All written assignments should be double-spaced, in a standard 12 point font, and not using the “justify” margins formatting. Please make sure your name appears on all pages of the paper.

WEEK ONE

Literature Session (9:00AM to 10:20AM)

Week 1: Short stories

Monday, August 8: Vladimir Nabokov, “Symbols and Signs” (1948)

Tuesday, August 9: Jorge Luis Borges, “The Library of Babel” (1941)


Thursday, August 11: Franz Kafka. “The Metamorphosis” (1919)

Friday, August 12: Flannery O’Connor, “Everything that Rises Must Converge” (1965)

Saturday, August 13: Alfred Hitchcock, Vertigo (1958, 128 mins.; to be screened in class with a short discussion to follow)

Academic Writing Session (10:40AM to noon)

Monday, August 8: Outlining the argument of an essay on Nabokov’s “Symbols and Signs”

Discussion of terms and concepts: What is a thesis? What is a claim? What are ground and evidence?

Due by 6:00AM on Tuesday: One paragraph on Nabokov’s story following the above prompt.

Tuesday, August 9: Reading and analyzing paragraphs of Nabokov’s’s story.

Due by 6:00AM on Wednesday: Second paragraph on Nabokov’s text: What argument/claim could you make about the text?

Wednesday, August 10: Workshopping your opening paragraphs

Due by 6:00AM on Thursday: Third paragraph on Nabokov’s story: What is “at stake” in your claim about the text?
Thursday, August 11: Workshopping your third paragraphs

*Due by 6:00AM on Friday: Third paragraph*

Friday, August 12: Workshopping your three paragraph drafts

*Due by 6:00AM on Saturday: final draft 3-4 paragraphs*


**WEEK 2**

**Essays and Speeches session (9:00AM to 10:20AM)**

**Week 2: Essays and speeches**
Monday, August 15: Abraham Lincoln, “Gettysburg Address” (1863); Martin Luther King, Jr., “Letter from Birmingham Jail” (1963)

Tuesday, August 16: Virginia Woolf, “Professions for Women”

Wednesday, August 17: David Foster Wallace, “Laughing with Kafka” (1998)

Thursday, August 18: Josef Brodsky, “Less than One” (1976)

Friday, August 19: Jeremy Cohen, “Monster Culture: Seven Theses” (1996)

Saturday, August 20: Jan Švankmajer, *Short Films* (1980s) to be screened in class with a short discussion to follow

**Academic Writing Session (10:40AM to noon)**

**Week 2: Thesis claims, evidence, argument, stakes: the matter of an academic essay**

*Due by 6:00AM on Monday: One paragraph summary of King’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail”*

Monday, August 15: Workshopping your paragraphs

*Due by 6:00AM on Tuesday: One paragraph on the thesis or claim of King’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail”*

Tuesday, August 16: Workshopping your paragraphs

*Due by 6:00AM on Wednesday: A second paragraph on the evidence for the claim of “Birmingham Jail”*

Wednesday, August 24: Workshopping your paragraphs
Due by 6:00AM on Thursday: A third paragraph on the stakes of “Birmingham Jail”

Thursday, August 25: Workshopping your paragraphs

Due by 6:00AM on Friday: A three-four paragraph draft on McLuhan’s argument in “Birmingham Jail”

Friday, August 26: Workshopping your drafts

Due by 6:00AM Saturday: Final draft of King essay: maximum word count: 900.

Saturday, August 20: Workshopping your final drafts

WEEK 3

Philosophy and Social Critique Session (9:00AM to 10:20AM)

Monday, August 22: Plato, The Apology (ca. 399 BCE)

Tuesday, August 23: Plato, Apology (continued)

Wednesday, August 24: Immanuel Kant, “What is Enlightenment?” (1784)

Thursday, August 25: Freud, “The Uncanny” (1919)

Friday, August 26: Michel Foucault, “Of Other Spaces” (1984)

Saturday, August 27: Ridley Scott, Alien (1979, 117 mins.; to be screened in class with a short discussion to follow)

Academic Writing Session (10:40AM to noon)


Due by 6:00AM on Tuesday: One paragraph on The Apology (summary)

Tuesday, August 23: Workshopping your paragraphs

Due by 6:00AM on Wednesday: A second paragraph on the claim of The Apology

Wednesday, August 24: Workshopping your paragraphs

Due by 6:00AM on Thursday: One paragraph on the argument of “What is Enlightenment?”

Thursday, August 25: Workshopping your paragraphs

Due by 6:00AM on Friday: A second paragraph on the argument and stakes of “What is
Enlightenment

Friday, August 26: Workshopping your second paragraphs


WEEK 4

Poetry Session (9:00AM to 10:20AM)


Academic Writing Session (10:40AM to noon)

Due by Monday at 6:00AM: One or two paragraphs on the relationship between Whitman Song of Myself (Part 18 especially) and Espada’s Vivas... Maximum: 300-400 words

Monday, August 29: Workshopping your paragraphs

Due by Tuesday at 6:00AM: Choose a poem from our selection on Tuesday. Write a paragraph or two on how to read that poem and why your reading is valid and compelling.

Tuesday, August 30: Workshopping your paragraphs
Maximum: 300-400 words