

Course Information	
Course Title	What Is The Good Life? A Look Through Western Eyes
Teaching Language	English
Teaching Methods	Lecture and Discussion with PowerPoint
Type of Class Arrangement (A-H)	A2
Course Description	Drawing on the cluster of disciplines that make up the Humanities, this course makes inquiries into the very nature and experience of being human. Applying multi-disciplinary and cross-cultural approaches to explore the question “What is the good life? A Look through Western Eyes” students consider the cost of the good life, examine how people have chosen to live as members of local and global communities, and analyze conceptions and expressions of beauty, power, love, and health.
Course Syllabus	<p>"What is the Good Life? A Look through Western Eyes" SUMMER 2023 Lecture & Discussion & PowerPoint; Type A2 July 17-28 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 08:30 12:00 INSTRUCTOR Dr. Will Kesling, Professor of Music Contact Info: wkesling@ufl.edu, COURSE OBJECTIVES Students are provided instruction in multi-disciplinary approaches used in the humanities to study the good life through an analysis of juxtaposed works of art, architecture, history, literature, music, religion, and philosophy.</p> <p>Content Objectives: Students will identify how different people from different societies across time conceptualize the good life, what meaning and value individuals ascribe to the lives that they live or want to live, and what are the choices, costs, and benefits of the good life.</p> <p>Communication Objectives: Students will communicate concepts, expressions, and representations of the good life clearly and effectively in written and oral form as stated in the rubrics of the course. Critical Thinking Objectives: Students will analyze the conflicts and tensions that arise between the individual and the community, the normative and the exceptional, culture and nature, needs and wants, pleasure and happiness, short-term benefits and long-term consequences of the pursuit of the good life. They will critically evaluate the costs and benefits of the good life in order to make sound decisions. COURSE FORMAT Elements common to all sections include the required “gateway” readings, one common activity, and the course assignments. The selected readings complement the faculty member’ s personal areas of interest and expertise to make the course a unique experience for the student. COMMON ACTIVITIES This course expects students to become actively engaged in experiences unique to the course. As such, students are encouraged to attend a Musical Performance, seeing an exhibit at a Museum, or watching Common Lecture in a related discipline.</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS 1. A forty-five minute Midterm Exam in lecture (150 points, 15% of the course grade) 2. An Essay (1,000-1,250 words) Detailed instructions will be supplied prior to the due date. (200 points, 20% of course grade) 3. A Final Exam (cumulative) in lecture. (300 points, 30% of course grade) 5. 4 Quizzes (identification and/or multiple choice). Each quiz is worth 25 points. (100 points, 10% of course grade) 6. Discussion Activities. (130 points, 13% of course grade) a. Participation in weekly discussions. (30 points) b. Oral Presentation. (30 points) c.</p>

	Sacred Space Postcard, due in lecture (30 points) d. Essay Outline. (10 points) e. Common Activity Assignment. (30 points) 7. Attendance. (120 points, 12% of course grade) a. Lecture (100 points) b. Common Activities. (Two activities for 10 points each)
Course Assessment	GRADING SCALE AND ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY Grade Proportion Grade Scale Grade Value Quizzes: 100 points (10%) 930–1,000 = A A = 4.0 Attendance: 120 points (12%) 900–929 = A– A– = 3.67 Activities: 130 points (13%) 870–899 = B+ B+ = 3.33 Mid–Term Exam: 150 points (15%) 830–869 = B B = 3.00 Essay: 200 points (20%) 790–829 = B– B– = 2.67 Final Exam: 300 points (30%) 750–789 = C+ C+ = 2.33 Total: 1,000 points (100%) 720–749 = C C = 2.00 690–719 = C– C– = 1.67 660–689 = D+ D+ = 1.33 620–659 = D D = 1.00 600–619 = D– D– = 0.67 0–599 = E E = 0.00
Course Books and Recommended Reading	<p>TEXTS Required readings and materials for the course consist of the following online eBooks or paperbacks: Hermann Hesse, Siddhartha, translated by Joachim Neugroschel (New York: Penguin Books, 2002). ISBN: 978-0142437186. Sophocles’ Antigone, translated by Ruby Blondell (Newburyport, MA: Focus Publishing, 1998). ISBN: 978-0941051255. All other required readings and materials are in the Resources folder of the prepared by the instructor – PART 1: THE INDIVIDUAL THINKING ABOUT THE GOOD LIFE Gateways: Vivien Sung, Five fold Happiness: Chinese concepts of luck, prosperity, longevity, happiness, and wealth. (San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 2002), 11–12; 18–19; 34, 49, 70–71; 94–95 and 97; 152, 156–157; 204–205; 207; 210–211, 214. President Bernie Machen, “All That & More: The True Purposes of College,” delivered on Thursday, January 24, 2013 in the Grand Ballroom of the Reitz Union, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL SEEKING THE GOOD LIFE Gateway: Hermann Hesse, Siddhartha, translated by Joachim Neugroschel (New York: Penguin Books, 2002). EMBODYING THE GOOD LIFE Gateways: Interview and excerpt from Rebecca Skloot, The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks (New York: Crown, 2010). Available online at the National Public Radio website at the following address (37 minutes) Emily Prager, “Our Barbies, Ourselves,” originally titled “Major Barbie” by Emily Prager. Originally appeared in the December 1991 issue of Interview. PART 2: SOCIETY SHARING THE GOOD LIFE Gateway: Song of Songs Chapters 1–8 from the Bible (Old Testament) CELEBRATING THE GOOD LIFE Gateway: Beethoven, Video Lecture. (Mid–Term Exam) GOVERNING THE GOOD LIFE Gateway: Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. Yale Law School: The Avalon Project FIGHTING FOR THE GOOD LIFE Gateways: Victoria Pagán, Multimedia Lecture on Antigone, Parts 1&2. Sophocles’ Antigone, translated by Ruby Blondell (Newburyport, MA: Focus Publishing, 1998). Martin Luther King, “Letter from a Birmingham Jail” (1963). Dr. Kesling PowerPoint – “African American Spirituals: Slavery’ s Unchained Melodies” PART 3: NATURE AND THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT OWNING THE GOOD LIFE Gateway: The Painted Desert a. Article by Geraldine Brooks b. Australian Exhibit (Essay due) CONSTRUCTING THE GOOD LIFE Gateway: Charles Jencks, “Images” from The Architecture of Hope: Maggie’ s Cancer Caring Centres (London: Frances Lincoln Limited, 2010) SUSTAINING THE GOOD LIFE Gateway: Aldo Leopold, “The Land Ethic,” from A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There (New York: Oxford University Press, 1948), 201–226. http://home.btconnect.com/tipiglen/landethic.html (Sacred Space Postcard due in lecture) PART 4: EPILOGUE (AFTER THE GOOD LIFE) QUESTIONING THE GOOD LIFE Gateway: Dudley Clendinen, “The Good Short Life,” The New Times Reprints. PERPETUATING THE GOOD LIFE Gateway: Chapter Two of Barbara Stoler Miller, trans. The Bhagavad-Gita: Krishna’s Counsel in Time of War (New York: Bantam Classics, 1986), 31–41.</p>