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Pursuing Love Final Project

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Pursuing Love

Fischer/Graves Foundation

All We Need is Love (John Lennon)

Prospectus:

We, representatives of the foundation, have become aware of your work as a brilliant scholar of _________.¹ You are studying the intersection of that discipline with the concept of love. We write to invite you to make a presentation to the extremely wealthy Fischer/Graves Foundation (motto: All we need is love) about your work. If you are successful, the foundation will fund your work and supply you with income and a fabulous place to live for the next two years. You will have a beautiful view, a car and a driver. The world will be your oyster!

¹ (You will pick this topic with the assistance of Professors Fischer & Graves).
Your job is to show the foundation how love affects your discipline, or how it interacts with it. Why is your work important? Is it valid? Could it make the world a better place? How will it help humanity?

Your final project will be to present your case to the foundation, i.e., the rest of the class. You will need to make your case compelling and exciting. The foundation will have to feel that this is important enough to fund. Feel the energy!

In the course of the semester, you will develop pieces/complete assignments that will prepare you for the big pitch at the end. You will have the opportunity to rewrite and revise. During the semester, your classmates will serve as colleagues, supporting and critiquing your work. Dr. Fischer and Ms. Graves will be the guides through the process.

Breakdown of the project:

1. Using reliable sources, identify good definitions for the different types of love. What type will be the primary focus of your presentation? Why? (Understand)

2. You will become familiar with the literature of your field, as it relates to love. You will learn how to locate appropriate sources (access) that will support your argument—and also learn how to throw out those that are not relevant (evaluate). You will be able to demonstrate to the guides and your colleagues a) how you found those resources, including where you looked and what terms you used; b) what pitfalls you encountered, and mistakes you made—what you learned; and c) how you narrowed down your sources over time. This will be done in a series of separate assignments.

3. Your final presentation will involve some kind of visual representation of your project, a verbal presentation (with appropriate attribution), and a works cited list. It will be no more than 10 minutes long.

4. Throughout your effort, you will work to cite accurately, using the style of the field you are working in. If you representing a humanities field, you will use MLA. If you are representing a social science, you will use APA style. If it's history: use Chicago. Accurate citation is important, so make sure you do it! If you need help, seek it.

5. Throughout your effort, you will be submitting written work. Some will be in fulfillment of the assignments described in #2. Some will be in response to works
we read as a class, films we watch, films you watch, and other artistic and creative responses to love. Writing is important, so plan ahead. Proofread! Read your piece aloud to a friend! Check for spelling and grammatical errors. You are smart and you can do this. You will have a chance to revise and edit your work. Do it.

6. The honor code is in force. If you are uncertain about whether to cite something, err on the side of caution: cite it. Know the difference between quotation and paraphrasing, but know that both require citation. Pledge your work. If you feel uncertain about these important values and the rules that go with them, see Ms. Graves, Hanna Campbell, or the writing center. The only way to mess up is to avoid seeking help. It’s college. It will be harder. It will be different. 

*Keep in mind: Believe in yourself. If you think you are creative, you’ll act that way. It’s a self-fulfilling prophecy. As you think, so you are.*