Plagiarism

a. This Policy views plagiarism as one form of academic misconduct, and adopts the definition of the university’s Code of Academic Integrity, according to which plagiarism is “the deliberate use and appropriation of another’s works without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student’s own. Any student who fails to give credit for the ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is guilty of plagiarism.”

b. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

1. Term papers acquired online or from other sources;
2. Copying of original material without attribution;
3. Use of other students’ work;
4. Copying and pasting, verbatim, information from Internet sources, without quotation marks and correct citation.

3. Availability of Information

a. All Honors students are expected to know what constitutes academic misconduct and to be willing to abide by all university policies on academic conduct and integrity. In order to facilitate this, The Honors College will prominently post and distribute information and links on these policies, and will strongly encourage students to review the Code of Academic Integrity, which is part of the FIU Student Handbook.

b. Faculty of The Honors College will:

1. Describe in or link to their syllabi information about the academic conduct policies of the University, the College, and the instructor, and
2. Provide clear statements defining plagiarism and cheating in their syllabi.

4. Procedures and Penalties

a. Procedures
Charges of Academic Misconduct may be brought against an Honors student by an Honors faculty member. If the faculty member suspects plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct, within one week of the discovery of the suspected act the faculty member will hold an informal meeting with the student in order to inform him/her of the allegation(s), provide any evidence available, and allow the student to respond.

The faculty member will decide whether to pursue informal resolution, file formal resolution charges, or take no further action, and will follow the procedures outlined in the Academic Misconduct Procedures, available at http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/1acmisconductproc.htm.
The student will have the right to appeal the outcome of the meeting with the instructor within one week of the faculty’s decision, when the decision is to pursue informal resolution or file formal resolution charges. The appeal will take the form of a letter to the Dean outlining the circumstances of the case and the reason for the objection to the professor’s recommendation. The Dean or his designee will examine the case and make a final determination about the pursuit of Informal Resolution or the filing of formal resolution charges.

b. Penalties
An Honors College student found responsible for plagiarism or other academic misconduct by informal resolution or formal resolution will receive an F in the relevant Honors course, and will be dismissed from Honors by the Dean, effective from the end of the semester in which the infraction occurs. Dismissal will be in writing and will entail the loss of all privileges and benefits of being in The Honors College, and the student will not be readmitted to The Honors College. The decision of the Dean will be final. This decision relates solely to the student’s status in The Honors College and does not affect the student's right to appeal the original faculty decision.

The penalty of dismissal from The Honors College may apply to academic misconduct in any course within Florida International University and not only to courses offered by The Honors College. In the case of courses outside The Honors College, the Dean of The Honors College will rely on the Office of the Provost for notification about the infraction(s). More stringent penalties, such as dismissal from the university, may be pursued through the university’s established academic misconduct process.

_This Policy follows the University Academic Misconduct Procedures of the Code of Academic Integrity, with modification to provide for appeal within The Honors College._

_This Policy becomes effective from Spring 2005._
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Schedule

01/10 Small Group Introductions: the Professors, the Students, the Course, the projects
01/12 Plenary Session - Lecture on Discussion of projects (Group)

01/17 Small Group Discussion: the projects (Quiz on Strong Religion)
01/19 Plenary Session: Religion, Nation, and Identity (Lifshitz)

01/24 Small Groups Discussions: Strong Religion
EVENING: Showing of South Pacific (1958) - time and location TBA
01/26 Plenary Session: Family, Nation, and Identity (Lifshitz)

01/31 Small Group Discussions (Quiz on South Pacific)
02/02 Guest Lecture: Memories of Interracial Adoption (Theresa Pinto, FIU Honors College alumna)

02/07 Small Group Discussions: Family (Position Paper on Pinto lecture due)
EVENING: Showing of Blow Up (1968) – time and location TBA
02/09 Plenary Session: Blow up Discussion (Group)

02/14 Small Group Discussions: Specularity and Identity (Quiz on Blow Up)
02/16 Plenary Session: Photography (Tansel)

02/21 Small Group Discussions: Self-Portrait photo (with one-page analytical description) due; Quiz on Photography lecture
02/23 Plenary Session: Nationalism and Material Culture at the Wolfsonian-FIU (Stuart)

02/28 Small Group Discussions: Assignments on Wolfsonian-FIU collections due
03/02 Lecture: Robots (Tansel)

03/07 Small Group Discussions: Robots (Quiz on Cyborg Manifesto; Robot assignment due)
03/09 Plenary Session: Cyborgs (Stuart)

03/14 Small Group Discussions: The Cyborg Manifesto
03/16 Plenary Session: Who are We?
FIVE-PAGE TAKE-HOME POST-MIDTERM ESSAYS DUE

SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS

03/28 Student Presentations of Projects
03/30 Student Presentations of Projects

04/04 Student Presentations of Projects
04/06 Student Presentations of Projects

04/11 Student Presentations of Projects
04/13 Student Presentations of Projects

04/18 Student Presentations of Projects
04/20 Conclusions. Final Project Due.