EVALUATION:
MIDTERM: 30%
FINAL: 40%
CLASS PARTICIPATION: 30%

COURSE POLICY: This course strictly requires full attendance. Please come to all classes having completed the course readings and participate in discussions.

“DESIRE IS A MANIFESTATION OF ITSELF-OF ALL OF LIFE, AND IT ENCOMPASSES EVERYTHING FROM REASON DOWN TO SCRATCHING YOURSELF.” (Dostoyevsky)

“REASON IS AND OUGHT ONLY BE THE SLAVE OF THE PASSION.” (Hume)

“DESIRE AS AN ENERGY OF NEGATION...DESIRE MOVES, FLOATS, NEGATES, SHATTERS, ASPIRES, IT IS ITSELF A SUBJECT. ITS FREEDOM, IF THAT IS WHAT WE WISH TO CALL IT, CONSISTS IN ITS REFUSAL TO BE CONSTRAINED BY THE SATISFACIONS THAT WOULD EXTINGUISH IT... THE GAP BETWEEN DESIRE AND ITS OBJECT IS INSURMOUNTABLE. INDEED, IT IS THE VERY GAP THAT NOURISHES AND SUSTAINS DESIRE, BECAUSE ITS SATISFACTION WOULD BE ITS EXTINCTION... DESIRE IS COMMITTED TO PERMANENT REVOLUTION, TO AN ENDURING DISAPPOINTMENT AS A WAY OF GUARANTEEING ITS SURVIVAL.” (Goddheart)
Why is the soul in a perpetual state of desire?
What is the relationship between desire and body?
What is the relationship between desire and violence?
What is death? How do we know death?
Is death pornographic?
How is sex related to aggression and violence?
How do we divide the aesthetic from the pornographic?

SYLLABUS
Feb. 24-26: Theories:
   Lars Svendsen - "The Anthropology of Evil"
   Rene Girard - "The Sacrificial Crisis"
March 5-5: Friedrich Nietzsche: "The Birth of Tragedy"
   Maggie Nelson - "Theatre of Cruelty"
March 10-12: Sigmund Freud: "The Uncanny" and "Beyond the Pleasure Principle"
LITERARY WORKS
March 17-19. Robert Louis Stevenson The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
March 24-26. "
March 7-April 2: Yukio Michima. Madame de Sade
April 7-9. Angela Carter. The Bloody Chamber
April 14-16. MIDTERM
April 21-13 SPRING BREAK
April 28-30. Patrick Suskind - Perfume
May 5-7:  
May 12-14: D. M. Thomas, *The White Hotel* 
May 21:  

"