

Course syllabus developed with funding from:

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Worksheet for *Notes from Underground* (New York: Bantam, 2005) seminar project. Read the entire *Notes from Underground* (pages 1—130) and utilize the Notes (page 131—134). Using the information gained from reading *Notes from Underground*, answer the following questions and submit on _____ . Support your answers with passages and/or page numbers.

Worksheet Rubric (do not mark, project begins at the bottom of this page)

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1. Answered all questions: (40 points possible)	_____	_____
(If yes, move to item #3)		
1a. Number of questions skipped (0.8 points each)		_____
1b. Number of skipped pages. (4.5 points each)		_____
1c. Value of skipped question:	_____	
1d. Value of each skipped page:	_____	
2. Worksheet Score		_____ /40

(Value of skipped questions and pages subtracted from total value) _____

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
3. All questions answered with <u>evidence</u> or an <u>extensive</u> response (Up to 10 points extra).	_____	_____ Stop. No extra credit
3a. <u>Additional Worksheet Score</u> Questions answered with evidence (up to 5 extra points)		_____
3a. <u>Additional Worksheet Score</u> Questions answered with extensive responses (up to 5 extra points)		_____
4. Total Worksheet Score		_____ /40

QUESTIONS BEGIN HERE

1. Why does the Underground Man refuse to see a doctor?

2. When the Underground Man worked, what was his job and what kind of worker was he?

3. What reality is behind the Underground Man's emotions?

4. Who lives past forty years old?

5. What is a man's greatest pleasure?

6. What value is there in suffering and despair?

7. Is the Underground Man a nihilist (First start answering what is nihilism)?

8. What is wrong with excessive consciousness?

9. Why is unquestioned obedience to natural laws, science, and mathematics the sign of a weak mind?

10. Why does the man with a toothache moan?

11. Why are active people stupid?

12. Why are lazy people smart?

13. What will people do to achieve their primary advantages?

14. What does the individual pursuit of advantage destroy?

15. What does civilization do to people?

16. According to Underground Man, how do civilization and bloodthirstiness interrelate?

17. What is the Underground Man using piano keys or organ stops to explain?

18. What is the only thing humans need?

19. What are people's wishes?

20. What is the ultimate result of natural laws and reason?

21. Why is stupidity important for humanity?

22. What is mankind's chief fault?

- 23.** What confirms that humans are still humans (the Underground Man uses the wording men instead of humans)?
- 24.** What are humans ready to do in order to prove they are in charge (they have free will)?
- 25.** What is humanity's relationship to activity and achievement?
- 26.** What is to be done if all is planned-out and there is nothing left to do?
- 27.** Why write?
- 28.** Describe the Underground Man's life when he was twenty-four.

29. What is a romantic and what is wrong with romantics?

30. Why read?

31. Why does the Underground Man stalk the officer?

32. What does the interactions with the officer confirm about the Underground Man's status?

33. What was Underground Man's school experience?

34. Why does Underground Man hate Zverkov?

35. The Underground Man has repeated visions of a bold, alternative reality. What is he doing in these fantasies and what is the reality?

36. How does Underground Man react to the cold-shoulder he gets at the dinner?

37. What happens to the Underground Man's social standing at dinner?

38. When does Underground Man seem happiest?

39. Liza may owe her soul to a madam, but who does the Underground Man owe?

40. Why might the Underground Man's moralizing to Liza come off as a load of crap?

41. Underground Man depicts an unpleasant life and end for Liza. How might this be autobiographical?

42. Why does Underground Man purposefully set out to emotionally damage Liza?

43. Why does Underground Man punish Apollon?

44. How does the Underground Man envision Liza before her visit and how does he treat her during the visit? Why?

45. Why does the Underground Man attack Liza?

46. What is love?

47. Which is better, cheap happiness or noble suffering?

48. Do people want more independence?

49. Why might the Underground Man be more alive than you are?

50. How does Dostoevsky describe the human condition?