

Who Owns the Arts: Censorship, Sponsorship and Artistic Freedom

Theater 380 Semester I, 2012 MWF 10:45-11:40 Room: Th 227
Dr. K. P. Wilson: X3370 Office Hours: MW 8:30-9:30 Others by Appt.

An investigation into the relationship between the arts and society by studying various issues including:

- Policies and principles of censorship*
- Freedom of speech*
- Funding for the arts*
- Arts advocacy*
- Arts and education*

What is the relationship of the arts to society? What happens when censorship occurs? What is worthy of public money and who determines this? Who has the right to decide what audiences see? Who decides what good art is? How is government funding of the arts different in various countries? Does certain art become unacceptable as the fear of offending increases? A look at the intersection of ethics and the arts in today's society. Issues of contemporary ethical concern will be discussed and analyzed through a variety of historical and contemporary normative perspectives.

Primary Text: ***The Moral of the Story*** by Rosenstand, 6th Ed.

Tentative Syllabus

F Sept. 7	Preview to the Course, Discussion of second half of course
M Sept. 10	Introduction to Ethics Chapter 1 "Thinking about Values"
W Sept. 12	Chapter 2 "Learning Moral Lessons from Stories"
F Sept. 14	Case Studies Discussed and Decided (KPW at CTAM)
M Sept. 17	Chapter 3 "Ethical Relativism"
W Sept. 19	Chapter 4 "Myself or Others" including primary reading from Hobbes' <i>Leviathan</i> and Rand's <i>The Ethics of Emergencies</i> "
F Sept. 21	Chapter 5 "Using Your Reason, Part I: Utilitarianism" including primary reading from Bentham's <i>Of the Principle of Utility</i> " and Mills' <i>Utilitarianism</i>
M Sept. 24	Chapter 6 "Using Your Reason, Part 2: Kant's Deontology"
W Sept. 26	Chapter 7 "Personhood, Rights and Justice" including Rawls' <i>Justice as Fairness</i> "
F Sept. 28	Quiz
M Oct. 1	Chapter 8 "Virtue Ethics from Tribal Philosophy to Socrates and Plato" including primary readings from Plato's <i>The Apology</i> and Bolt's <i>A Man for all Seasons</i>
W Oct. 3	Chapter 9 "Aristotle's Virtue Theory: Everything in Moderation" including primary readings from Aristotle's <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i>

F Oct. 5	Chapter 10 “Contemporary Perspectives” including primary readings from Kierkegaard’s <i>“Either/Or”</i> and Sartre’s <i>No Exit</i>
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M Oct. 8	Chapter 11 “Case Studies in Virtue”
W Oct. 10	Chapter 12 “Different Gender, Different Ethics?” Including primary readings from Gilligan’s <i>In a Different Voice</i> and Ibsen’s <i>A Doll’s House</i>
F Oct. 12	Chapter 13 “Applied Ethics: A Sampler”

Fall Break

W. Oct. 17	Work on case studies, discussion of final chapters, catch up
F Oct. 19	Quiz

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M Oct. 22	Case Studies: Scene Smoking (KPW introduces)
W Oct. 24	Case Studies: Censorship
F Oct. 26	Case Studies: The NEA

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M Oct. 28	Case Studies: Is it Art?
W Oct. 31	Case Studies: Artistic Freedom
F Nov. 2	Case Studies: Sponsorship

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M Nov. 5	Case Studies: Copyright/Intellectual Property
W Nov. 7	Case Studies: Arts Advocacy/Arts Education
F Nov. 9	Case Studies: The Artist “Leni Riefenstahl: Ethics of an Auteur”

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M. Nov. 12	Case Studies: <i>Preaching to the Perverted</i> video by Holly Hughes
W Nov. 14	Catch Up/TBA
F Nov. 16	Debate Work (Topics Selected)

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M Nov. 19	Analysis Papers Due, Debate Work

Thanksgiving Break

M Nov. 26	<i>The Cradle Will Rock</i> Video
W Nov. 28	<i>The Cradle Will Rock</i> Video
F Nov. 30	<i>The Cradle Will Rock</i> Video

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M Dec. 3	Debate Work
W Dec. 5	Debate #1
F Dec. 7	Debate #2

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M Dec. 10	Summary

Final Exam: Saturday, Dec. 15 9:00-11:00 a.m.