

Dear friends in HUMS 623,

The complete course syllabus will be distributed in our first class meeting.

If you'd like to get a start on the course readings, this is the order in which we will be discussing the assigned books.

--Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina* (in the Pevear translation, preferably)

We'll discuss the early part of the book in our first or second class meeting. We will then discuss the whole novel later in the course.

--Didion, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*

--Furman, ed., *O. Henry Prize Stories 2008*

--Gornick, *Fierce Attachments*

--Mark Doty, *Still Life with Oysters and Lemon*

--Tea Obreht, *The Tiger's Wife*

Selections from Lopate, ed., *The Art of the Personal Essay* will also be assigned frequently.

A number of xeroxed readings will also be included, among them pieces by Finnegan, Mukerjee, Fitzgerald, O'Brien, Doyle, McKibben, Kincaid, Bowden, and Beard.

I look forward to working with you on your writing.

Anne Greene