

Critical Book Review Assignment

Prof. Felice

In an essay of about 8 pages (or 2000 words)--no more--write a critical review of one of the following books. Consider and assess the argument of the author in light of the ethical issues raised by the course. Discuss the specific strengths and weaknesses of the book, and present an argument of your own which relates it specifically to your course readings. If you choose a novel (marked by *), the task is similar, if perhaps more subtle: what moral dilemmas are raised by the book? Does the author seem to take sides among the characters? How are problems like responsibility, political loyalty, and the gap between intentions and results illustrated and resolved--if indeed they are resolved? As ethical argument--as well as creative art--how compelling do you find the book?

Essays are due without fail on April 27.

*Louis Begley, *Wartime Lies*.

*Heinrich Boll, *Adam and the Train*; or *The Safety Net*.

*Albert Camus, *The Plague*.

*Philip Caputo, *Acts of Faith*.

*J.M. Coetzee, *The Life and Times of Michael K*; or *The Master of St. Petersburg*.

Romeo Dallaire, *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda*.

Mark Danner, *The Massacre at El Mozote: A Parable of the Cold War*.

Basil Davidson, *The Black Man's Burden: Africa and the Curse of the Nation-State*.

*Anthony Doerr, *All the Light We Cannot See*.

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*.

Paul Farmer, *Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New /War on the Poor*.

*Ben Fountain, *Billy Lynn's Long half Time Walk Home*.

*Nicolas Freeling, *Gadget*.

Eduardo Galeano, *The Open Veins of Latin America*.

Misha Glenny, *The Rebirth of History*; or *The Fall of Yugoslavia*.

Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, *A Human Being Died that Night: A South African Story of Forgiveness*.

Daniel Goldhagen, *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust*.

*Nadine Gordimer, *Burger's Daughter*.

*Graham Greene, *The Human Factor*; or, *The Quiet American*.

Philip Hallie, *Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed*.

*Mohsin Hamid, *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*.

Shirley Hazzard, *Countenance of Truth: the UN and the Waldheim Case*.

Chris Hedges, *War is a Force that Gives Us Meaning*.

Jan Willem Honig, *Srebrenica: Record of a War Crime*.

*Kazuo Ishiguro, *An Artist of the Floating World*.

Dorothy V. Jones, *Code of Peace: Ethics and Security in the World of the Warlord States*.

Thomas Kenneally, *Schindler's List*; or *To Asmara*.

Tracy Kidder, *Mountains Beyond Mountains*; or *Strength in What Remains*.

Steven Kinzer, *The True Flag: Theodore Roosevelt, Mark Twain, and the Birth of American Empire*.

*Arthur Koestler, *Darkness at Noon*.

Milan Kundera, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*.

*John le Carre, *The Russia House*; or *The Little Drummer Girl*.

*Primo Levi, *The Periodic Table*.

Anatol Lieven, *America Right or Wrong: An Anatomy of American Nationalism*.

*Doris Lessing, *The Good Terrorist*.

*Karan Mahajam, *Association of Small Bombs*

*Andre Malraux, *Man's Hope (L'Espoir)*.

*Klaus Mann, *Mephisto*.

*Hisham Matar, *The Return*

Mark Mathabane, *Kaffir Boy: The True Story of a Black Youth's Coming of Age in Apartheid South Africa*.

*W. Somerset Maugham, *Ashenden*, or *The British Agent*.

Jane Mayer, *The Dark Side: The Inside Story of How the War on Terror Turned into a War on American Ideals*.

Zhores Medvedev, *The Legacy of Chernobyl*.

Ezekiel Mphahlele, *Down Second Avenue*.

*Viet Thanh Nguyen, *The Sympathizer*.

*Tim O'Brien, *Going After Cacciato*; or *The Things They Carried*.

George Packer, *The Assassins' Gate: America in Iraq*.

*Orhan Pamuk, *Snow*.

David Rieff, *Slaughterhouse: Bosnia and the Failure of the West*.

Edward Said, *Culture and Imperialism*.

Philippe Sands, *Torture Team: Rumsfeld's Memo and the Betrayal of American Values*.

*Jean-Paul Sartre, *The Condemned of Altona: a play in five acts*.

William Shawcross, *The Quality of Mercy: Cambodia, Holocaust and Modern Conscience*.

Neil Sheehan, *A Bright Shining Lie: John Paul Van and America in Vietnam*.

Mohamedou Ould Slahi, *Guantanamo Diary*.

*Alexander Solzhenitsyn, *Cancer Ward*.

Ali Soufan, *Anatomy of Terror: From the Death of Bin Laden to the Rise of the Islamic State*.

Daniel C. Thomas, *The Helsinki Effect: International Norms, Human Rights and the Demise of Communism*.

Jacobo Timerman, *Prisoner Without a Name, Cell Without a Number; or The Longest War*.

*Tolstoy, *War and Peace*.

Marie Vassiltchikov, *Berlin Diaries, 1940-45*.

*Fred Viehbach, *The Stain*.

Joby Warrick, *Black Flags*.

Lawrence Weschler, *A Miracle, A Universe: Settling Accounts with Torturers*.

Mathilde Wolff-Monckeberg, *On the Other Side: To My Children from Germany, 1940-45*.

Robert F. Worth, *A Rage For Order: The Middle East in Turmoil, from Tahrir Square to ISIS*.

*John Wray, *Godsend: A Novel*.

David S. Wyman, *The Abandonment of the Jews: America and the Holocaust 1941-45*.