BASIC PROGRAM of LIBERAL EDUCATION FOR ADULTS
Winter 2020
The Ends of Reading: The Brothers Karamazov II

COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE: The Ends of Reading: The Brothers Karamazov II
CODE & SECTION: BASC50045 20W1
LENGTH OF COURSE: 10 WEEKS Jan. 11 – Mar. 14

COURSE SCHEDULE
DAYS: Saturday
TIMES: 9:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
CLASS LOCATION: Cobb Hall
The University of Chicago
INSTRUCTORS: Amy and Charles Thomas Elder
PHONE: 773-256-1782 (home)
EMAIL: amythomas@uchicago.edu; celder@uchicago.edu

GRAHAM SCHOOL INFORMATION
PHONE: 773.702.1722
WEBSITE: https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

New students who have read the first half of the novel are welcome to join this, the second quarter of a year-long sequence—a close, “deep” reading of Dostoyevsky’s monumental work, combined with reading and consideration of seminal reinterpretations and critical commentaries (e.g., Woolf, Kafka, Freud, Hesse, Sartre, and Camus—together with selections from more contemporary scholarly criticism).

This quarter will be devoted to a “selective close reading” of second half of text; the final quarter to significant appropriations of and influential, critical commentaries on it.

The point is not only to do a close reading and discussion of the text, but to reflect on how reading classic works of literature can lead to specific kinds of knowledge—and the kinds of knowledge it might lead to.

REQUIRED TEXT

Dostoevsky, The Brothers Karamazov, tr. Pevear and Volokhonsky. (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
ISBN: 978-0374528379
### WEEKLY READING SCHEDULE

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<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>TEXT/READING ASSIGNMENT</th>
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| **Week 1**  
Jan. 11 | Dostoevsky | PART III, Book Seven: Alyosha, chaps. 1-4 (pp. 327-363) |
| **Week 2**  
Jan. 18 | Dostoevsky | PART III, Book Eight: Mitya, chaps. 1-8 (pp. 364-444) |
| **Week 3**  
| **Week 4**  
Feb. 1  | Dostoevsky | PART III, Book Nine: The Preliminary Investigation, chaps. 5-9 (pp. 472-512) |
| **Week 5**  
Feb. 8  | Dostoevsky | PART IV, Book Ten: Boys, chaps. 1-7 (pp. 515-562) |
| **Week 6**  
Feb. 15 | Dostoevsky | PART IV, Book Eleven: Brother Ivan Fyodorovich, chaps. 1-5 (pp. 563-603) |
| **Week 7**  
Feb. 22 | Dostoevsky | PART IV, Book Eleven: Brother Ivan Fyodorovich, chaps. 6-10 (pp. 603-655) |
| **Week 8**  
Feb. 29 | Dostoevsky | PART IV, Book Twelve: A Judicial Error, chaps. 1-7 (pp. 656-706) |
| **Week 9**  
March 7 | Dostoevsky | PART IV, Book Twelve: A Judicial Error, chaps. 8-14 (pp. 706-753) |
| **Week 10**  
March 14 | Dostoevsky | Epilogue, chaps. 1-3 (pp. 757-776) |

This syllabus is a *summary of course objectives and content*, not a contract. All information in this syllabus is subject to change, with sufficient advance notice provided by the instructor.

**CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**  
As we may be addressing controversial topics in our class discussions, we expect students to be respectful and considerate of others.

**DISABILITY INFORMATION**  
Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide resources, support and accommodations for all students with disabilities and works to remove physical and attitudinal barriers, which may prevent their full participation in the University community. Students that would like to request accommodations should contact SDS in advance of the first class meeting at 773.702.6000 or disabilities@uchicago.edu.