Text:


Tentative Schedule of Material:

1. **Thursday, November 13, 2014: Overview of Dante’s Life and Times**
   a. Introduction to the course, and to Dante: Dante’s life and times, and bibliography
      i. What is evil?
   b. Introduction to *Inferno* and to the *Divine Comedy*
      i. What is human nature?
   c. Canto 1 (time permitting)

2. **Thursday, November 20, 2014: Cantos 1-12 of *Inferno*: The Woods, Gateway to Hell, Limbo, Upper Hell (*incontinentia*), Heresy, start of Violence (against neighbor)
   a. **Cantos 1-4:** Introduction to *Inferno*, Gateway to Hell, Limbo
   b. **Cantos 5-8:** Sins of *Incontinentia* (lack of self-control)
   c. **Cantos 9-12:** City of Dis and Heresy, Violence against neighbors

3. **Thursday, November 27, 2014:** No seminar (Thanksgiving)

4. **Thursday, December 4, 2014: cantos 12-24 of *Inferno*: violence (against neighbor, against self, against God), fraud
   a. **Cantos 13-16:** Violence against self, violence against God (i.e., blasphemy, usury, sodomy)
   b. **Cantos 17-20:** Fraud: pimping / seducing, flattery, Simony, soothsaying
   c. **Cantos 21-24:** Fraud: political corruption, hypocrisy, thievery

5. **Thursday, December 11, 2014: cantos 24-34 (end) of *Inferno*: Fraud and “compound fraud” (i.e., treason)
   a. **Cantos 25-28:** Fraud: “other filth,” schism /scandal, falsifiers
   b. **Cantos 29-31:** Compound fraud: treason
   c. **Cantos 32-34:** Compound fraud: treason