

The Nature of Love

The University of Toronto

TBB 199H1F – L0321

Fall 2014

Syllabus

What is love? This course will explore the nature and varieties of love from both Western and non-Western perspectives in the pages of religious texts, philosophers, poets, and scientists. We will ask such questions as: What is the relationship between romantic love, friendship, and sexual desire? Is love a human universal or a cultural invention? Are there really such things as unconditional love or universal love for all humanity? Is love giving or needy? Does love open our eyes to the real character of the beloved or blind us to it?

Meeting: Tues. 1:00-3:00 Sidney Smith Hall 2101

Instructor: Andrew Franklin-Hall

Contact: andrew.franklin.hall@utoronto.ca

Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00-3:00, Thursday 1:00-2:00, and by appointment Jackman Humanities Building
170 St. George St.
#428

Course Requirements

Participation	15%
Discussion Board	15%
First Paper	30%
Second Paper	40%

Email Communication and Office Hours

I will communicate with you using your utoronto email address. It is your responsibility to check your email regularly.

Likewise, email is the best way to contact me outside of class-time. Emails will be answered within 24 hours, or 48 hours over weekends. To ensure that your email is read promptly, put TBB199 in the subject line.

To discuss the content of the course or substantive questions about an assignment or grade, please schedule an appointment or drop by open office hours. Due to constraints of time, I cannot cover course material or discuss grades by email.

Texts

The Philosophy of (Erotic) Love, Robert C. Solomon and Kathleen M. Higgins (eds.) (University of Kansas Press)

Other Selves: Philosophers on Friendship, Michael Pakaluk (ed.) (Hackett)

Other readings will be posted online on Blackboard
<http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/online/Toolbox/Blackboard/>

If you have difficulty opening a file, please contact the instructor immediately by email.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is required. You have one unexcused absence. After that, the participation portion of your grade will be lowered by 1.5 per absence.

Participation in class will be evaluated on the basis of attention and regular, thoughtful discussion that demonstrates engagement with the assigned texts.

Discussion Board

Each week, you are to post on the Discussion Board on Blackboard. Posts should be about 200 words long, and should be posted by midnight the night before class. Late posts will negatively affect the Discussion Board portion of your grade. Posts will not be accepted at all after the week's class.

When posting, you can either respond to a study question (posted under Course Materials on Blackboard), raise an issue of your own, or respond to a post already submitted.

Discussion Board participation over the term will be evaluated on the basis of thoughtful discussion that demonstrates engagement with the assigned texts. You can miss one week without penalty. After that, the Discussion Board portion of your grade will be lowered by 1.5 point each time.

Papers

There will be two short papers, to be written on assigned topics that will be distributed at least two weeks prior to the due date.

The papers will be turned in electronically via Blackboard.

They will be due on: Sunday, Oct. 19
 Tuesday, Dec. 2

Late papers will be penalized by 2% for every day late.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Any text taken verbatim from other sources must be quoted and cited. Similarly, paraphrases and the borrowing of ideas from other sources should also be cited. Plagiarism will be dealt with severely and may result in both failing the course and having the incident permanently recorded on your academic transcript. You may talk with other students about your papers, but you must do the actual writing yourself. You are encouraged to have friends or writing tutors read over your work to proofread and give you feedback.

For the Official Policy of the University of Toronto, go to
<http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai/students>

Accessibility

Your success in this course is important to us, and we recognize that there are multiple ways to learn and that this multiplicity should be acknowledged in the structure of university courses and the evaluation of their participants. Thus, we encourage students registered in the course to discuss their learning styles and comprehension requirements with us during office hours or at another arranged time, if necessary. Every student is entitled to a meaningful and stimulating

learning experience. Disabled students are also strongly encouraged to avail themselves of the services provided by the campus the Accessibility Service Office, including the provision of note-takers, transcribers, and sign-language interpreters. The Accessibility Services Office is located on the first floor of Robarts Library, 130 St. George St., or visit the Accessibility Services website at <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility.htm> for more information. In addition, you can call OISE Student Services at (416) 987-2277 or visit the OISE [Student Services](#) website.

Writing Resources

You are highly encouraged to utilize available writing centres.

St. George Campus Writing Centres

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/arts-and-science>

Writing Centre Workshops

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-plus>

The Writing Centre website has also put together some useful advice on writing that you may be interested in:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice>

Finally, English Language Learners may find additional resources at:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/faqs/english-as-second-language>

<http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell>

Tentative Semester Schedule

1. Sept. 9	Songs of Love: Student-Submitted Love Songs and Selected Poems (BB)
2. Sept. 16	The Metaphysics of Love: Plato (PEL), Pascal (BB), Lawrence (PEL)
3. Sept. 23	Religious Perspectives on Love (BB)
4. Sept. 30	The Art of Love: Ovid (BB), Capellanus (PEL), de Sousa (PEL)
5. Oct. 7	The Ideal of Friendship: Aristotle (OS),
6. Oct. 14	Love as Union: Montaigne (OS), Hegel (PEL), Rilke (BB)
Sunday, Oct. 19	First Paper Due Submit on Blackboard
7. Oct. 21	Love and Particularity: Kierkegaard (OS), de Rougemont (PEL), Confucianism and Mohism (BB), Telfer (OS)
8. Oct. 28	The Disenchantment of Love: Stendahl (PEL), Schopenhauer (PEL), de Rougemont (PEL), Sartre (PEL)
Monday, Nov. 3	Last Day to Drop the Course
9. Nov. 4	Love and Psychoanalysis: Freud (PEL), Horney (PEL)
10. Nov. 11	Contemporary Psychology of Love: Shaver (BB), Fischer (BB)
Nov. 18	Fall Break – No class
11. Nov. 25	Feminist Perspectives on Love: Wollstonecraft (BB), Beauvoir (PEL), Firestone (PEL), Goldman (PEL)
12. Dec. 2	The Nature of Love: Singer (PEL), Nozick (PEL)
Tuesday, Dec. 2	Second Paper due Submit on Blackboard