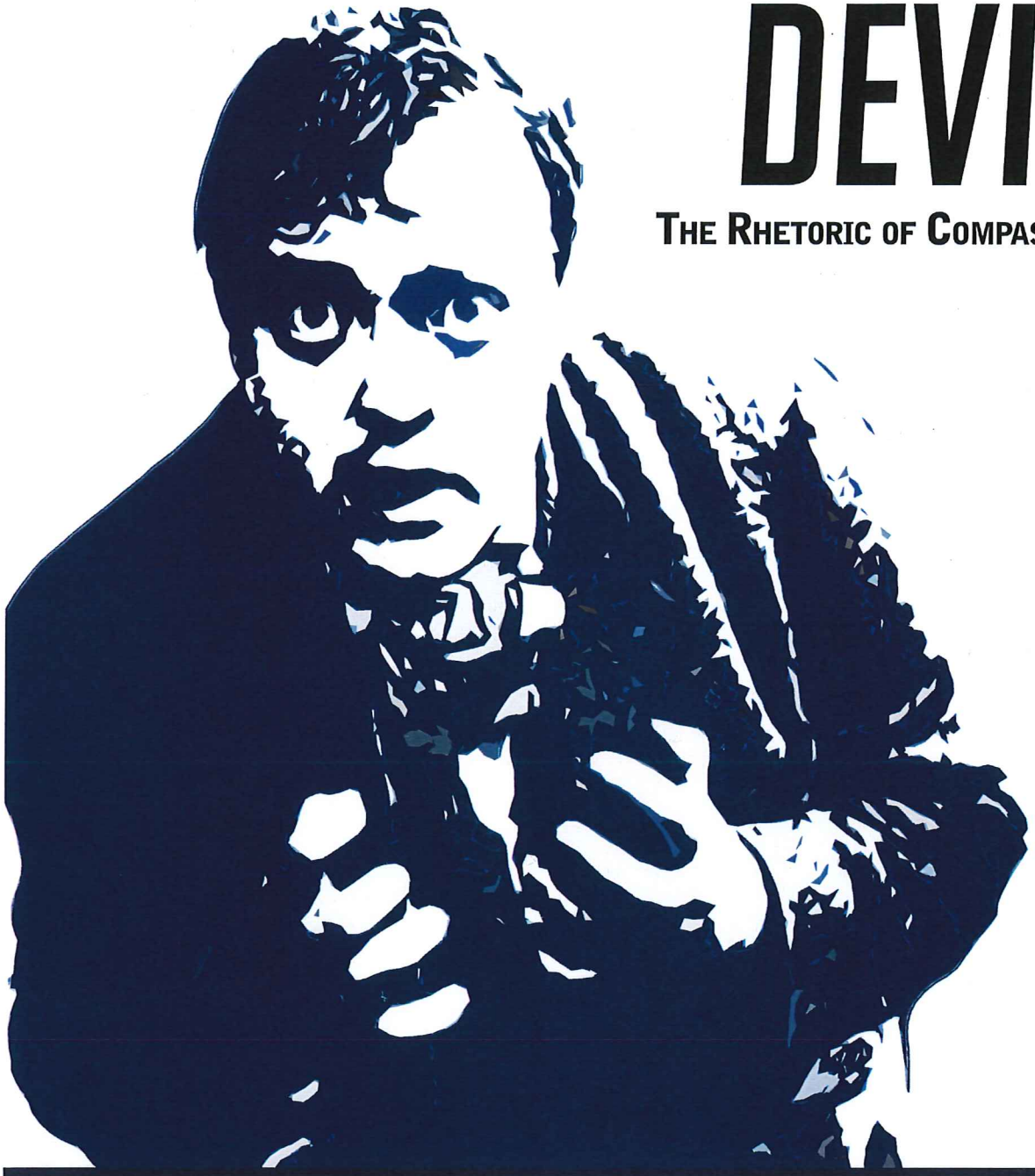
SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL

THE RHETORIC OF COMPASSION



GERMAN 385A (sln: 15864), CHID 498C (sln: 12633), PHIL 301A (sln: 20041), C LIT 357A (sln: 12025), LIT 298A (sln: 17746), CLAS 496B (sln: 12704), GERMAN 285A FIG (sln: 15859)

5 credits, DIV / I&S MWF 12:30-1:20, Th 12:30-1:20 (quiz)

Instructor: Ellwood Wiggins, wiggins1@uw.edu

Is compassion the foundation of human morality or a dangerously unreliable emotion? This course explores how different media foster empathy for commonly held enemies or discriminated groups. The syllabus runs from Ancient Greece to depictions of Nazis and terrorists in modern film. Half of our readings are in moral philosophy, while the plays, stories, and films serve as an experimental field to evaluate the philosophers' claims about compassion. This course engages in team-based learning. **Readings and discussion in English.**

AUTUMN 2017

Poster design: S.N. Welch