

PHIL 2646

Reading List (S2, 2021)

N.B.

There are both literary and philosophical works assigned for most weeks. We will focus mainly on the philosophical works in lectures, and mainly on the literary works in tutorials. But you should do all the relevant reading by the time of lecture.

* When a reading says "selections" it means that only a portion of the work is assigned. Page numbers are specified in notes on our Reading List. Email me if there are any questions!

Week 1: Introductory Case Studies

1. Franz Kafka, *The Metamorphosis*
(Please provide/link to an unabridged version; many are available online)
2. Oodgeroo Noonuccal, 'Municipal Gum'
3. Declan Furber Gillick, 'Nanna Emily's Poem (Mount Issa Cemetery 2014)'
(both 2 and 3 are in *Fire Front: First Nations Poetry and Power Today*, ed. Alison Whittaker)

Week 2: Hume on Aesthetic Evaluation

1. David Hume, 'Of the Standard of Taste'
2. Noel Carroll, 'Hume's Standard of Taste'
3. Kafka, 'A Country Doctor'
4. Kafka, 'The Hunger Artist'

Recommended:

5. Peter Kivy, *De Gustibus*, Chapter 1
6. Kafka, 'Before the Law'

Week 3: Aesthetic Evaluation continued (and Latin American Literature introduced)

1. Gorodeisky and Marcus, 'Aesthetic Rationality'
2. Julio Cortazar, 'Continuity of Parks'
3. Julio Cortazar, 'Axolotl'
4. Clarice Lispector, 'The Smallest Woman in the World'

(Note to library: I prefer the Blackburn translations from Cortazar, *Blow Up and other Stories*, and the Dodson translations from Lispector, *Collected Stories*)

Recommended:

5. Anthony Cross, 'Art Criticism as Practical Reasoning'
6. Clarice Lispector, *The Passion According to GH*

Week 4: Literature and Ontology

1. Jorge Gracia, 'Pierre Menard: Philosophy or Literature?'
2. Jorge Luis Borges, 'Pierre Menard, Author of the *Quixote*'
3. Jorge Luis Borges, 'The Library of Babel'
4. Jorge Luis Borges, 'The Secret Miracle'

Recommended:

5. Borges, 'Death and the Compass,' 'The Garden of Forking Paths', 'The Aleph'
6. Gregory Currie, 'Work and Text' (selections TBA)
7. Amie Thomasson, 'Fictional Characters and Literary Practices' (selections TBA)

*Note to library: I prefer the Hurley translations of Borges, from *Collected Fictions*

Week 5: Interpretation

1. Susan Sontag, 'Against Interpretation'
2. Berys Gaut, 'Creativity and Rationality'
3. Herman Melville, 'Bartleby the Scrivener: A Tale of Wall Street'

Recommended:

4. Vladimir Nabokov, 'Signs and Symbols' (from *Nabokov's Dozen*)
5. Wayne Booth, 'Types of Narration' (from *The Rhetoric of Fiction*)

Week 6: Fiction and Emotion

1. Kendall Walton, 'Fearing Fictions'

2. Alice Munro, 'The Bear Came Over the Mountain'
3. Cynthia Ozick, 'The Shawl'

Recommended:

4. Richard Moran, 'The Expression of Feeling in Imagination'
5. Svetlana Alexievich, 'A Human Being is Greater than War' (from *The Unwomanly Face of War*)

Week 7: Metaphor and Style

1. Marga Reimer, 'Davidson on Metaphor'
2. Rachel Fraser, 'The Ethics of Metaphor' (selections)
3. Shakespeare, Sonnet 130
4. Emily Dickinson, 'I Dwell in Possibility'
5. Ana Maria Ortese, 'A Pair of Eyeglasses' (Goldstein translation from *Evening Descends Upon the Hills*)

Recommended:

6. Bruno Schulz, 'August' (from *The Street of Crocodiles*)
7. Elisabeth Camp, 'Metaphor and That Certain 'Je Ne Sais Quois''

Week 8: Poetry, Translation, and Philosophy

Conversation with guest poet Judith Beveridge

Readings and plan TBA

Week 9: Sympathy and Imagination

1. Tamar Gendler, 'The Puzzle of Imaginative Resistance'
2. George Eliot, *The Lifted Veil*

Recommended:

3. Kathleen Stock, "Resisting Imaginative Resistance"
4. Victoria McGeer, "The Moral Development of First-Person Authority" (the section on *Middlemarch*, for any who have read the novel)

Week 10: Artistic and Moral Value

1. A.W. Eaton, 'Robust Immoralism'
2. Mobb Deep, 'Shook Ones Pt. II' -- available here: [Mobb Deep - Shook Ones Part II](#)



(HD) ([Links to an external site.](#))

3. Snoop Doggy Dogg, 'Gin and Juice' -- available here: [Snoop Dogg - Gin And Juice](#)



feat. Dat Nigga Daz ([Links to an external site.](#))

4. Bob Dylan, 'The Lonesome Death of Hattie Carroll' -- available here: [Bob Dylan - The Lonesome Death of Hattie Carroll \(Audio\)](#) ([Links to an external site.](#))



5. Fyodor Dostoevsky, 'Dream of a Ridiculous Man'

Recommended:

6. Jerrold Levinson, 'Immoral Jokes'
7. Edgar Allan Poe, 'The Cask of Amontillado' (available here: <https://www.poemuseum.org/the-cask-of-amontillado> ([Links to an external site.](#)))

Week 11: The Values of Literature

1. Wayne Booth, review of *Love's Knowledge* (from *Philosophy and Literature* 15(2), October 1991)
2. Fyodor Dostoevsky, 'The Grand Inquisitor' (from *The Brothers Karamazov*)
3. Octavio Paz, 'Mexican Masks' (selections TBA)

Recommended:

4. Minefield episode with Christos Tsiolkas

<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/theminefield/is-literary-fiction-necessary-for-the-moral-life/10960904> (Links to an external site.)

5. Nussbaum, *Love's Knowledge*, Chapter 1
6. Gilbert Ryle, 'Jane Austen and the Moralists'

Week 12: Literature, Philosophy, and Death

1. Bernard Williams, 'The Makropulos Case: Reflections on the Tedium of Immortality' (selections TBA)
2. Kieran Setiya, *The Midlife Crisis*, Chapter 5
3. Philip Larkin, *Aubade*

Recommended:

4. Svetlana Alexievich, 'On the Mercy of Memories and the Lust for Meaning' (from *Second-Hand Time*, p. 219-236 in the Fitzcarraldo editions version)

Week 13: Final Case Study: Elena Ferrante

1. Ferrante, *The Lost Daughter*

Recommended:

2. Sam Shpall, 'Female Freedom and *The Neapolitan Novels* (Part 1)'