REL 5937 Special Topics: Seminar on Foucault
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Texts:


Selections from Foucault, *History of Sexuality*, Vols I and II. (these will be posted online)

Course Objectives:

Students will be able to explain
1. Foucault's theory of power
2. his use of history
3. his approaches to sexuality
4. his social theory
Students will be able to apply these to various topics.

Course Requirements:

Students will attend the undergrad class REL 3970 Special Topics: Seminar on Foucault on Monday nights, contribute to class discussions, and follow the readings for that class, performing the two required class presentations (but submitting them in written form to Gudorf).

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all Monday night classes and all four sessions with Dr. Gudorf. One Monday night class may be missed without penalty. Further absences from either Monday nights or the sessions with Gudorf will result in penalties: half a letter grade for Monday nights, and a full letter grade from missing one of the sessions with Gudorf.

Students will also listen to a posted lecture by Gudorf in January, and submit answers to the questions following. They will attend one 2-2.5 hour class with Gudorf in February (Feb 3rd or 4th, to be arranged), March (3rd or 4th, TBA) and April (7th or 8th, TBA). Students should come to these sessions prepared to share: 1. at least two specific sentences or sections from the readings from that month that summarize major points of Foucault, and 2. any section of the readings about which they have questions (Anyone who brings no questions will be assumed to be able to answer the questions of the rest of the class.)
Students will submit for approval paper proposals (their research question, tentative outline of their argument, and bibliography) by our March meeting at the latest. Papers will be due April 15.

**Grading:**

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>First class presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Second class presentation</td>
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<td>Term paper proposal</td>
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<td>Midterm exam</td>
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<td>Term paper</td>
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Grading scale is standard: 93-100=A, 90-92=A-, 88-89=B+, 83-87=B, 80-82=B-, 78-79=C, etc.

Schedule of Readings: (Unless specified, these are from *The Essential Foucault.*)

**January**

The Ethics of the Concern of the Self as a Practice of Freedom 25-43  
The Subject and Power 126-144  
Technologies of the Self 145-169  
About the Concept of the "Dangerous Individual" in Nineteenth-Century Legal Psychiatry 208-228  
So Is It Important to Think? 170-173  
On the Archaeology of the Sciences: Response to the Epistemology Circle 392-422

**February**

Confronting Governments: Human Rights 64-65  
"Omnes et Singulatim": Toward a Critique of Political Reason 180-201  
The Risks of Security 66-79  
Society Must Be Defended 294-299  
Security, Territory, and Population 259-262  
Governmentality 229-242  
The Birth of Biopolitic 202-207

**February 21-22, online midterm. (80% essay, 20% objective)**

**March**

Parts Three and Four (pp.53-131) History of Sexuality Vol I  

Paper proposal due March 3
April

Readings from the *History of Sexuality* Vol II (to be assigned)

Term paper due April 15 (to be submitted online)