

# Ideas of Love in Western Culture

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Tutorial Fall 2002

Week 1      **Aug 29**

Introduction

**Skills Development: Focus on Reading**

In-class Writing Assignment (1 page): Describe yourself as a reader and your typical reading process.

Week 2      **Sep 3-5**

Reading: Plato, *The Symposium*

Tues:

Writing Assignment (1 page): Write a 1-page summary of Socrates' argument in the *Symposium*

Thurs:

Writing Assignment (1 page): Which character do you think represents Plato's position and why?

Week 3      **Sep 10-12**

Reading: Martha Nussbaum, "The Speech of Alcibiades" (course packet)

Tues: Writing Assignment Write an abstract 150 words of Nussbaum's article.

Thurs: Do you agree or disagree with Nussbaum's interpretation and defense of Alcibiades' speech? Why?

Week 4      Sep 17-19

**Skills Development: Focus on Discussion**

Reading: Anne Carson, *Eros the Bittersweet*

Tues:

In class writing Assignment: (1 page) Describe yourself as a discussion participant, both in formal and informal settings.

Thurs:

Writing Assignment: 1-2 pages. Write a short evaluation of Anne Carson's argument in *Eros the Bittersweet*?

Week 5      Sep 24-26

Reading: Jeanette Winterson, *Written on the Body*

Tues:

Writing Assignment: Write a 2-page review of Jeanette Winterson's *Written on the Body*

**Skills Development: Focus on Information Literacy**

Thurs: Library Visit

Assignment: Create a select bibliography of critical reviews of Winterson's novel.

Week 6      **Oct 1-3**

**Skills Development: Focus on Discussion**

Reading: a) Paul, Letter to the Corinthians (New Testament)  
b) Anders Nygren, Agape and Eros (course packet)

Tues: Discussion

Thurs: Discussion

Week 7      **Oct 8-10**

**Skills Development: Focus on Writing**

Reading: Denis de Rougement, *Love in the Western World*

Tues: Discussion

Writing Assignment: Write a 3-5 page response paper on Denis de Rougement's book.

Thurs: Discussion

Week 8      **Oct 15-17**

Reading Assignment: Henry Staten, excerpt from *Eros in Mourning* (course packet)

Tues: Discussion

Thurs: Discussion

Writing Assignment: In a 3-5 page paper, compare Staten's argument to that of Nussbaum or Carson or Rougement.

**Fall Break**

Week 9      **Oct 29-31**

Tues: Film—Truly, Madly, Deeply

Thurs: Discussion

Week 10      **Nov 5-7**

**Focus on Information Literacy**

Reading Assignment: Toni Morrison, *Beloved*

Tues: Discussion

Thurs: Library Research

Library Research Assignment: Create a selected annotated bibliography of the 10 most interesting items of criticism of Toni Morrison's *Beloved*. Explain what criteria you used for your selection.

Week 11      Nov 12-14

Tues: Discussion of Library Research results with Rebecca Graff

Thurs: Discussion of *Beloved*

Writing Assignment: Write a 3-5 page interpretation of *Beloved* that analyzes the theme of love and its complexities in relation to the novel. Please develop your argument in relation to at least one essay on your selected bibliography. This paper is due in my mailbox no later than Wednesday November 27.

Week 12      **Nov 19-21**

Reading: bell hooks, *All About Love*

Tues: Discussion

Thurs: Discussion

Writing Assignment: Write a 2-3 page reflection paper on bell hooks' *All About Love*.

**Week 13**      Nov 26-28

**Skills Development: Focus on Public Presentation**

Thanksgiving Recess: No class this week.

Assignment: Each student must compose a 10-minute speech (no more than 5 pages double-spaced!) on love. Please work on your speeches this week. You will deliver your speech to the class during the last week of the course.

Week 14      Dec 3-5

Tues:

Group A--Bring draft of your speech to class for peer review.

Thurs:

Group B—Bring draft of your speech to class for peer review.

**Week 15**      **Dec 10-11**

Tues: Symposium I Group A presents

Thurs: Symposium II Group B presents