

Syllabus, Course Outline, and General Information

Freshman Tutorial-Fathers and Sons

Fall 2008-Professor Calisch

Tuesday – Thursday 9:45 – 11:00

Statement about Freshman Tutorials:

The emphasis of the Freshman Tutorial course is on developing student thinking, reading, writing, and speaking skills. The seminar style course is usually made up of a group of freshman advisees that share a common interest in the course's basic subject. Frequently instructors select interdisciplinary topics outside their area of expertise that they wish to explore along with their students. Beyond the individualized subjects and the skill building emphasis of these courses, they also serve as a core freshman experience.

Fathers and Sons:

Fathers and Sons: If you are a male, then one or both of these labels describes you. But, what do those descriptions mean, and how have they developed? From Oedipus and Laius to the Presidents Bush, the relationships between fathers and sons are historically charged with intensity and passion.

Love/hate, caring/competition, respect/irreverence, presence/absence, and the coming of age/fear of growing old are dichotomies that can characterize this relationship between males. This class will examine the variety of ways that fathers and sons are depicted in our culture through film and literature. Our journey will involve looking at cultural stereotypes, human nature, and personal experiences. In addition, students will reflect on their roles in this powerful and ever changing relationship through writing, and discussion. The course, like all Freshman Tutorials, will focus on improving communication skills. The theme of Fathers and Sons will be our vehicle to develop critical observation skills, while cultivating talents as readers, writers, and speakers. Because Professor Rosenberg's Freshmen Tutorial section shares a similar theme (Men and Masculinities), the two FT groups will combine for several readings, film viewings and discussions.

Statement about the Academic Support Services for Students

The Writing Center in the Armory is available to all Wabash Students. Faculty-recommended tutors are knowledgeable, helpful, and eager to work with their fellow students at any stage of the writing process. The director, Ms. Rosenberg, is also available for sessions under certain circumstances. Academic Support Services also provide help with reading, note taking, time management, and other study skills. Call 6258 or drop by for an appointment.

If you know or suspect you have a disability for which you may need accommodation, I invite you to speak confidentially to me and/or Ms. Rosenberg at the Academic Support Services Office in the Armory. Documentation must be on file with Ms. Rosenberg before accommodations can be granted.

Grading:

3 Papers	30 % (10% each)
Final Presentation	20%
4 Vocabulary Quizzes	10% total
Weekly Journal	20%--(10% each half)
Discussion	20%

Papers:

Three papers will be assigned that ask you to synthesize the reading material and class discussions. The nature of each paper will be different, starting with personal narrative, moving to observation and critical analysis, and then culminating with a research paper. Specifics of each paper will be handed out at the appropriate time.

Weekly Journal Entries:

Each week, I will pose a journal question or topic that loosely parallels our course material. The journal is a place for you to explore the issues being addressed in our class. I ask that you consider the topic and reflect on it in an honest and individual way. Exploration of the topics may lead you to write on tangential subjects. Your journal will be collected twice, once at midterm and then again at the semester's end. Please write legibly.

Discussion and attendance:

Your presence in class, both physical and mental is expected. Your contributions to discussions and your overall "course energy" will be evaluated. Remember this course is about communication skills and that includes group work, speaking, and listening.

Quizzes:

Quizzes (4) will be given on the date each reading assignment is due. These quizzes will focus on vocabulary from the readings. (Always read with a dictionary handy.)

Final Project:

The final project will be a combination research project and presentation/speech/video/powerpoint. The exact topic will be determined by you and I together, and will serve as the culmination of our course.

Class Schedule/Activities

Thursday, August 28

Course Introduction

Discussion: Course Philosophy, Syllabus, Grading, Work Load, Journals, Etc.

Reading Assignment: A River Runs Through It - Due September 2

Listening Assignment: Fathers and Sons CD - Due September 4

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (1) - Due September 4

Sunday, August 31

7:00 pm - Film Viewing – A River Runs Through It

With Professor Rosenberg's Tutorial in C216

Tuesday, September 2

Discussion with Professor Rosenberg's Tutorial - Class held in Detcheon 112

A River Runs Through It - Book vs. Film

Thursday, September 4

Continued discussion - A River Runs Through It

Discussion of CD: Fathers and Sons - Building Themes

1st Paper –Writing Assignment (see handout) - Due September 16

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (2) - Due September 11

Vocabulary Quiz - A River Runs Through It

Friday, September 5

Attend the exhibition opening of Professor Calisch

Anytime between 5-7 pm

(Recommended, not required)

Tuesday, September 9

Discussion: Active Reading

Group Work: Building Themes

Thursday, September 11

Discussion: "Reading" Poetry

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (3) - Due September 18

Tuesday, September 16

DVD viewing: John Q -- Class, Chapel Period, and Lunch together

1st Paper Due

Reading Assignment: My Losing Season - Due October 2

Thursday, September 18

Video: The Story of Fathers and Sons

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (4) - Due September 25

Tuesday, September 23

Group Work: Discussion of 1st paper

Thursday, September 25

In-Class “Draft” Writing Assignment (See Handout)

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (5) - Due October 2

2nd Paper: Writing Assignment: Pat Conway – Due October 21

Tuesday, September 30

Library Visit with Reference Librarian

Discussion of Research Topics (see handout)

Thursday, October 2

Discussion: My Losing Season

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (6) - Due October 9

Vocabulary Quiz – My Losing Season

Sunday, October 5

7:00 pm film viewing: The Great Santini

With Professor Rosenberg’s Tutorial in C216

Tuesday, October 7

Discussion with Professor Rosenberg’s Tutorial - Class held in Detcheon 112

Discussion: The Great Santini and My Losing Season

Thursday, October 9

Individual Meetings—Discuss current paper topic

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (7) - Due October 23

Tuesday, October 14

Video: Smoke Signals Class Period, Chapel Period, and Lunch together

Journals Due

Thursday, October 16

Fall Break -- NO CLASS

Reading Assignment: The Starship and the Canoe - Due October 30

Tuesday, October 21

2nd Paper due

Read and discussion: Robert Bly: A selection of poetry

Thursday, October 23

TBA

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (8) - Due October 30

Tuesday, October 28

Discussion: Interviewing techniques

Thursday, October 30

Vocabulary Quiz - The Starship and the Canoe

Discussion Questions: The Starship and the Canoe (see handout)

3RD Paper - Writing Assignment: The Starship and the Canoe - Due November 18

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (9) - Due November 6

Tuesday, November 4

Continued Discussion: The Starship and the Canoe

Reading Assignment: The Road – Due November 20

Thursday, November 6

Discussion of Final Presentations (see handout)

TBA

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (10) - Due November 13

Tuesday, November 11

Fathers in Class?

Thursday, November 13

Discussion: Public Speaking techniques

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (11) - Due November 20

Tuesday, November 18

Video: 3:10 to Yuma - Class Period, Chapel Period, and Lunch together with Professor Rosenberg's Tutorial in C216

3rd Paper due

Thursday, November 20

Vocabulary Quiz – The Road

Discussion: The Road

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (12) - Due December 4

Tuesday, November 25

NO CLASS - Thanksgiving break

Thursday, November 27

NO CLASS - Thanksgiving break

Tuesday, December 2

Individual meetings on Presentation Topics

Thursday, December 4

5 Student Presentations

Writing Assignment: Weekly Journal Entry (13) - Due December 11

Tuesday, December 9

5 Student Presentations

Thursday, December 11

5 Student Presentations

In-Class Journal Writing: Evaluation

Journals Due