

Person and Social Responsibility, II  
TH/PH 08910  
Class: MWF 11  
Discussion Group: M 12 or 1

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In PULSE, you move *across a line*. On one side of that line, in Boston, you do fieldwork in community service at a PULSE placement. On the other side, at Boston College, you seek to understand, within the disciplines of theology and philosophy, the causes through which things exist, the light by which things are known, and the good for which things are done. So, you serve and you learn. Simple.

But trying to do two things at once is never simple: How is academic life here at Boston College connected to life in and beyond the city of Boston? How do we respond in the face of moral emergency and suffering? How do we learn in community?

In PULSE, in order to attend to these questions, you put yourself *on the line*. Between city and university. Between the emotion and the response. And between the right way of living and the right way of learning.

### **In-class requirements:**

#### Course Materials

Arendt, *The Human Condition*

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*

Augustine, *Confessions* (trans. Sheed)

Plato, *Apology, Crito* (trans. West)

*The Book of Job* (trans. Scheindlin)

Gustavo Gutiérrez, *On Job*

Boethius, *Consolation of Philosophy* (trans. Relihan)

Gandhi, *Selected Political Writings*

Paul Farmer, *Pathologies of Power*

David K. Schipler, *The Working Poor*

Coles, *The Call to Service*

*The Jane Addams Reader* (ed. Elshtain)

#### Assignments

1. Participation: *Get ready*: prepare all assigned reading and study questions *prior* to class and discussion group. *Show up*: your consistent, prompt attendance is required. *Get involved*: your open engagement both in class and in discussion group is required.
2. Journal: You will keep a reader's journal throughout the year, answering assigned questions related to readings and your fieldwork.
3. Exams: You will have a written midterm and a comprehensive oral final exam, testing material from the readings and class lectures.

### **Grading:**

40% of your final grade results from meeting the requirements of your Learning-Work agreement, whose terms are arranged by you and your supervisor. This grade is submitted to me by your supervisor at the end of the semester. The remaining 60% results from meeting the in-class requirements listed above and is distributed as follows:

Participation	40%
Journal	40%
Midterm exam	8%
Final exam	12%

NB: Failure in either the service or classroom component of your grade constitutes a failure for the entire course.

## Spring Schedule

January	14 <sup>th</sup> :	Reorientation	
	16 <sup>h</sup> :	<i>The Human Condition</i> , §§ 1-5	
	18 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>The Human Condition</i> , §§ 6-10	
	21 <sup>st</sup> :	<b>No class: Martin Luther King Day</b>	
	23 <sup>rd</sup> :	<i>The Human Condition</i> , §§ 11-17	
	25 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>The Human Condition</i> , §§ 18-20	<b>Journal 1 due</b>
February	28 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>The Human Condition</i> , §§ 21-27	
	30 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>The Human Condition</i> , §§ 28-31	
	4 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>The Human Condition</i> , §§ 32-34	
	6 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book 1	
	8 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Books 2-3	
	11 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Books 4-5	<b>Journal 2 due</b>
	13 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book 6	
	15 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book 7	
	18 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Book 8	<b>1<sup>st</sup> participation evaluation</b>
	20 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , Books 9-10	
March	22 <sup>nd</sup> :	<i>Confessions</i> , Book 1	
	25 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Confessions</i> , Books 2-3	<b>Journal 3 due</b>
	27 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Confessions</i> , Books 4-5	
	29 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Confessions</i> , Book 6	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>No class: Spring Break</b>	
	10 <sup>h</sup> :	<i>Confessions</i> , Book 7	
	12 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Confessions</i> , Book 8	
	14 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Confessions</i> , Book 9	
	17 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Confessions</i> , Book 10	<b>Journal 4 due</b>
	19 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> participation evaluation</b>
April	21 <sup>st</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>No class: Easter Break</b>	
	26 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>The Apology of Socrates</i>	
	28 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>The Apology of Socrates, Crito</i>	
	31 <sup>st</sup> :	<i>Crito</i>	<b>Field Notes due</b>
	2 <sup>nd</sup> :	<i>The Book of Job</i> , Gutiérrez	
	4 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>The Book of Job</i> , Gutiérrez	
	7 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>The Book of Job</i> , Gutiérrez	
	9 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Consolation of Philosophy</i> , Book 1	
	11 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Consolation of Philosophy</i> , Book 2	
	14 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Consolation of Philosophy</i> , Book 3	<b>Journal 5 due</b>
May	16 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Consolation of Philosophy</i> , Book 4	
	18 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Consolation of Philosophy</i> , Book 5	
	21 <sup>st</sup> :	<b>No class: Patriot's Day</b>	
	23 <sup>rd</sup> :	Gandhi	
	25 <sup>th</sup> :	Gandhi	
	28 <sup>th</sup> :	Gandhi	
	30 <sup>th</sup> :	Gandhi	<b>Journal 6, Globe Project due</b>
	2 <sup>nd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>Study Days</b>	
	6 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>Oral Exams</b>	