**Love FA13 Final Exam Study Guide**

The final exam will take place in the classroom on Monday. Dec 9, 6-8 PM. Bring bluebooks to your exam. I also want to use this opportunity to tell you thank you for being such an animated, intelligent, and responsive class. I really enjoyed teaching you!

MML

This is what you can expect on your final exam.

**1. Terms (choice) for identification**, most but not all will come from the new material read since the last midterm. Directions are as follows.

**Identify**  the following terms/names/ titles in a couple of sentences. If the term is the title/author of a literary work, give the name of the author/or title of work read), approximate date of composition, place of composition and language in which the work was composed. If the term is a concept, define what the concept means and relate the concept to one of the works on love or theories of love studied in the course. (30)

Sample Terms:

Tusculan Disputations Historia Calamitatum *ataraxia*

Socratic irony *agape vs. eros*  fitness indicator

Diotima myth of the round men Romantic love

“Potiphar’s Wife Motif” *Pietas* Platonic love

**2. Passages to identify and comment on.** Passages will come from readings in primary sources since the last midterm. Directions as follows.

For each passage that you choose, identify

(1) the title of the work from which it is taken (if the work has a title), (1)

(2) the author, (2)

(3) approximate date (by century) (1)

(4) genre ( tragedy, philosophical dialogue, philosophical essay, epic, letter, Bible, gospel, sermon, etc.) (1)

(5) language in which the work was written (1)

(6) place in which the work was written, if known (1)

(7) the character(s) described or speaker(s), as appropriate (1)

(8) the context of the quote-at what point in the action/dialogue is this spoken and/or what is the subject/setting (as appropriate) (1)

(9) ONE brief but apt observation on the significance of the passage as it relates to the author’s conceptualization of love. Do not paraphrase. (A brief paragraph will suffice) (6)

Note: 1) If a name escapes you, describe the character you mean (for partial credit); 2) This is not meant to be an essay question. Be brief and to the point or you will not have time to complete this test; 3) Be sure to answer all 9 parts of each identification for full credit.

**Sample Identification:**

**1.** *”First, begin with the beauty you can see in someone’s body and fall in love with that. Then, as if you were climbing the steps of a ladder, continue one rung up and there you will fall in love with physical beauty in general. Take another step up and you will reach the beauty of law and custom and from there it is just one more rung to reach the beauty of the different branches of knowledge. Then, finally ascend to the very top of the ladder, to the recognition and study of that ultimate knowledge which is the knowledge of Beauty itself. Remember that it is only there, in the mind, looking at the Beautiful in the only way it can truly be seen that one may give birth not to images or copies of virtue, but to true virtue, virtue itself, since one is actually there, in touch with Beauty and Truth itself.”*

|  |
| --- |
| **1) title (1)** |
| **(2) author, (2)** |
| **(3) approximate date (by century) (1)** |
| **(4) genre (1)** |
| **(5) language (1)** |
| **(6) place written (1)** |
| **(7) character(s) described or speaker(s)/setting, as appropriate (1)** |
| **(8) the context of the quote-at what point in the action/dialogue is this spoken and/or what is the subject (as appropriate) (1)** |
| **(9) ONE brief but apt observation on the significance of the passage as it relates to the author’s conceptualization of love.(6)** |

3) Essays (Choice) Directions as follow:

**Provide an essay response t**o **prompts below**. Your essay will be graded as appropriate to each topic) on both its substance and your ability to marshal supporting evidence.

**Essay/Review Questions for Love in Antiquity Final**

1. Two myths-- one told by Plato (Aristophanes’ story of the “round people’) and the other by Ovid (his tale of Hermaphrodites and Salmacis) relate stories that can be read to demonstrate ‘the pleasures and pitfalls of the romantic notion of ‘fusion’ in love. Briefly relate each of these myths, pointing out (1)exactly what it is that makes it possible to characterize their representations of love as “romantic?” (2) what is the up side, and (3) what is the down side of the romantic view of love?

2. Discussing the contrasts between Christian and Platonic views of love, Gould (quoting Wilamowitz) remarks that “Plato and Paul would have been able to make nothing of one another on love.” Explain this statement, specifying a minimum of 3 clear contrasts/or overlaps between the Platonic and Christian views of love.

3. What, if anything, does love have to do with marriage according to (1) Lucretius (Epicureanism), (2) Plato *(Symposium*) (3) Ovid (*Ars Amatoria*), (4) Heloise (Lettters). How does Badiou “save” love as the driving engine/project of marriage?.

4.Both Plato and (much later) Badiou relate the experience of love to a “quest for truth.” What does each philosopher mean by this idea and on what aspect of this quest for truth do they deeply differ?

5.According to Plato’s *Symposium,* what has beauty to do with love?

6.Explain what Lacan (quoted in Badiou) means when he argues that “sexual relationships don’t exist, that love is what comes to replace that non-relationship.”

7. Do you agree or disagree with the quotation below? Write an essay supporting your position based on the texts you have read.

“Heloise…is no feminist heroine, despite having been one of the best educated women of her age and writing some of its most affecting prose.”

8. De Rougement wrote: “We are in the middle of attempting—and bungling—one of the craziest experiments in civilized society: basing marriage, which is permanence, on romance, which is a passing fancy.”

Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Write an essay supporting your position based on the texts you have read.

9. According to DeRougement, “ Desire is not the same as being in love and the premature possession of the love object often kills the possibility of romance.”

Explain what DeRougement means by this statement (include a definition of romantic love). Then state your own position vis a vis the quote.

10. To what extent do you agree with Bollick’s claim that the 21sth century (post boomer) ideology emphasizing emotional fulfillment above all else, the elevation of independence over coupling, the gains of the feminist movement, the deterioration of the male condition, etc., all are undermining the institution of marriage? If you do agree, what in your opinion needs to change in order for marriage to be preserved as a social institution?

11. Tell an actual love story (your own or that of someone you know) in a way that represents the views on love of any **2** of the following: Socrates, Lucretius, Ovid, Vergil, Aristophanes, Jesus.