

- 1) Does it make sense to say that everyone is guilty for all the evil in the world, and that one should ask forgiveness even from animals? (Section G of Zossima's biographical notes (366 ff.)) Do the events in The Brothers Karamazov support this extreme claim or a weaker one?
- 2) Describe the role of dream visions in the spiritual development of two of the following: Alyosha, Dmitri and Ivan. What provokes each dream and what response does the dream produce and why?
- 3) Is Lise a proper spiritual partner for Alyosha? Weight the evidence for and against.
- 4) Examine the way Dostoyevsky parodies one or more of his major themes (other than suffering and defining relationships) and explain the significance of the parody in relation to his own position.
- 5) What are Ivan's motives for confession? Are they admirable or blameworthy or both? What does this tell us about Dostoyevsky's view of motives for action?
- 6) "Miracle mystery and authority" are prominent in the Grand Inquisitor Legend. What is the antinomy concerning mystery or authority (choose one)? Dostoyevsky gives a demagicalized existential account of miracles. What is Dostoyevsky's existencialized account of mystery or authority?
- 7) How do you reconcile Zossima's sense that he's guilty for all the world's suffering with the fact that Zossima is almost always joyful?

NOTE: You are encouraged to write on a topic of your own, but before you begin you must have the approval of your GSI. Don't wait until the last minute to propose a topic.

LENGTH: Approximately 6 pages. Please use Times New Roman 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins. Double space and number your pages.

DUE: Mon. April 14 by 5:00 PM in the Howison Philosophy Library. One increment of a grade (for example A to A minus) will be taken off for each day a paper is late.

Suggestions:

- 1) *Avoid merely repeating what is said in lectures and sections.*
- 2) Avoid summary comparison. Show differences as well as similarities in any comparisons you make.
- 3) Raise a specific question. Make your paper clearly an answer to this specific question.
- 4) Support your arguments with specific details from the relevant text and/or phenomenon.