

PHILOSOPHY 234: NINETEENTH-CENTURY CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY
Fall, 2009

Professor: Alan Schrift
Office: Steiner 311
Office Phone: 3161
Office Hours: M-W 1:30-3:00 and by appointment

Required Texts

Tucker, ed. *The Marx-Engels Reader* (Norton)
Kierkegaard, *Fear and Trembling* (Cambridge)
Nietzsche _____ *The Nietzsche Reader* (Blackwell)

In addition to these texts, several readings have been placed on E-reserve in Burling.

Course Objectives

Philosophy in the 19th century underwent several revolutionary changes as philosophers became increasingly sensitive to ideological and historical considerations and the normative biases of the thinking subject. During the semester, we will examine in some detail a number of major 19th century thinkers, including Hegel, Marx, Comte, Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche. Our examination will focus on several themes, including human beings' understanding of themselves, the critique of transcendental philosophizing, the critique of philosophical system-building, the "death of God", and ideology-critique. The goal of this course is to promote an understanding both of 19th century philosophy and the ways in which 19th century thought informs some of the dominant views of the 20th century.

Course Requirements: Final grades will be determined on the basis of overall class participation and the following requirements [percentage of final grade in brackets]:

1. **Midterm paper** on Hegel and his critics: 5-6 pages. [35%] Due: Oct. 16.
2. **Final paper** comparing two or more thinkers: 10-12 pages. [45%] Due: Dec. 15.
3. **Position Papers:** each week, submit on Tuesday a one-page typed comment on some aspect of the reading of that week. These papers will be graded, and will be figured into your class participation grade component. [10%]
5. **Class Participation.** [10%] In addition to participating in class, you will be asked to submit a discussion question by 10:00am on the day of class to the class "Discussion Board" on Blackboard.

ATTENDANCE: You are **expected** to attend class. Although attendance normally will not be taken, more than **three** unexcused absences **will** result in a lowering of your grade for the class participation component. More than SIX unexcused absences will result in failure of the course.

LATE POLICY: Written assignments which are submitted late will be penalized **one letter grade** for each 24 hours late. Papers submitted more than 48 hours late will **NOT** be accepted. Exceptions to this policy will be made only for medical reasons.

Philosophy 234: Nineteenth Century Continental Philosophy
Professor Alan Schrift

Aug. 27	INTRODUCTION	
Sept. 1	INTRODUCTION	
	HEGEL:	Selections from <i>Logic</i> [E-reserve]
	MARCUSE:	Selections from <i>Reason and Revolution</i> [E-reserve]
	SOLOMON:	Hegel Glossary [E-reserve]
Sept. 3	HEGEL:	Selections from <i>Phenomenology of Spirit</i> , §§73-89 [E-reserve]
Sept. 8 & 10	HEGEL:	Selections from <i>Phenomenology of Spirit</i> , §§90-110, 166-212 [E-reserve]
	KOJÈVE:	Selection from <i>Introduction to the Reading of Hegel</i> [Reserve]
Sept. 15, 17	HEGEL:	<i>Phenomenology of Mind</i> , Concluding discussion
	FEUERBACH:	Selection from <i>The Essence of Christianity</i> [Reserve]
Sept. 22	MARX:	“Critique of Hegel’s Dialectic” (pp. 106-125, Skim) “Preface to <i>Contribution to Critique of Political Economy</i> ” (pp. 3-6) “Contribution to the Critique of Hegel” (pp. 53-55) “Theses on Feuerbach” (pp. 143-145) “1844 Manuscripts: Estranged Labor” (pp. 70-82) “1844 Manuscripts: Private Property and Communism (pp. 81-93) “1844 Manuscripts: The Power of Money (pp. 101-105)
Sept. 24		Selections from <i>The German Ideology</i> (pp. 148-175)
Sept. 29 Oct. 1	MARX:	Selections from <i>The German Ideology</i> (pp. 186-197) <i>The Communist Manifesto</i> , Parts I & II (pp. 469-491)
Oct. 6	MARX:	Selections from <i>Capital</i> (pp. 302-308, 319-329) Selections from <i>Wage Labour and Capital</i> (pp. 204-210) <i>The Origin of the Family</i> (pp. 734-750)
Oct. 8	KIERKEGAARD:	Selection from <i>Concluding Unscientific Postscript</i> [E-reserve]
Oct. 13	KIERKEGAARD:	<i>Fear and Trembling</i> , pp. 1-67
Oct. 15	KIERKEGAARD:	<i>Fear and Trembling</i> , pp. 68-123
Oct. 16		<u>MIDTERM PAPER DUE</u>
Oct. 17-25		<u>FALL BREAK</u>
Oct. 27		No Class
Oct. 29		No Class
COMTE:		Selections from <i>The Positive Philosophy</i> [E-Reserve]
Nov. 3	NIETZSCHE:	“On Truth and Lies in a Nonmoral Sense” <i>Birth of Tragedy</i> , Sections 1-15
Nov. 5	NIETZSCHE:	<i>Human, All Too Human</i> , Section 1: “Of First and Last Things” <i>The Gay Science</i> , Books I - IV
Nov. 10 Nov. 12	NIETZSCHE:	Selections from <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> + Notes from 1881
		No Class
Nov. 17 Nov. 19	NIETZSCHE:	<i>Beyond Good and Evil</i> , Preface, Sections 1 and 9
	NIETZSCHE:	<i>The Gay Science</i> , Book Five
Nov. 24	NIETZSCHE:	<i>On the Genealogy of Morals</i> , Essay I
Nov. 25-30		<u>THANKSGIVING BREAK</u>
Dec. 1	NIETZSCHE:	<i>On the Genealogy of Morals</i> , Essay II
Dec. 3	NIETZSCHE:	<i>On the Genealogy of Morals</i> , Essay III
Dec. 8	NIETZSCHE:	<i>Twilight</i>
Dec. 10	NIETZSCHE:	<i>Antichrist</i>
Dec. 15		<u>FINAL PAPER DUE</u>