# Basic Program of Liberal Education for Adults

## Summer Quarter, 2019

**Early Modern Utopias:** Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis*, Thomas More's *Utopia*, and Tomaso Campanella's *City of the Sun*

### Course Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title: Early Modern Utopias: Francis Bacon's <em>New Atlantis</em>, Thomas More's <em>Utopia</em>, and Tomaso Campanella's *City of the Sun</th>
<th>Code &amp; Section</th>
<th>Length of Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BASC800119 19U7</td>
<td>8 Weeks</td>
<td>Jun 27 – Aug 22, 2019 (no class July 4)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Schedule</th>
<th>Class Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Days: Thursday</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>Austin Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times: 2:00 PM – 5:15 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td>PHONE: (985) 789-0458</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>EMAIL: <a href="mailto:agwalker@uchicago.edu">agwalker@uchicago.edu</a></td>
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### Graham School Information

| Phone: 773.702.1722 | Website: https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu |

### Prerequisites

None.

### Attendance Policy

Students should register before the course begins.

### Course Description

Under the dual pressure from a rediscovery of ancient learning and the rise of a new science, early modernity produced a number of political works in the form of *utopias* or imagined societies. Three of the most notable were the *Utopia* of Thomas More; the *New Atlantis* of Francis Bacon; and Tomaso Campanella's *City of the Sun*. All three combine elements of humor, social criticism, and philosophical reflection on the nature of man. And while all three chart out a new course for political society, they come from very different points of view: a lawyer and statesman (More); a natural philosopher (Bacon); and a scientist and Dominican friar (Campanella). In this course, we will read and compare each to determine what each wanted to leave behind in the old society and where each thought the new society should be directed.

### Required Texts


### WEEKLY READING SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>TEXT/READING ASSIGNMENT</th>
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</table>
| Week 1  
Date: 6/27/19  
No class 7/4/19 | More | *Utopia*, Book 1 (pp. 1-48) |
| Week 2  
Date: 7/11/19 | More | *Utopia*, Book 2 (pp. 49 – 89) |
| Week 3  
Date: 7/18/19 | More | *Utopia*, Book 2 (90 – 133) |
| Week 4  
Date: 7/25/19 | Bacon | *The New Atlantis*, to the end of Joabin’s speech (pp. 149 – 170) |
| Week 5  
Date: 8/1/19 | Bacon | *The New Atlantis* (pp. 171-186) |
| Week 6  
Date: 8/8/19 | Campanella | *City of the Sun*, pp. 23-73 |
| Week 7  
Date: 8/15/19 | Campanella | *City of the Sun*, pp. 74-123 |
| Week 8  
Date: 8/22/19 | Neville | *The Isle of the Pines*, pp. 187-212 |

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.