

# COURSE DETAIL

## LITERATURE AND THE MEANING OF LIFE

**Country**

Netherlands

**Host Institution**

Utrecht University - University College Utrecht

**Program(s)**

University College Utrecht

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Comparative Literature

**UCEAP Course Number**

130

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

LITERATURE AND THE MEANING OF LIFE

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

LIFE MEANING & LIT

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

## Course Description

This course studies excerpts of literary texts from the late 19th century to the present day, that propose a variety of crucial different meaning-of-life insights and meaning-in-life potentialities, all of which resonate to some extent with ideas from meaning-providing wisdom traditions (e.g., Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Sufism) and philosophical movements (e.g., existentialism and perennialism). Each work is furthermore explored in conjunction with thought-provoking intertexts. For example, Etty Hillesum is read alongside Rainer Maria Rilke and Martin Buber. The course all engages with *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* in conjunction with interviews with Maya Angelou and speeches by James Baldwin. Previous coursework in Literature and English writing are required.

### Language(s) of Instruction

English

### Host Institution Course Number

UCHUMLIT39

### Host Institution Course Title

LITERATURE AND THE MEANING OF LIFE

### Host Institution Campus

University College Utrecht

### Host Institution Faculty

Humanities

### Host Institution Degree

### Host Institution Department

Literature

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