



Short Syllabus



Course Title

“A love that is more than love”:

On the essence of our deepest emotion – perspectives from psychology and philosophy

Lecturer

Gid'on Lev

Contact details

giddhodd@gmail.com; Office hours: by appointment

Semester

Fall 2022

Short Description

Love has become commonplace. It is to be found everywhere in the public sphere, from movies to pop songs to commercials about soft drinks or cars. Alongside this trend, love seems to have become rarer in the private sphere. People are looking desperately for it, but loneliness and alienation are ever on the increase. Romantic love has become a sort of a threat or trap, attracting strongly while also arousing suspicion. In academic research, it is often explained away as a by-product of hormones, brain activity or social conditioning. In this course, we will try to detect a deeper core to love. Studying ideas and descriptions offered by philosophers and psychologists, from Plato and Kierkegaard to Freud and Fromm, we will try to enhance our understanding of what does it actually mean to love. We will ask whether there is such a thing as a ‘true’ love, different from its superficial portrayals in popular culture, and can one attain, as poet Edgar Allan Poe suggested, a state of “a love that is more than love”?

Final grade components

Two response papers (5% of final grade, each)

Short mid-term paper, 2 pages (15%)

Final paper, 5-6 pages (75%)

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.

Additional requirements



TEL AVIV אוניברסיטת תל אביב
UNIVERSITY תל אביב

Short Syllabus



Required reading is mandatory for each class. Phones are to be turned-off while in class. No eating during class.