

Existentialism: Philosophy and Literature (Sept. 4-Oct. 2)

In this course I will recommend readings for each week and highlight those passages which seem most important to me. At the same time, I would encourage each of you to bring in passages you find important. Above all I am looking forward to our discussion.

Sept. 4: “The earthquakes of existence”: 19th Century Challenges

Soren Kierkegaard: *Fear and Trembling, Sickness unto Death (Concept of Anxiety, Concept of Irony)*

Friedrich Nietzsche: *The Gay Science, On the Genealogy of Morals*

Sept. 11: Philosophy in Literature: Russian Perspectives

Fyodor Dostoevsky: *Notes from Underground, Brothers Karamazov*

Leo Tolstoy: “The Death of Ivan Ilyich”

Sept. 18: Existence: Fantastic or Mundane?

Franz Kafka, “Before the Law,” “Give it up,” “The Metamorphosis”

Heidegger: *Being and Time*

Sept. 25: Paris in the 1940s

Jean-Paul Sartre: “Existentialism is a humanism,” *Nausea, Being and Nothingness, No Exit*

Simone de Beauvoir: *The Second Sex, Coming of Age*; Interview

Oct. 2: Estrangement from France to Algeria

Albert Camus: *The Stranger, The Myth of Sisyphus*

Kamel Daoud, *The Meursault Investigation*