

**ST. PETER'S SEMINARY / KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**  
at *The University of Western Ontario*

**Philosophy 2552F (270)**  
**THE MODERN HERO**

**Wednesday (9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)**  
**St. Peter's Seminary, Room 213**

**Dr. Michael T. Fox**  
**519-432-1824, ext. 256**  
**mtfox@uwo.ca**

**Office Hours are at St. Peter's Seminary, Room 206. I have set aside Monday from 11:00 a.m. to noon, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. as my office hours. If these times are not convenient for you, we can arrange another time to meet.**

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**Calendar Description**

In this course, we will read and discuss The Brothers Karamazov in order to understand the nature and role of Dostoevsky's modern hero.

**Course Prerequisites and Antirequisites**

“Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”  
**Senate Policy**

## **Goals of Course**

This course will assist students to grow in the following knowledge, skills, and attitudes.

### **Knowledge**

#### **What Should Students Know:**

- To understand the arguments presented in each part of the course outline. (See below, Course Outline Fall 2020)

### **Skills**

#### **What Should Students Do:**

- To exhibit a sense of wonder and a desire to probe more deeply into the mysteries of God, the universe, and human nature.
- To read carefully the assigned readings.
- To follow carefully the classroom lectures.
- To show in class discussions and written work a firm grasp of the assigned readings and classroom lectures.
- To present in class discussions and written work sound arguments for their position.
- To be able to write in clear, concise and grammatically correct English.

### **Attitudes**

#### **What Students Should Value:**

- To participate in discussions in a way that makes clear their positions, enables them to listen openly, and maintains respect for others while disagreeing with their ideas.

## Course Requirements

### Two Exams

- (1) Wednesday, October 7
- (2) Wednesday, November 11

### One Essay (2,500 words)

- due Wednesday, October 28

### Final Exam

Held on a date in December to be set by the University

## Allotment of Marks

Two Exams	35%
One Essay	35%
Final Exam	30%

## Required Text

Dostoevsky, Fyodor. The Brothers Karamazov. Translated by Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002.

**It is necessary for you to have this edition, so that we all have the same pagination for our classroom discussions.**

ISBN-13: 978-0-374-52837-9 (ISBN: 10: 0-374-52837-3)

This book may be purchased at the U.W.O. Book Store. You may be able to purchase a copy at the Used Book Store at Western.

Selected readings in philosophy may be assigned for certain course sections in addition to the readings from The Brothers Karamazov.

## **Course Outline (Fall 2020)**

Book One: A Nice Little Family  
Book Two: An Inappropriate Gathering  
Book Three: Sensualists  
Book Four: Strains  
Book Five: Pro and Contra  
Book Six: The Russian Monk  
Book Seven: Alyosha  
Book Eight: Mitya  
Book Nine: The Preliminary Investigation  
Book Ten: Boys  
Book Eleven: Brother Ivan Fyodorovich  
Book Twelve: A Judicial Error  
Epilogue

## **Course Format**

This course will be taught on-site at St. Peter's Seminary. If students are not able to attend classes in person, then I will be happy to help them attend online.

## **Online Behaviour and Intellectual Property Statement**

All students are expected to engage online in a professional and respectful manner. This includes all interactions with peers, as well as communication between TAs or your Professor. Failure to do so will result in academic discipline. Recording of lectures or tutorials without the explicit consent of the Professor or TA is grounds for academic discipline. Course content created by a faculty member is considered the faculty member's intellectual property; it should not be distributed, shared in any public domain, or sold by a student or other third party without prior written consent of the faculty member.

## **Essay**

Careful consideration will be given to your ability to write in a coherent and sustained manner. Make sure your essay is clearly

written, employs proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation, and provides support for any assertions made. Clarity, consistency, and persuasiveness are the criteria used in my evaluation of your essay.

**ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASSES, A PRESENTATION WILL BE GIVEN ON HOW TO WRITE AN ESSAY. ESSAY TOPICS WILL BE GIVEN ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASSES.**

Your essay should be handed to Dr. Fox on the due date at the beginning of class. For a serious reason, a student may approach Dr. Fox before the due date and may be granted an extension at Dr. Fox's discretion. If Dr. Fox decides that documentation is required for either medical or non-medical academic accommodation, then such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's Office. It will be the Dean's Office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

**Never submit your essay by campus mail. Never submit your essay by e-mail.** You should make a photocopy of your essay. Late essays will be penalized 5% each calendar day. **PLEASE NOTE: ESSAYS ARE RECORDED AS HAVING BEEN RECEIVED ON THE DAY THEY REACH DR. FOX'S HANDS.**

## **Exams**

Exams are based on assigned readings, classroom lectures and classroom discussions. It is, therefore, indispensable to attend all classes.

A student who misses an exam for a serious reason may approach Dr. Fox and may be granted a make-up exam or a re-weighting of the term grade at Dr. Fox's discretion. If Dr. Fox decides that documentation is required for either medical or non-medical academic accommodation, then such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's Office. It will be the Dean's Office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

No electronic devices will be allowed during examinations, unless approved in advance by Student Services at the University or King's.

## **Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness**

Please see: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>

## **Statement on Academic Offences**

“Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

“Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.” Please refer to **Scholastic Discipline** under the Senate **Policy on Academic rights and Responsibilities** at <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>.

“All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (link to Turnitin.com website: <http://www.turnitin.com>.)”