

# BEAUTY

HNRS 333

Pacific Union College Honors Core

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Summer 2004 ♦ Newbold College/England ♦ June 22-July 16 ♦ Nancy Lecourt & Milbert Mariano

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## OBJECTIVES:

This class is an exploration of ideas about aesthetics as developed within western culture. In the process of reflecting on that tradition, it is expected that you will develop a more informed understanding of your own concepts of beauty and that you will be well on your way to developing a personal philosophy of what is beautiful. It is also expected that you will come to a better understanding of the importance of ideas about beauty and aesthetics and how views of beauty inform and shape attitudes and views of the world.

The course is designed to encompass our range of experiences. What you read will be combined with a variety of viewing and listening experiences as we take advantage of the rich history of culture available in London and surrounding areas. Along with reading about the aesthetic experience you will enjoy the challenge and delight of viewing modern art and architecture from previous centuries. There will also be opportunity to attend music performances and other cultural events. From your experience of arts you will also have the opportunity to create art.

The class, like other Honors classes, will also provide you with the opportunity to continue to hone your skills of analysis and informed debate.

## TEXTS (REQUIRED):

Blake, William: *Songs of Innocence and of Experience*

Burke, Edmund: *A Philosophical Enquiry Into the Sublime and Beautiful*

Selections from Plato, Aristotle, Dewey, & Greenberg. [Neil and Ridly, *The Philosophy of Art: Readings Ancient and Modern.*]

Woolf, Virginia: *To the Lighthouse*

### Handouts:

From: Winterson, Janette: *Art Objects*

From: De Botton, Allan: *The Art of Travel*

William Wordsworth: *Tintern Abbey*

A.S. Byatt: "Art Work"

## ASSIGNMENTS:

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| • Class discussion/Project presentation | 10% |
| • Questions & Reflections               | 15% |
| • Sketch Book                           | 10% |
| • Creative Project                      | 30% |
| • Final Exam                            | 25% |
| • Field trip participation              | 10% |

## NOTES:

### FIELD TRIPS

Listed on the schedule are two types of field trips: required and optional. For the required trips transportation and entrance fees are covered by the cost of the program. For the optional trips transportation will be covered (when traveling by rented van), entrance fees will not, however, be covered. It is recommended that whenever possible that students also take advantage of the optional trips.

### ASSIGNMENTS

**Discussion:** What will be evaluated will be your ability to generate and keep the flow of the debate going in a way where it is evident that what you say is fully informed by the assigned reading and how you have listened to others. You will lose points if you dominate the discussion or introduce tangents not germane to the topic. We will be particularly interested in how you integrate and relate concepts to the texts and to previous class discussion.

**Questions and Reflections:** For each class where there is a text assigned you are to come to class with a question about what you have read and a short reflective statement (about half a page)—that may include a quotation—on something in the text that particularly caught your attention and that you feel is of value to the class. Make two copies (no poorly written hand-written notes accepted). Hand one in at the start of class and keep one to facilitate class discussion.

**Test:** A final will be balance of essay and short-answer questions designed to demonstrate your mastery of the play of ideas generated by the texts discussed.

**Sketchbook:** We ask that you take your sketchbook with you on all field trips. At minimum you should do at least one sketch of something you see at each venue. Along with the sketch put into a few words something about what you see or experience. The act of drawing is to help to teach you to see and not just to look. You will not be graded on your artistic drawing ability.

**Creative Project:** Please discuss your topic or project for relevance and suitability with us before you begin. Proposals will be due at a given day and time.

## ATTENDANCE:

It is imperative that you always be in class and go on all required field trips. The success of this class depends on your informed participation.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic fraud are not acceptable. Please review the policy on page 229 of the General Catalog. Dishonesty of any kind is automatic justification for an "F" on that assignment.

GRADE SCALE:

A	93-100%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	77-79%	F	0-59%

CLASS SCHEDULE:

[Please note that modifications may be made to this schedule.]

WEEK ONE: JUNE 21-26

Monday	Arrival to England & Newbold Campus
Tuesday	Orientation: Introduction and Handouts: Winterson's <i>Art Objects</i> , Alain De Botton's <i>The Art of Travel</i>
Wednesday	First day of class: Plato and Aristotle
Thursday	Class: Wordsworth, & Burke
Friday	Trip: London—British Museum & St. Paul's Cathedral
Weekend	Trip: Wales (Required) Canterbury (Optional)

WEEK TWO: JUNE 27 – JULY 3

Monday	Class: Burke
Tuesday	Class: Architecture and Landscape Aesthetics— Afternoon: Windsor
Wednesday	Trip: London—National Gallery & Evening Concert
Thursday	Class: Dewey—Afternoon, Film: <i>Babette's Feast</i>
Friday	Trip: Salisbury
Weekend:	Trip: Cotswolds & Oxford (Optional) + Bath (Required)

WEEK THREE: JULY 4-JULY 10

Monday	Class: Woolf
Tuesday	Class: Blake
Wednesday	Trip: London— Tate Britain, & Globe Theatre
Thursday	Class: Modern Theorists & Stravinsky's <i>The Rite of Spring</i> — Afternoon: Project Proposals Due & <i>Pollock</i>
Friday	Trip: London— Tate Modern, British Library
Weekend:	Free

WEEK FOUR: JULY 11- JULY 16

Monday	Class: Post-Modern Theorists, Byatt's <i>Art Work</i> , & Andy Goldsworthy's <i>Rivers &amp; Tides</i>
Tuesday	Trip: London—Saatchi Gallery & Greenwich
Wednesday	Class: Group Activity T.B.A.
Thursday	Project Presentations
Friday	Final Exam