BASIC PROGRAM of LIBERAL EDUCATION for ADULTS

Autumn Quarter 2023
Fernando Pessoa’s Multitude

<table>
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<tr>
<th>INSTRUCTOR</th>
<th>DATES AND TIMES</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katia Mitova</td>
<td>COURSE LENGTH: Ten weeks</td>
<td>Online. Please make sure to accept your invitation to Canvas.</td>
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<td>DATES: September 27 – December 6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>No class on November 22 (Thanksgiving week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMAIL: <a href="mailto:kmitova@uchicago.edu">kmitova@uchicago.edu</a></td>
<td>DAY OF THE WEEK: Wednesday</td>
<td>COURSE CODE AND SECTION: BASC70213 23A1</td>
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<td>TIME: 9:30 AM – 12:45 PM CST</td>
<td>PREREQUISITES: None</td>
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You will receive an invitation to join Canvas about a week before your course begins. Canvas login instructions are available here: [https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts](https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts).

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The stature of the national modernist writer of Portugal, Fernando Pessoa (1888–1935), has been on the rise in the English-speaking world. At the time of his death, Pessoa left two trunks full of unpublished manuscripts, only few of which were signed by his own name. The bulk of his writing was attributed to other personalities he called “heteronyms.” Each heteronym had a unique character, biography, and writing style. And each was invented by Pessoa the way a novelist might invent a character.

Pessoa’s oeuvre would be of interest to anyone willing to explore the idea of a fluid self. We will focus on the recently published complete version of *Book of Disquiet* and some of Pessoa’s poet-heteronyms. We’ll also discuss Jose Saramago’s novel, *The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis* (1984), inspired by Pessoa’s multiplicity.

REQUIRED BOOKS


RECOMMENDED BOOKS


OF POSSIBLE INTEREST


Students can purchase books at the Gleacher Center Bookstore online at [https://chicagobooth.bncollege.com/shop/chicagobooth/page/find-textbooks](https://chicagobooth.bncollege.com/shop/chicagobooth/page/find-textbooks) using the Textbook order form, or by using the ISBN number to order the correct edition elsewhere.
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<th>DAY</th>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>ASSIGNED TEXT / SELECTION FOR CLASS DISCUSSION</th>
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| WEEK 1 9/27 | Pessoa Heteronyms Vincente Guedes & Alberto Caeiro | PROSE: *The Book of Disquiet* - 1  
Editor’s Note, pp. xvi-xix; *The Book of Disquiet*. First Phase (Vincente Guedes):  
#36, #39, #54, #68, #97-101, #152, and #153  
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POETRY: HETERONYM ALBERTO CAEIRO - 1  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
In Lieu of an Author’s Preface, pp. 3-5;  
From “The Keeper of Sheep” (p. 9-46):  
II, VI, VII, VIII, IX, XVI, XXXIII, XXXV, XLVI, XLVIII, XLI  
Pessoa & Co. (book or handout): I, V, XLVII |
Second Phase (Bernardo Soares): #163-218 (pp. 177-232)  
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POETRY: HETERONYM ALBERTO CAEIRO - 2  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
From “The Shepherd in Love”: pp. 49, 50, 51  
From “Uncollected Poems”: pp. 53, 55, 56, 61, 63, 64, 65, 67, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80  
Pessoa & Co. (book or handout):  
“When Spring Returns” (p. 73); “They spoke to me” (p. 83) |
Second Phase (Bernardo Soares): #219-277 (pp. 232-290)  
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POETRY: HETERONYM ALVARO DE CAMPOS - 1  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
“Triumphal Ode” (pp. 153-160); “Salutation to Walt Whitman” (pp. 197-214)  
Pessoa & Co. (book or handout): From “Time Passage” (pp. 148-149) |
| WEEK 4 10/18 | Pessoa Heteronyms Bernardo Soares & Alvaro de Campos | PROSE: *The Book of Disquiet* - 4  
Second Phase (Bernardo Soares): #278-333 (pp. 291-360)  
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POETRY: HETERONYM ALVARO DE CAMPOS - 2  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
“Lisbon Revisited” 1923 & 1926 (pp. 216-220); “Note” (pp. 234-235); “Almost” (pp. 236-237); “Oxfordshire” (p. 239); “I wake up…” (p. 245); “Original Sin” (p. 247-248)  
Pessoa & Co. (book or handout): “The Tobacco Shop” (pp. 179-185) |
Second Phase (Bernardo Soares): #334-384 (pp. 360-414)  
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POETRY: HETERONYM ALVARO DE CAMPOS - 3  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
“What Happiness” (pp. 251-252); “I got off the train” (p. 253); “I took off the mask” (p. 256); “Yes, everything’s just fine” (p. 261); “Poem in a straight line” (pp. 262-267); “La-bas, Je Ne Sais Ou” (pp. 264-265); “We crossed paths” (pp. 266-268); “Holiday retreat” (pp. 269-270)  
Pessoa & Co. (book or handout):  
“I’m beginning to know myself” (p. 208); “Pack your bags” (p. 209);  
“The ancient invoked the Muses” (p. 217); “I’ve been thinking about nothing” (p. 219); “All love letters” (p. 220) |
| WEEK 6 11/1 | Pessoa | PROSE: *The Book of Disquiet* - 6  
Second Phase (Bernardo Soares): #385-438 (pp. 414-461)  
Fictions of the Interlude (pp. 466-468)  

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POETRY: FERNANDO PESSOA HIMSELF - 1  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
“Slanting rain – V” (p. 283); “Where is my life going” (p. 291);  
“Nothing” (p. 296); “Autopsychography” (p. 314); “I’m a fugitive” (p. 315);  
“Rolling wave” (p. 333); “The girls go in groups” (p. 342);  
“Since night was falling” (p. 344); “If some day” (p. 345);  
“Everything except boredom” (p. 346); “Freedom” (p. 348)  

*Pessoa & Co. (book or handout)*: “Slanting Rain – VI” (pp. 232-233) | Bernardo Soares & Fernando Pessoa Himself  
Prose: 50 pages  
Poetry: 13 pages |
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| WEEK 7 11/8 | Saramago  
Fernando Pessoa Himself  
Prose: 80 pages  
Poetry: 11 pages | PROSE: *Jose Saramago* - 1  
*The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis* (pp. 1-80)  

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POETRY: FERNANDO PESSOA HIMSELF - 2  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
“There is my life going” (pp. 353-360);  
“At the Tomb of Christian Rosenkreutz” (362-364) | Saramago  
Pessoa  
Heteronym  
Ricardo Reis  
Prose: 80 pages  
Poetry: 11 pages |
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| WEEK 8 11/15 | Saramago  
Fernando Pessoa Himself  
Prose: 95 pages  
Poetry: 24 pages | PROSE: *Jose Saramago* - 2  
*The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis* (pp. 81-176)  

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POETRY: HETERONYM RICARDO REIS  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
“The Chess Players” (pp. 97-100); pp. 102, 114, 116, 123-130,  
132-134, 136, 139, 140, 143  

*Pessoa & Co. (book or handout)* “Want little” (p. 134); Countless lives inhabit us” (p. 140) | Saramago  
Fernando Pessoa Himself  
Prose: 95 pages  
Poetry: 24 pages |
|---|---|
| WEEK 9 11/29 | Saramago  
Fernando Pessoa Himself  
Prose: 95 pages  
Poetry: 24 pages | PROSE: *Jose Saramago* - 3  
*The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis* (pp. 177-276)  

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POETRY: FERNANDO PESSOA HIMSELF - 3  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
“Advice” (p. 361); “Pedrouços” (365): “There are sicknesses” (p. 367)  

*Pessoa & Co. (book or handout)* “I don’t know how many souls I have” (p. 258);  
“The soul with boundaries” (pp. 259-260); “I’m sorry” (p. 261); “This” (p. 272);  
“I have in me like a haze” (p. 280); “I divide what I know” (p. 281) | Saramago  
Fernando Pessoa Himself  
Prose: 95 pages  
Poetry: 24 pages |
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| WEEK 10 12/6 | Saramago  
Fernando Pessoa Himself  
Prose: 81 pages  
Poetry: 24 pages | PROSE: *Jose Saramago* - 4  
*The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis* (pp. 277-358)  

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POETRY: FERNANDO PESSOA HIMSELF - 4  
*A Little Larger than the Entire Universe*  
Fernando Pessoa-Himself: From “Message” (pp. 369-376; 380-382);  
Ruba’iyat (pp. 385-392); From “Faust” (pp. 395-402) | Saramago  
Fernando Pessoa Himself  
Prose: 81 pages  
Poetry: 24 pages |

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.