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Thursday 3:40-5:30
Classroom LB301
Spring 2001

PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE

Welcome back! In an old song (from the mid 1960s), Paul Simon sang, "I am a rock / I am an island." Though the speaker in the song may have felt or wanted to be isolated and alone, all of us live in relationship with others. The seventeenth century poet John Donne said, "No man is an island." We spent most of last semester exploring your inner life and personal qualities. This semester we will move outward, beyond yourself—to your relationships with family, friends, and society.

Our policies will be the same as last semester. (If you're not sure what those policies are, please see your syllabus from last semester or let me know.) Also like last semester your ideas, opinions, values, and viewpoints will be the heart and soul of this class. This will not be a lecture class; instead, I ask each of you to commit yourselves from the beginning to sharing with me and your classmates your experiences and reflections on the topics that we will discuss. One of the advantages of having a large class, like this, is that you will get to hear and reflect on many different points of view.

Tentative Calendar

Feb.	22	Introductions: relationships and the important issues in your life
Mar.	1	Paper #1 due ; Communication
	8	Friendship
	15	Family
	22	Paper #2 due ; Medieval Studies Forum
	29	Love
Apr.	5	No Class
	12	Sex
	19	Midterm Exam
	26	Society
May	3	Suffering and death
	10	Paper #3 due ; Enneagrams and how you relate with the world around you
	17	Enneagrams
	24	Oral Reports
	31	Oral Reports
June	7	Oral Reports
	14	Final Exam