EXISTENTIALISM: MEANING IN LIFE

Assignments by week:

1. 31 August  Sartre
2.  7 Sept.  Sartre
3. 14 Sept  Sartre

1st paper due on
4. 21 Sept The Stranger
5.  28, Sept The Stranger
6.  Oct. 5,

2nd Papers Due
7. 12, Oct. Fear & Trembling
8.  19 October F & T
9.  26 October Fear & Trembling

3rd Papers Due
10. 2 Nov. Handout (Mask/Genre)
11.  9, Nov. Handout (Authenticity)
12. 16, 18 Nov – Heidegger
13.  23 Nov Heidegger
14.  30 Nov. Heidegger
15.  7, Dec Review

Last Paper Due December 11- HL 501

First papers (1, 2, 3):
Look for 2-3 passages-sentences to unpack and reflect on; put these in bold-face at the start of each section that concerns them. Write 3-4 pages, not on “the book” or “the philosophy of . . .” but on the passages you select. Reading one or two paragraphs six times is better than writing on the basis of skimming for ‘the general drift’ – though the latter can help you get into the spirit of the local passages you pick.

LAST PAPER

A) Take a position on some aspect or argument of one of the primary texts (or essay);

B) Develop a critique or contrast with another primary text (or essay); in light of Class discussion and other reading.

Books
Camus: The Stranger, Vintage,
Sartre: Existentialism is a Humanism, Yale
Heidegger: Off the Beaten Track, Cambr
Kierkegaard: Fear and Trembling, Penguin
Nietzsche, Birth of Tragedy, (Oxford) trans Douglas Smith, 2008
Essays: Authenticity and Masks/Genres

Optional, for background:
Flynn, T., Existentialism A short Intro
Critchley, S. Infinitely Demanding