



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 411: Topics in the History of Philosophy
Lec 01, Topic 01 – “Continental Theories of Knowledge”
Winter Term 2010

Course Outline

Instructor: Dr. L. Markotic

Office: Social Sciences 1034

Phone: 403-220-8172

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:30-4:30, and by appointment

Lecture Time: TR 1400-1515

Lecture Location: SS 541

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will focus on continental theories of knowledge. After considering Nietzsche's dissection of various notions of truth, we shall turn to various responses to enlightenment thinking in both the German and the French philosophical traditions. We shall consider the relationship between knowledge and technology, knowledge and myth, knowledge and ideology, knowledge and the unconscious, knowledge and social science paradigms, and knowledge and gender. The following philosophers will be studied: Nietzsche, Heidegger, Adorno, Horkheimer & Adorno, Habermas, Lyotard, Freud, Lacan, Foucault, and Irigaray. Class participation is strongly encouraged. I expect students to come to class having read the material under discussion and to raise questions and engage in the discussion throughout the term. This can result in one moving from one grade level to the next for the final grade (eg, from C to C+; from C+ to B-, etc.).

TEXTS:

Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*.

Heidegger, *The Question Concerning Technology and Other Essays*

Horkheimer and Adorno, *Dialectic of Enlightenment*

Lyotard, *The Postmodern Condition*

Foucault, *The Order of Things*

Course Readings

ASSIGNMENTS:

Presentation (10%) – Each student will present a section from the one of the texts on the course to the rest of the class. The presentation should take approximately 10 minutes.

The presenter will then be expected to respond to questions from other students for a maximum of 5 minutes.

First paper (approx. 1000-1200 words) worth 30 % – **due February 3rd**

Second paper (approx. 1200-1500 words) worth 30% – **due March 12th**

Third paper (approx. 1200-1500 words) worth 30% – **due April 16th**

Grades on papers will be assigned the corresponding numbered grade:

A+ = 90; A = 85; A- = 82; B+ = 78; B = 75; B- = 72; C+ = 68; C = 65; C- = 62; D+ = 58; D = 55.

Final Grades will be assigned according to the ranges below:

A+ = 87-100; A = 84-86; A- = 80-83; B+ = 77-79; B = 74-76; B- = 70-73; C+ = 67-69;
C = 64-66; C- = 60-63; D+ = 57-59; D = 54-56.

Late papers will not be accepted.

There will NOT be a Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Please hand your papers directly to me or put them in the drop box for this course located in the Department of Philosophy (SS 12th floor).

INTELLECTUAL HONESTY

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that plagiarism exists when:

- *the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test;*
- *parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;*
- *the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source; and/or*
- *a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.*

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

STUDENTS' UNION REPRESENTATIVE

The Humanities Representative is Britney Luimes, MSC 251, humanitiesrep@su.ucalgary.ca or 220-3913.