

Frederick Peters, Lecturer IV in the Residential College of the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, retired from faculty status at the University of Michigan on December 31, 2019.

Dr. Peters received his B. A. from the University of Pennsylvania (1957), an M.A. in English and Comparative Literature from Columbia University (1959), an M. A. in German Literature and Language from Columbia University (1962), a B.Litt. from Magdalen College, Oxford University (1965), and a Ph. D. in Philosophy from King's College, Cambridge University (1972). He also spent a semester each at the Universities of Munich (1959), Heidelberg (1960), the Free University of Berlin (1963) and the Sorbonne, the University of Paris (1964).

His revised Cambridge dissertation was published by Columbia University Press: Robert Musil: Master of the Hovering Life (1978). Peters has published numerous articles and translations.

Dr. Peters arrived at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 1979. On behalf of the University of Michigan, he has also taught in Europe and Asia: one semester in the University of Michigan Italian Program in Florence, Italy (Winter 2011) and for five summer semesters at the University of Shanghai (Jiao Tong) from 2012 -2016. He also gave a course at the Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute in Southfield, Michigan on Freud and Literature for candidates and psychoanalysts.

In the Residential College, he offered courses of an interdisciplinary nature such as: The Western Mind in Revolution: Six Reinterpretation (Copernicus, Luther, Darwin, Marx, Freud and Einstein); Existentialism and Literature; Psychoanalysis and the Modern Novel; Biblical, Greek and Medieval Texts and Modern Film Counterparts; Nietzsche: Philosopher and Psychologist; Four Interdisciplinary Studies in 19th and 20th Century Intellectual History (Psychoanalysis, Mysticism, Nihilism and Communism); Images of War: Literary, Ideological and Psychoanalytic Perspectives; Dante and Galileo: from Medieval Christianity to the Beginnings of Modern Science; Nietzsche and Italian Fascism; Atheism: A History of Skepticism and Unbelief from the Greco-Roman to the Modern Period; Nietzsche's Last Year 1888: Philosophical Culmination and Mental Collapse; Death in the Western Imagination: Concepts of Death in Five Cultures (Egyptian, Homeric, Platonic, Medieval Christian and Modern World Views). This course included eleven visiting professors who lectured on the phenomenon of death in their particular disciplines; and for undergraduate teaching interns College Teaching, given every semester.

Administrative Work: At various times, Peters has served on the Executive Committee and the Curriculum Committee and was also the Director of the Residential College's Comparative Literature Concentration as well as Director of the First Year Seminar Program. He also spear-headed the development of the Student Internship Course College Teaching). Along with Cindy Sowers and Tom Weisskopf, he wrote sections of The Residential College's Internal Review Committee Report (1997 - 1999).

Summary of his teaching philosophy: In a time of increasing specialization and compartmentalization of knowledge, he has consistently devoted his teaching energies to exploring and offering **interdisciplinary courses** that compare, contrast and evaluate perspectives in very disparate disciplines such as philosophy, psychology, social science, the natural sciences, literature, film and the arts.