Ian McEwan is one of the most talented writers working in the English language today; his prose is as illuminating as it is beautiful. In this class we will read the novel *Atonement*—beloved by critics and readers alike since it came out in 2001. The novel will give us an opportunity not only to enjoy the rich, formal eloquence of McEwan’s style, but also to explore the conditions in Britain before, during, and after WWII— the complex time period during which the novel is set. McEwan’s masterwork functions both as a cerebral postmodern investigation into the nature of narrative, and as a highly compelling tale about love, betrayal, and memory.

Wednesday 20 January       Part One
Wednesday 27 January       Part Two
Wednesday 3 February       Part Three
Wednesday 10 February      London, 1999

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