

## UNIVERSITY CORE CURRICULUM

### SECTION III. INTEGRATIVE STUDIES - INTERDISCIPLINARY

1. COURSE NUMBER: **PHIL 303i**

SEMESTER HOURS: **3**

COURSE TITLE: **Philosophy and the Arts**

Start Date: Fall 2003

Formerly: Philosophy and Literature (Start Date: Fall 1996)

Retroactive: To Fall 1996

2. COURSE FORMAT: Discussion and lecture (faculty). Average class size: 35.

3. STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Students will be able to: (a) get acquainted or reacquainted with the roots of the tradition of Western philosophy; (b) use works of literature and other artistic works to raise and to challenge traditional philosophic positions on these issues; (c) learn the values intrinsic to the arts and the cultivation of a sensitivity to others, to oneself and to one's surroundings; and (d) develop their ability to read, speak, and write clearly, effectively and critically about the issues examined.

4. DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION: At the time of Plato, by his own words, there was already an "ancient quarrel" between poets and philosophers. This quarrel has continued, encouraged by traditional disciplinary boundaries and illustrated by commonplace dichotomies: philosophy vs. literature, reason vs. emotion, objective vs. subjective, argument vs. persuasion. And yet, some of the greatest philosophers have been great literary artists, and many works of art, literary and otherwise, raise profound philosophical issues. Moreover, a number of philosophers have changed some or all of these traditional dichotomies, origins, for example, that the proper use of reason requires emotion, that works of literature can constitute philosophic arguments, etc. Whereas the existence of traditional disciplinary boundaries between philosophy and literature encourages students to accept without question many of these commonplace dichotomies, the proposed course proves an opportunity for students to critically examine their assumptions about them.

5. REQUIRED READING: Examples of required readings for this course include: *Great Dialogues of Plato*, Homer's *Odyssey*; *The Collected Works of St. Teresa of Avila*; Dante, *The Divine Comedy*; Calvino, *If on a Winter's Night a Traveler*; Wittig, *Guerilleres*; writings by artists such as Klee and Kadinsky; writings by such filmmakers as Bergman, Bresson, Ozu, Tarkovsky; and films such as *The Seventh Seal*, *Diary of a Country Priest*, *Tokyo Story*, *Andrei Rublev*; as well as selected articles and readings on reserve.

6. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

- Three papers (6-8 pages minimum)
- Course participation

7. ADVANCED UCC COURSE(S): None

6/15/04