American Humanities

NOTE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS: Due to the nature of this course, some of the material examined in class may be considered for mature audiences. As instructors, we have exercised caution and discretion in our choice of material for the course. Powerful films and literature (like *The Graduate*, Ellison’s *Invisible Man*, *Platoon*, Kerouac’s *On the Road*, Albee’s *The Zoo Story* and others) represent vital parts of the decades we are examining, however. Nothing we examine in the course is gratuitous or without academic relevance. We assume and expect that all of the students in American Humanities can handle the course with appropriate maturity. Should you have concerns or questions about any of the material do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your support.

Jeff Finn

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Readings: *The Bell Jar, The Zoo Story,* “The Wayfarer,” *Invisible Man (excerpt), The Flamingo Rising, On the Road (excerpt),* “Howl,” “America,” “Supermarket in California,” *The Things They Carried (excerpts), Slaughterhouse Five, Catch-22 (excerpt), The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test (excerpt), Hell’s Angels (excerpt), An Offer We Can’t Refuse (excerpt), I Hear America Singing (multiple excerpts), Being There, “*It’s Alright, Ma,*”On the Beach, Cat’s Cradle, Player Piano, Alas Babylon, Fahrenheit 451*

Documentaries: *Sex: The Revolution—1950s; That Rhythm, Those Blues; A & E Biography: Sam Phillips; David Halberstam’s The Fifties; Life with Lucy (clip); Rock and Roll: The Early Days; The Source; Chronicle of a War; A&E Biography: Andy Warhol; Time/Life History of Rock ‘n Roll; Making Sense of the Sixties; Punk: Attitude; Welcome to Death Row Records (clip); Catfish*

Theatrical films: *Fail-Safe; Red Nightmare & Duck and Cover (public service annc.); Death of a Salesman; Rebel w/out a Cause (clip); The Wild One (clip); The Graduate; Full Metal Jacket (clip); Platoon; Coming Home; MASH (clip); Dr. Strangelove; Hair; Easy Rider (clip); The Corporation (clip); Network; Bamboozled; The Social Network*

Other: *I Love Lucy*: “Lucy Does a TV Commercial”; *Father Knows Best, Seinfeld, 30 Rock*