

## INTERMEDIATE CONVERSATION

Spring Semester 2010

Ashline

Group Discussion Topic

Students should read and become familiar with the group discussion protocols on a separate document on this website. We have just viewed the film “Temple Grandin” and learned about the suffering and transcendence of a woman who suffers from autism, a woman who now works as a professor of animal science at Colorado State University in the US. The film serves as a lesson that society should never give up on the potential of those with various physical and mental disadvantages. Accordingly, for our group project, we should think of a topic that involves leaving campus and visiting a place or institution that is entrusted taking care of, supporting, or educating people with such disadvantages. These places could theoretically be orphanages, schools for autistic children, institutions for the mentally ill, schools for the deaf or blind, institutions for the disabled, hospices, hospitals, etc. In a small group, discuss which of these places would be of interest for your group to explore and research. Make a schedule of meetings, including planning time to visit the places in question. Arrange with the place to visit by making an appointment to announce your visit, and then visit the institution and try to talk to as many people as possible to find out about the place you are investigating. After your research and visit are complete, give a 15-20 minute conversation/discussion to our class where you explain what you have accomplished and learned from the experience. Everyone in the group should talk for roughly five minutes. You will have approximately three weeks to prepare for this project. Presentations will take place on Friday, May 14 with perhaps an additional group presenting the following week as well, pending time.