

Comparative Lit 140: Stopping and Reading; Professor Santiago Colás,
scolas@umich.edu Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:30-3 @ Amer's on State St; Thursdays 9:30-11 am at 4008 Modern Languages Building.

I. Course Schedule

Date	Cluster	Text	Practice	Supplementary Readings
9.5	Introduction	TBA	Breathing	
9.7	Introduction	TBA	Seeing	1) Merton, "The Study of Zen" [Course Pack @ Accu-copy]; 2) Suzuki from <i>Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind</i> [CP] 3) Stanford 1-62 [CP] 4) Guerin et al, 1-14 and 90-111 [CP]
9.12	I	"The Red Wheelbarrow" [CP]	Manual Work	1) Batchelor, "Life in a Korean Monastery" [CP] 2) Samu Sunim, "Autobiography" [CP] 3) Manguel, <i>A History of Reading</i> pp. 3-53 [book @ Shaman Drum] 4) Fish, "Why literary criticism is like virtue" [CP]
9.14				
9.19				
9.21				
9.26	II	"The white snow" and "The clouds are lowering" [CP]	Sitting	1) Batchelor, <i>Buddhism Without Beliefs</i> [SD] 2) Manguel, <i>A History of Reading</i> pp. 55-93 [SD] 3) Said, "The Return to Philology" [CP]
9.28				
10.3				
10.5				
10.10	III	"Death and the Compass" [CP]	Walking	1) Batchelor, "Unpredictable Moments" from <i>The Faith to Doubt</i> , [CP] 2) Manguel, <i>A History of Reading</i> pp. 95-161 [SD] 3) Burke, "Rhetoric of Hitler's Battle" [CP]
10.12				
10.19				
10.24				
10.26	IV	"Maha Prajnaparamita Hridaya Sutra" [CP]	Chanting	1) Thich Nhat Hanh, <i>The Heart of Understanding</i> [SD] 2) Manguel, <i>A History of Reading</i> pp. 163-199 [SD] 3) Heidegger, "Language" [CP]
10.31				
11.2				
11.7				
11.9	V	"Subterranean Homesick Blues" [CP]	Prostrations	1) Seung Sahn, "A Child Asks About Death" [CP] 2) Manguel, <i>A History of Reading</i> pp. 201-259 [SD] 3) Calvino, <i>Six Memos for the Next Millenium</i> [SD]
11.14				
11.16				
11.21				
11.28	VI	"The Greatest Weight" [CP]	Writing	1) Batchelor, "Intuitions of the Sublime" from <i>Verses from the Center</i> [CP] 2) Manguel, <i>A History of Reading</i> pp. 261-319 [SD] 3) Deleuze and Guattari, "Rhizome" [CP]
11.30				
12.5				
12.7				
12.12	Conclusion	<i>I Ching</i>	Playing the Host	

II. Participant Responsibilities

- A. Self-assessment:** At the end of the semester, each of you will provide me with two documents: 1) the letter grade you wish to me to enter next to your name on the grade sheet; and 2) an account of how you identified and met the particular challenges that this course experience presented for you. I will not change the grade you give me unless you fail to meet your attendance responsibilities (see next item below).
- B. Attendance:** You may or may not come to class. That is your choice. Informing me ahead of time of your choice not to come to class is your responsibility. If you choose not to come to class 3 times during the semester without informing me ahead of time (or, in case of emergency, by the end of the first class session after your unannounced absence), your final grade will be a D.
- C. Practice Journal:** You should purchase a notebook of some sort for this. Care and neatness matters in this regard. So choose a notebook in which you will be able to write clearly and with care. Each journal entry should follow this structure:

Day, Date, Time of Writing

Cluster

1. What time did you arise this morning?
2. What formal practice did you do today (sitting, prostrations, walking, chanting, work)
3. Did you exhale and inhale deeply today?
4. Did you do physical exercise today?
5. What troubled you most today? Which of your six senses did you have trouble with?
6. What made you happy today?
7. Please respond to the primary text for the current cluster.
8. Anything else you wish to note down?

Write legibly, in pen. Take your time. I'd prefer a very small amount of writing, done with physical and mental care, than a great deal of sloppy writing. If you miss a day, simply note down the day and date, and the words: "No Journal Today". Do not go back and make up missed days. You should see this responsibility more as a kind of lab notebook for the experiments you are conducting on yourself, in other words, observe yourself objectively, as you would an ant in an antfarm (rather than as a judge, parent, police officer, clergyperson, or other authority figure), and record the results of your observation.

- D. Home Practice:** 5 days out of 7 per week, 10 minutes per day: practicing the Zen contemplative practice that I have introduced you to that week.
- E. Other:** We may decide collectively to modify this list of responsibilities in order to facilitate the goals of the seminar.