

Person and Social Responsibility, I
TH/PH 08808
Class: MWF 9 (Gasson 210)
Discussion Groups: W 1 or 2
(Carney 005)

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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.

Texts

The following materials are available in the Boston College Bookstore:

Sophocles, *Philoctetes* (trans. Phillips)

Kozol, *Amazing Grace*

Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*

Seneca, *Moral and Political Essays* (trans.

Cooper)

Canada, *fist, stick, knife, gun*

Rousseau, *Emile* (trans. Bloom)*

Hallie, *Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed*

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics* (trans.

Ostwald)

The New Testament (trans. Lattimore)*

Robert Coles, *The Call of Service**

Paul Farmer, *Pathologies of Power**

David K. Schipler, *The Working Poor**

*These texts will also be used in the Spring term

Requirements

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 journal throughout the year, responding to prompts related to our coursework and your fieldwork.
3. Exams: You will have a midterm and a final exam, testing your comprehension of and facility with 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	10%
Final exam	10%

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

Fall Schedule

September	9 th :	Orientation	
	11 th :	Orientation	
	14 th :	<i>Philoctetes</i>	
	16 th :	<i>Amazing Grace</i>	
	18 th :	<i>Amazing Grace</i>	
	21 st :	“Killing Rage”, “Battle Royale”	Journal 1 due
	23 rd :	<i>On Anger</i>	
	25 th :	<i>On Anger</i>	
	28 th :	<i>fist, stick</i> , Part I	
	30 th :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. I	
October	2 nd :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. I	
	5 th :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. II	Field Notes, I due
	7 th :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk II	
	9 th :	<i>fist, stick</i> , Part II	
		1st provisional participation evaluation	
	12 th :	No class: Columbus Day holiday	
	14 th :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk III	Journal 2 due
	16 th :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. III	
	19 th :	<i>fist, stick</i> , Part III	
	21 st :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. IV	
	23 rd :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. IV	
	26 th :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. IV	Journal 3 due
	28 th :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. IV	
	30 th :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. IV	
November	2 nd :	<i>Emile</i> , Bk. IV	
	4 th :	<i>Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed</i> , Introduction-Part I	
	6 th :	<i>Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed</i> , Part II	
	9 th :	<i>Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed</i> , Parts III-V	
		2nd provisional participation evaluation	
	11 th :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , I	
	13 th :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , II	
	16 th :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , III	Journal 4 due
			OVE Bullet Points
	18 th :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , III	
	20 th :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , V	
	23 rd :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , VI	
	25 th -27 th :	No class or discussion group: Thanksgiving holiday	
	30 th :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , VII	Journal 6 due
			OVE Outline due
December	2 nd :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , VIII	
	4 th :	<i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> , IX	
	7 st :	<i>The Gospel According to Matthew</i>	
	9 th :	<i>The Gospel According to Matthew</i>	
	11 th :	<i>The Gospel According to Matthew</i>	Final Journal due
	12 th -13 th :	Study days	
	17 th :	Scheduled date for final exam (12:30 pm)	