

Should we selfishly follow our own convictions at the risk of being considered arrogant or should we selflessly sacrifice our independent judgment for the sake of others while giving up our values? Should we give form to our highest values at the risk of being considered anti-social or should we follow the mob while losing our identity? Should we pursue our own purpose at the risk of being considered ruthless or should we live as unproductive imitators while burning out? Does happiness consist in reaching independent judgments about the world and translating one's highest vision into reality or does it consist in following the beliefs of the majority and serving them?

These questions are but a couple of issues that Ayn Rand ponders in her 1943 novel, *The Fountainhead*. From October 11 2023, *Ricardo's Time* will offer an exclusive seminar on Rand's perennial novel as part of the organization's newly implemented flagship program "Martin's Time: Studies in Reason, Individualism, and Capitalism." Over the course of two years, students of the program will be given the unique opportunity to study Rand's two major works of fiction, *The Fountainhead* and *Atlas Shrugged*, with renowned German Objectivist scholar Martin Hooss.

Each Wednesday, the students of our program will get together to discuss approximately fifty pages of Rand's fiction with Martin. In addition, students are expected to read one of Rand's nonfiction essays per week. Each Sunday, Martin will e-meet with our students to apply Rand's fiction to her nonfiction, give them practical trainings, and, eventually, mentor our top students in his exclusive study group, "Conversations in Atlantis," which he cohosts with Aristotelian scholar Dr. Carrie-Ann Biondi.

Since the seminars offered by *Ricardo's Time* are interactive, our program is highly selective. While a profound understanding of Ayn Rand or Objectivism is *not* a necessary prerequisite for joining our program, we expect our students to be active-minded, i.e. to read the materials before attending the sessions, to be on time, and to actively discuss with the lecturer.

Time Table: First Semester: *The Fountainhead*

- 1) October 11: Part I, Chapters 1-3 & “The Metaphysical versus the Man-Made”
- 2) October 18: Part I, Chapters 4-6 & “Causality versus Duty”
- 3) October 25: Part I, Chapters 7-9 & “The Missing Link”
- 4) November 1: Part I, Chapters 10-12 & “Selfishness without a Self”
- 5) November 8: Part I, Chapters 13-15 & “Philosophy and Sense of Life”
- 6) November 15: Part II, Chapters 1-3 & “Art and Sense of Life”
- 7) November 22: Part II, Chapters 4-6 & Introduction to *The Virtue of Selfishness*
- 8) November 29: Part II, Chapters 7-9 & “The Objectivist Ethics”
- 9) December 6: Part II, Chapters 10-12 & Introduction to *The Fountainhead*
- 10) December 13: Part II, Chapters 13-15 & article to be announced
- 11) January 10: Part III, Chapters 1-3 & “For the New Intellectual”
- 12) January 17: Part III, Chapters 4-6 & article to be announced
- 13) January 24: Part III, Chapters 7-9 & article to be announced
- 14) January 31: Part IV, Chapters 1-4 & article to be announced
- 15) February 7: Part IV, Chapters 5-8 & article to be announced
- 16) February 14: Part IV, Chapters 9-12 & article to be announced
- 17) February 21: Part IV, Chapters 13-16 & article to be announced
- 18) February 28: Part IV, Chapters 17-20 & article to be announced

Time Table: Second Semester: *Atlas Shrugged*

- 1) April 24: Part I, Chapter 1 & article to be announced
- 2) May 1: Part I, Chapter 2 & article to be announced
- 3) May 8: Part I, Chapter 3 & article to be announced
- 4) May 15: Part I, Chapter 4 & article to be announced
- 5) May 22: Part I, Chapter 5 & article to be announced
- 6) May 29: Part I, Chapter 6 & article to be announced
- 7) June 5: Part I, Chapter 7 & article to be announced
- 8) June 12: Part I, Chapter 8 & article to be announced
- 9) June 19: Part I, Chapter 9 & article to be announced
- 10) June 26: Part I, Chapter 10 & article to be announced