



AMBROSE
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

**EN 275 Spiritual Autobiographies (3)
Winter 2009
Dr. Tim Heath**

Office: L2065

Class Times: 6:30 – 9:30 T

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Office Phone: 403-410-2000 ext. 5904

Class Location: A2141

Office Hours: W/F 10:00 to 12:00 or by
appointment

Course Description

An introduction through their own writings to the spiritual pilgrimages of several significant figures in the history of the church, this course also examines many of the key problems, such as the role of the unconscious, of memory, and the relation of fact to fiction in the autobiographical genre.

Course Objectives

- To read and to discuss thoroughly six foundational spiritual autobiographies

Required Texts

Augustine. *Confessions*. Trans. Henry Chadwick. Oxford: OUP, 1998. Oxford World Classics, 1998.

Bunyan, John. *Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners*. 1666. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1987.

Campbell, Will D. *Brother to a Dragonfly*. 1977. 25th Anniversary ed. New York: Continuum, 2001.

Doherty, Catherine. *Fragments of My Life*. 1979. Combermere, ON.: Madonna House, 1996.

Lewis, C.S. *Surprised by Joy*. 1955. London: HarperCollins-C.S. Lewis Signature Classics, 2002.

Martin, Thérèse (Saint Thérèse of Lisieux). *The Autobiography of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux: The Story of a Soul*. 1898. Trans. John Beevers. New York: Random House-Doubleday-Image, 1987.

Course Schedule

- 6 January – Introduction; Augustine, *Confessions*
- 13 January – Augustine, *Confessions*
- 20 January – Augustine, *Confessions*; **Response sheet for *Confessions* due**
- 27 January – Augustine, *Confessions*; Bunyan, *Grace Abounding*
- 3 February – Bunyan, *Grace Abounding*
- 10 February – Bunyan, *Grace Abounding*; **Response sheet for *Grace Abounding* due**
- 17 February class cancelled (midterm break)
- 24 February – Thérèse, *Story of a Soul*
- 3 March – Thérèse, *Story of a Soul*; Lewis, *Surprised*; **Response sheet for *Story* due**
- 10 March – Lewis, *Surprised*; **Response sheet for *Surprised* due**
- 17 March – Doherty, *Fragments*; **Essay due**
- 24 March – Doherty, *Fragments*; **Response sheet for *Fragments* due**
- 31 March – Campbell, *Brother*; **Spiritual Autobiography due**
- 7 April – Campbell, *Brother*; **Response sheet for *Brother* due**
- 14 April – Campbell, *Brother* and conclusion

Course Requirements

1. Students should do all the prescribed readings before class and be prepared to participate in class discussion. I look forward to lively discussions.
2. Assignments are due on the dates specified. Late assignments will not be accepted, unless extenuating circumstances can be shown.
3. To receive a passing grade in the course, all assignments must be submitted to the instructor.
4. Plagiarism in any of its forms will not be tolerated.
5. Students may not submit work done for another class.
6. The student is responsible for all the information given in class, and also for any changes to the syllabus that are announced in class.
7. As in all English courses, spelling, punctuation, grammar, style, and format are important in your written work. Shortcomings in these areas will be reflected in your marks. See the section below on minimum standards of correctness.

Grading

Participation	15%
Written response sheets	50%
Submission of personal autobiography	15%
Essay	<u>20%</u>
	100%

Participation

All students earn the full fifteen percent for participation for attending all classes, participating actively and consistently in discussion, and submitting their response sheets punctually according to the syllabus schedule. Missing any class (without an excused absence), not participating in discussion, and not submitting response sheets on time decreases the participation mark in five percent increments for each item skipped or mishandled.

Minimum Standards of Correctness for Writing

As a senior-level course in English, EN 275 obliges its students to achieve minimum standards of correctness. These standards do not include arcane grammatical rules, but, rather, they reflect the norms of university writing. Careful proofreading and thorough attention to detail should suffice to reach these standards.

Standard	Expectation	Weight
spelling	all authors, titles, places, and words	1% per error
format (MLA)	title page, pagination, quotations, documentation, works cited	1% per error
sentence grammar	subject-verb agreement	1% per error
sentence grammar	sentence fragments	1% per error after second instance
diction	look alikes and sound alikes (its, it's; principle, principal; loose, lose and so on)	1% per error

Important Notes

- Last day of registration revision period: 16 January 2009
- Last day to withdraw voluntarily from course without financial penalty: 16 January 2009
- Last day to withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty: 13 March 2009. It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to Ambrose academic policies, such as the policy on academic dishonesty, which are stated in the current catalogue.
- **Note: Students will partici in a self-evaluation process for part of the participation grade.**