

SYLLABUS

IDS 801: Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies

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OFFICIAL COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is an orientation to the M.L.S. and an opportunity to enhance critical thinking, analytical, and writing abilities. The purpose of the course is to help the student become acquainted with the concept of interdisciplinary liberal education and understand its potential in fostering intellectual growth, personal satisfaction, and the ability to enhance employability in a world where knowledge has become the key resource.

GOALS

- 1) To introduce you to the Master of Liberal Studies Program
- 2) To help you develop your ability to think critically
- 3) To acquaint you with the nature of liberal studies
- 4) To bring to your attention some of the benefits that can arise from engaging in liberal study.

REQUIREMENTS

THERE ARE NO EXAMS IN THIS COURSE. The assignments in this course are completed by posting papers and discussion questions and answers online through the Discussion Board on Blackboard. Your grade will be determined by the content of your papers and how you interact with the other students in this course. You will be graded at the completion of the course cumulatively on your participation. You will not receive a grade per assignment. You may however ask your instructor for general feedback on your progress at any time. You will be expected to meet the following requirements.

- 1) Read all assigned material.
- 2) Raise questions about readings, of instructor, and of other students in the class. Four sorts of questions are particularly appropriate:
 - a) Clarity: What do you mean by that? Can you give me an example of what you mean?
 - b) Basis: On what information do you base that? Does that follow from your basis?
 - c) Adequacy: Does this solve the problem? Has the question been answered?
 - d) Implication: What follows from that? Or doesn't X follow from that?
- 3) Civil and informed discussion with other class members.
- 4) Satisfactory completion of three papers
 - a) A critical thinking paper (about 1500 words or five, double-spaced, typewritten pages).
 - b) A "studying liberally" paper (about 1500 words or five, double-spaced, typewritten pages).
 - c) A final project (about 900 words or 3 typewritten pages).

- 5) Satisfactory participation in on-line and in class discussions. No minimum length for either questions or responses

Due Dates:

Specific due dates will be posted on Blackboard under the Course Documents button.

TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS:

Man's Search for Meaning by Victor Frankl

Readings available in Blackboard

Be sure when you order anything from the bookstore site above, that you chose the correct section for the class you are enrolled in (CA, CB, etc.)

POLICIES:

Make-up work: If a student misses deadlines for completion of work, the work may or may not be accepted by the instructor, at his or her discretion. If the late work is accepted, it may be given a lower grade due to its lateness, at the discretion of the instructor.

Grade of "incomplete": Grade of "incomplete": According to FHSU policy: "If a student has demonstrated satisfactory progress in the course, if there are circumstances beyond the student's control that prevented the student from completing all of the assignments, and if the instructor of the class agrees to supervise the completion of the remainder of the assignments, a grade of Incomplete (I) may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

Academic honesty: All submitted material is expected to be the student's work alone, and any deviation from this can lead to failure in the course. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. It is all too easy to cut and paste from the internet straight into your own document without citing a source. Direct quotations must be in quotation marks. Direct quotations that are not in quotation marks will be considered plagiarized. Paraphrases must also be cited. A first offense of academic dishonesty will result in a "0" on the assignment. A second offense will result in a "U" in the course. If you are unsure how to properly cite your sources in your research papers, please consult your instructor who will help you.

Below is Fort Hays State University's Academic Honesty Policy, as stated in the *University Catalog*:

Membership in the FHSU learning community imposes upon the student a variety of commitments, obligations and responsibilities. It is the policy of FHSU to impose sanctions on students who misrepresent their academic work. These sanctions will be selected by appropriate classroom instructors or other designated persons consistent with the seriousness of the violation and related considerations.

Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: (1) Plagiarism, taking someone else's intellectual work and presenting it as one's own (which covers published and unpublished sources). Using another's term paper as one's own; handing in a paper purchased from an individual or agency; submitting papers from living group, club or organization files; or using another's computer program or document are all examples of plagiarism. Standards of attribution and acknowledgment of literary indebtedness are set by each discipline. Faculty are encouraged

to include disciplinary or class-specific definitions in course syllabi. Students should consult with their department or with recognized handbooks in their field if in doubt. (2) Cheating is unacceptable in any form. Examples include consultation of books, library materials or notes during tests without the instructor's permission; use of crib sheets or hidden notes; intentional observation of another student's test; receipt of a copy of an exam or questions or answers from an exam to be given or in progress; substitution of another person for the student on an exam or another graded activity; deliberate falsification of lab results; submission of falsified data; alteration of exams or other academic exercises; and collaboration on projects where collaboration is forbidden. (3) Falsification, forgery or alteration of any documents pertaining to assignments and examinations. (4) Students who (cooperate or in other ways promote) participate in promoting cheating or plagiarism by others (or who take credit for the work of others) will also be in violation of this policy.

Students participating in any violation of this policy must accept the consequences of their actions. Classroom instructors and/or university review/appeals committees and administrators will assess the sanctions for violation of this policy. The seriousness of the violation will dictate the severity of the sanction imposed.

Academic sanctions may include but not be limited to any of the following: (a) verbal or written warning; (b) lowering of grade for assignment/activity; (c) lowering of term grade; (d) failure of class assignment. Administrative sanctions may include but not be limited to either of the following: (a) suspension from the University; (b) dismissal from the University.