

LITERATURE, ETHICS, AND AUTHORITY
15.269

Class #10: Monday 12 March 2001

Read:

Bertolt Brecht, Galileo

Study Questions:

1. If you rewrote the story of Galileo in 21st century terms, who would play the role of the scientist, who/what the role of the Catholic Church?
2. What does Brecht argue might be the relationship of science to the political order? What burden does that place on the scientist, and do you find that burden an appropriate one? Do business people face a similar challenge?
3. How would you define "progress," based on Brecht's rendition of Galileo's career?