French 290

Spring 2020

Final Exam

Top score for the final will be 45 points; you will need to answer three questions well. If you answer more than that, those points will be ‘extra.’ Each well-answered question will be worth 15 points. If you have 6 well-answered questions, you will have 45 bonus points. (three good responses = 45/45; 4 good responses = 60/45; 5 good responses = 75/45; 6 good responses = 90/45)

1. Give reasons how Samuel de Champlain (1574-1635) could play such a critical role in contemporary Quebecois society that a character in the novel, ***Bury Your Dead***, could commit murder to conceal historical evidence about Champlain’s religion and burial site? Why do you think that some cultures place so much importance on their history? And why don’t we as Americans place importance on our history?

2. What were the qualities that Georges deemed most important in his evolution to manhood? How did these qualities serve him? How did they contribute to where Georges ends up at the conclusion of the novel? Give at least two specific examples.

3. It is said that character is harder to detect than personality because to evaluate someone’s character, we need to observe him or her in a character-challenging situation – one which calls for courage, compassion, sacrifice, honesty, or forgiveness -when there may involve great risk or no payoff for the ethical behavior. Talk about one situation from ***Bury Your Dead*** and one from ***Georges*** which was evidence of a strong moral or ethical stance taken by a character

4. In the cultural settings ofboth ***Bury Your Dead*** and ***Georges***, there is a dominant culture. How does fear of the dominant culture play a role in the actions of the subjugated or less powerful characters in each of the novels? How much does it affect the plot? Give one instance from each book.

5. There were five videos which could serve as a resource for a greater understanding of ***Georges***

*History of Ideas – Romanticism*

*Are You Romantic of Classical*

*How Romanticism Ruined Love*

*Evoking the Mulatto*

*The Haitian Slave Revolt*

Pick one and write a paragraph detailing how the video affected your understanding of the novel.

6. The following documentary, articles, and Ted Talk, could relate to ***Bury Your Dead***:

*Québec, My Country, Mon Pays*

*A neuroscientist who studies rage says we are all capable of doing something terrible,* *Here's What Happens in the Brain When People Kill*

*Law Enforcement Traumatic Stress*

*Misdirection*

Pick one of the above and explain how it provided useful information for understanding the book, *Bury Your Dead*. Be specific and refer to a character, an incident, or an ongoing situation in the novel.