

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 Course Details

<https://cursusplanner.uu.nl/Curriculum>

Host Institution Campus

University College Utrecht

Host Institution Faculty

Humanities

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Literature

Course Last Reviewed

2024-2025

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