LITERATURE, ETHICS, AND AUTHORITY
15.269

Class #8: Monday 5 March 2001

See:

Robert Bolt and Fred Zinnemann, A Man for All Seasons (film; showing Thursday 3/1, 7 pm, E51-145)

Study Questions:

1. Have you encountered people like Sir Thomas More—or Henry VIII, or Cromwell, or Rich—in your work? How do they function as colleagues? What is their sense of their profession?

2. Can one speak of multiple spheres in the world Bolt portrays in A Man for All Seasons? If so, does each have its own rules or morals, or do the inhabitants of all of them apply the same standards to their behavior?

3. “Affection goes as deep in me as you think, but only God is love right through, Howard; and that’s my self” (p. 122). What is a “self” in Bolt’s play, and what roles does it play for all of us in society and in our organizations?