

gdw5@columbia.edu

212-854-2850

July 17th, 2017

To: The Friends of the Heyman Center for the Humanities

From: Gareth Williams, Chair

I very much hope that you have enjoyed a restful summer thus far and that you will be able to participate once again in the two Carl Hovde Friends Colloquia that we will be offering in the coming Fall semester.

The courses are described below, but let me also remind you that you may visit the Heyman Center website (<http://heymancenter.org>) to learn about the other Heyman Center activities, including lectures and symposia, that will occur this autumn. These events are free and open to the Friends and the larger Columbia community, thanks in part to the supplemental income that our Colloquia and gifts bring in.

In addition to the Fall and Spring Colloquia, the Friends of the Heyman Center Advisory Board has also been working on developing new initiatives that aim partly to enhance the educational offerings of the Friends and partly to ensure that the Friends as a group of devoted lifelong students of the humanities continues to thrive.

To this end, on Thursday, 19th October 2017, thanks to the kindness of Mr. Peter Gruenberger and his wife who have agreed to host, we will gather to celebrate the publication of Professor Deirdre David's new book, *Pamela Hansford Johnson: A Writing Life*, out from Oxford University Press in the autumn. This will be the first of a number of supplementary Friends events that are intended to combine intellectual stimulation with a social dimension, thereby galvanizing the Friends as a like-minded group with shared interests and aspirations. Further events of this sort will be organized for Spring 2018 and beyond, but the key point for now is to let you know that the advisory board is actively taking steps to ensure the future health of the Friends as a vibrant organization. All suggestions to this end are welcome, so please do let me know if any ideas occur to mind.

A main objective in the next months will be to expand membership. I encourage you to spread the word about the Fall 2017 Colloquia among your own friends and associates. For the Friends to thrive as a vital and forward-looking organization, it needs to be proactive in expanding participation, and to that end, I hope you will consider bringing up to two guests – of course, at no charge – to one session of our two Fall Colloquia. We hope that the guests will enjoy the occasion, be eager to join the Friends, and so enroll in subsequent Colloquia. Any of your guests may become a Friend of the Heyman Center by enrolling in the Colloquia: there is no requirement that one must be a Columbia alumnus/alumna to participate in the Friends. Our hope is that current Friends will have a shrewd understanding of who among their friends might be a good fit for our program, regardless of any prior Columbia associations.

Over and above the two Colloquia and the October event described above, Professor Robert Pollack will continue his Summer Dinner Seminar on *Science, Subjectivity and the Core Experience* on Wednesdays at Faculty House over the two semesters in the 2017-18 academic year. Fall Semester dates are September 13th, October 18th, November 8th and December 20th. A limited number of additional seats are available; details on pricing will follow. For more information, please contact Professor Pollack at pollack@columbia.edu.

Please fill out and return the attached form to register for one or both of the Friends Colloquia. Three further points of clarification:

1. Classes in Fall 2017 will begin at 5 p.m. and end at 7 p.m., thereby allowing Friends who have evening commitments (especially concerts and theater) to stay to the end of classes. Please note that Professor Montas's Colloquium will meet on Wednesdays in the Fall.
2. The fee structure for 2017-18 is as follows: (a) for an individual, \$500 to attend one colloquium, \$750 for two; and (b) for a couple, \$750 to attend one colloquium, \$1,000 for two. We have determined that the fair market value of any Friends colloquium will be assessed at \$200 per individual per course, and that the fee-amount above that fair market value will be tax-deductible for the paying attendee; i.e., (a) for an individual, \$300 will be deductible for one colloquium, \$350 for two; and (b) for a couple \$350 will be deductible for one colloquium, \$200 for two.
3. We do not plan to arrange a dinner option at Faculty House for Friends attending the two Friends Colloquia, though we will provide snacks, wine, tea, and coffee at the Colloquia themselves. Professor Pollack's seminar at the Faculty House will continue to offer a dinner option.

Needless to say, any contributions beyond the Colloquium fee will be very much appreciated.

Please note also that I am eager to establish a reliable electronic list-serve for those who wish to receive communications by email. For those who prefer to receive the usual correspondence by mail, the electronic option will be just that – an option, and not the sole means of Friends'

communication. If you wish to sign up for the list-serve, or if you have yet to do so, please email Ms. Iliana Ortega (iso2102@columbia.edu) to facilitate that arrangement.

Now to the Fall 2017 Carl Hovde Colloquia:

Course 1:

Professor Roosevelt Montas

The Foundations of American Political Thought

In a series of conversations, we will examine seminal texts in American political and cultural history beginning with the Puritan settlement of New England and continuing with documents surrounding the Revolution, the early Republic, the Civil War, Reconstruction, liberalism, the Civil Rights Movement, and contemporary debates about the nature of American national identity and America's place in the world. The inherent tension between "freedom" and "citizenship" will serve as the organizing theme. The course is conceived on the model of the Core Curriculum's Contemporary Civilization (CC) and, like that course, it will focus exclusively on primary texts, with a roughly chronological order of readings and a conversation-driven approach to their analysis.

This course will be offered from 5 to 7 on the following Wednesdays: September 6th (Common Room); September 20th (Common Room); October 4th (Common Room); November 1st (Board Room); November 15th (Common Room); November 29th (Board Room); December 6th (Common Room) as a make-up day if needed. The syllabus for the course is attached to this letter.

Course 2:

Professor Liza Knapp

Dostoevsky on Brotherhood, Criminal and Social Justice, and Tender Mercies: *Notes from the Dead House* and *The Brothers Karamazov*

We will begin with *Notes from a Dead House*, Dostoevsky's fictionalized response to his own real experience in Russian prison camp in Siberia. Written after Dostoevsky's release from prison, as he returned to literary life and as Russia underwent reforms, which included the liberation of the Russian serfs and the reform of the judicial system, this work reveals, perhaps more directly than his later novels, Dostoevsky's understanding of what it means to be a Russian subject – and what it means to be a human being. *Notes from a Dead House* is not only a seminal work in the genre of prison literature, but it also contains the seeds of Dostoevsky's magnum opus *The Brothers Karamazov*. In our reading of *The Brothers Karamazov*, we will show how Dostoevsky uses the Karamazov family saga to ask universal questions about brotherly love, nation, human responsibility, and God.

This course will meet from 5 to 7 on the following Thursdays: September 14th (Board Room); September 28th (Board Room); October 12th (Board Room); October 26th (Common Room); November 9th (Board Room); November 30th (Common Room); December 7th (Common Room) as a make-up day if needed. The syllabus for the course is attached to this letter.

You will also find the syllabi and other materials online at <http://heymancenter.org/about/friends>. As usual, texts will be available at Book Culture, 546 West 112th Street, New York, NY 10025, tel. 212-865-1588.

I shall be writing again before long with further information about ongoing plans for the Carl Hovde Colloquia as we look forward to Spring 2018. I hope you enjoy the Fall 2017 offerings to the full. If I can be of any assistance in any matter relating to the courses or your involvement in the activities of the Friends, please feel free to contact me at the email address and/or via the telephone number given above.

Sincerely,



Gareth Williams
Violin Family Professor of Classics

Fall 2017: Heyman Center Friends/ Carl Hovde Colloquium

Freedom and Citizenship in the United States

Wednesdays 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Roosevelt Montás

Course Description:

This will be a seminar on the foundations of American political thought. In a series of conversations, we will examine seminal texts in American political and cultural history beginning with the Puritan settlement of New England and continuing with documents surrounding the Revolution, the early Republic, the Civil War, Reconstruction, liberalism, the Civil Rights Movement, and contemporary debates about the nature of American national identity and America's place in the world. The inherent tension between "freedom" and "citizenship" will serve as the organizing theme. The course is conceived on the model of the Core Curriculum's Contemporary Civilization (CC) and, like that course, will focus exclusively on primary texts, with a roughly chronological order of readings and a conversation-driven approach to their analysis.

Schedule of Class Meetings and Readings:

Week 1—September 6: Puritan Beginnings

William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation* (1630)

John Winthrop, "Reasons to be Considered... for the Intended Plantation in New England" (1629)

"A Model of Christian Charity" (1630)

John Cotton, "A Treatise of the Covenant of Grace" (1636)

"The Examination of Anne Hutchinson in the Court at Newtown" (1637)

Jonathan Edwards, Selections from *A Treatise Concerning Religious Affections* (1746)

Week 2—September 20: Revolution and the Shape of Federalism

Thomas Jefferson, *Autobiography*,

"The Declaration of Independence"

Selections from *Notes on the State of Virginia*

Abigail Adams, "Remember the Ladies" letter

The Constitution of the United States

Federalist Papers (1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 15, 17, 31, 39, 49, 51, 57, 68, 84, 85)

Week 3—October 4: Transcendentalism

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "The American Scholar"
 "The Divinity School Address"
 "Circles"
 "Self-Reliance"
 "Experience"
 Henry David Thoreau, "Resistance to Civil Government"
 "Walking" (CW)

Week 4—November 1: Civil War

Abraham Lincoln, "Speech on the Kansas Nebraska Act at Peoria, Illinois" (1854)
 Speech on the Dred Scott Decision (1857)
 "House Divided" Speech (1858)
 "Letter to Henry L. Pierce and Others" (1859)
 "Address at Cooper Institute New York City" (1860)
 "Speech at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania" (1861)
 "First Inaugural Address" (1861)
 Letter to Horace Greeley (1862)
 Emancipation Proclamation (1862-3)
 "Address at Gettysburg" (1863)
 "Letter to Albert Hodges" (1864)
 "Second Inaugural Address" (1865).
 Frederick Douglass, "The Meaning of July Fourth for the Negro" (1852)
 "The Dred Scott Decision" (1857)
 "Oration in Memory of Abraham Lincoln" (1876)

Week 5 —November 15: Reconstruction's Legacy and the New America

Frederick Jackson Turner, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History" (1893)
 US Supreme Court, *Plessy v. Ferguson* Decision (1896)
 W.E.B. Dubois, *Souls of Black Folk* (1903)
 Horace Kallen, "Democracy versus the Melting Pot" (1915)
 Randolph Bourne, "Trans-national America" (1916)

Week 6—November 29: The Critique of Liberalism. America Today?

Reinhold Niebuhr, *The Children of Light and the Children of Darkness* (1944)
 Contemporary Reading TBD

Recommended Texts

The Federalist Papers, Robert A. Ferguson, ed., (Barnes & Noble)
The Children of Light and the Children of Darkness, Reinhold Niebuhr (Chicago)
The Autobiography of Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Jefferson (Pennsylvania)
The Souls of Black Folk, W.E.B. DuBois (Dover)
The Portable Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Delbanco, ed., (Penguin)
Civil Disobedience and Other Essays, Henry David Thoreau (Dover)

Fall 2017: Heyman Center Friends/ Carl Hovde Colloquium

Dostoevsky on Brotherhood, Crime, Social Justice, and Tender Mercies: *Notes from the Dead House* and *The Brothers Karamazov*

Liza Knapp (Slavic Languages)

We begin with *Notes from a Dead House* (publ. 1860-62), Dostoevsky's fictionalized response to his own real experience in Russian prison camp in Siberia. Dostoevsky wrote in as he returned to literary life after prison and exile and as Russia underwent reforms, which included the liberation of the Russian serfs and the reform of the judicial system. This remarkable narrative reveals, even more directly than his later novels, Dostoevsky's understanding of what it means to be a Russian subject—and what it means to be a human being. A seminal work in the genre of prison literature, *Notes from the Dead House* contains the seeds of Dostoevsky's magnum opus, *The Brothers Karamazov* (publ. 1879-80). In our reading of *The Brothers Karamazov*, we will explore how Dostoevsky uses the Karamazov family saga to ask universal questions about brotherly love, nation, evil, human responsibility, and God.

Syllabus:

Thursdays, 5-7 pm

September 14: Introduction to Dostoevsky's life and works through his return from penal servitude and Siberian exile; *Notes from a Dead House*, preface and Part 1

September 28: *Notes from a Dead House*, Part 2; and "The Peasant Marey"

October 12: Synopsis of Dostoevsky's life and works, from Siberia to his death in 1881; *The Brothers Karamazov*, Part 1

October 26: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Part 2

November 9: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Part 3

November 30: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Part 4 and Epilogue

December 7 (make-up, if needed).

Recommended readings, on order at Book Culture, 112th, between Broadway & Amsterdam. If you have other translations of these texts, you are welcome to read them instead.

Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Notes from a Dead House*, translated by Pevear and Volokhonsky, Vintage, 978-0307949875, \$15.95. ("The Peasant Marey" is included as an appendix.)

Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*, translated by Pevear and Volokhonsky, Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 978-0374528379, \$18.00.

If you want to read more about Dostoevsky's life and works, I recommend the work of Joseph Frank, available either in several volumes or in abridged/condensed form as *Dostoevsky: A Writer in His Time*. Further suggestions will be available during the course.

THE FRIENDS OF THE HEYMAN CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES

Colloquia for Fall 2017: Please indicate your preference by putting a check mark by the Colloquium you plan to attend, one or both. The first colloquium taught by Professor Roosevelt Montas will be held on Wednesdays starting September 6th. The second, taught by Professor Liza Knapp will be held on Thursdays starting September 14th. Both Colloquia will take place in the Heyman Center for the Humanities at 5 p.m. For directions to the Heyman Center, please visit: <http://heymancenter.org/visit/>

- The Foundations of American Political Thought, Professor Montas
- Dostoevsky on Brotherhood, Criminal and Social Justice, and Tender Mercies: Notes from the Dead House and The Brothers Karamazov, Professor Knapp

Please complete and mail the registration form to the address below. A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Checks should be made out to “Columbia University – The Friends of the Heyman Center.”

- \$500** Brings admission for an individual to *one* colloquium.
- \$750** Brings admission to *one* colloquium for registrant and guest (spouse, friend).
Guest Name (if attending) _____
- \$750** Brings admission for an individual to *both* colloquia in the same semester only.
- \$1000** Brings admission to *both* colloquia in the same semester only, for registrant and guest (spouse, friend).
Guest Name (if attending) _____

Please consider making a gift donation to the Friends of the Heyman Center ongoing 25th Anniversary Fund. **All support beyond the Colloquium charge is fully tax-deductible.**

- Gift amount \$_____**. Support for this special fund drive is very much appreciated and will bring notices of various Heyman Center events. (Check here [] to be added to the Heyman Center listserv.)

Please Print Clearly.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Please contact Iliana Ortega at 212-854-4631 or iso2102@columbia.edu with any questions.

Friends of the Heyman Center
Columbia University
2960 Broadway, Mail Code 5730
New York, NY 10027

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

Gareth Williams
Chair, Friends of the Heyman Center for the Humanities