

PHIL 3009-A: Topics in European Philosophy
September 4th, 2014 – December 8th, 2014
Professor: Devin Zane Shaw, Ph.D.

Class

Location: TBA

Time: Monday, 10:05am–11:25am

Wednesday, 10:05am–11:25am

Office Hours

Location: 329B Paterson Hall

Time: Tuesday, 1:15pm–2:15pm

Contact: Devin.Shaw@carleton.ca

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce key figures in 20th century European philosophy through a study of two concepts: alienation and authenticity. While the idea of authenticity is deeply problematic, it has played a prominent role in continental philosophy through at least the late 1950s, and it is important to study as one appealing response to the experience of modern alienation. We will read the phenomenological and existential tradition of continental philosophy—along with selected works in African philosophy—in order to gain a critical perspective on alienation and authenticity, and to consider whether there is another way to think about the experience of creative, productive, or intellectual fulfillment.

Required Readings

- *The following required texts are available via Library Reserves:*

Bataille, Georges. *On Nietzsche*. Trans. Bruce Boone (New York: Paragon House, 1992), 179–187.

Beauvoir, Simone de. *The Second Sex*. Trans. Constance Borde and Sheila Malovany-Chevallier (New York: Vintage, 2009), 3–17; 709–751.

Heidegger, Martin. 'Letter on Humanism,' in *Basic Writings*. Ed. David Farrell Krell (San Francisco: Harper Collins Publishing, 1993), 217–265.

Marx, Karl. 'Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts,' in *Selected Writings*. 2nd Edition. Ed. David McLennan (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000), 85–104.

Sartre, John-Paul. 'Black Orpheus,' in *The Massachusetts Review*. Vol. 6, no. 1 (1964): 13–52.

_____. 'The Humanism of Existentialism,' in *Essays in Existentialism*. Ed. Wade Baskin (New York: Citadel Press, 1995), 31–62.

_____. 'A New Mystic,' in *Critical Essays*. Trans. Chris Turner (London: Seagull Books, 2008), 219–293.

Senghor, Léopold Sédar. 'African-Negro Aesthetics,' *Diogenes* 4 (1956): 23–38.

- *The following required texts are available at All Books, 327 Rideau Street. Its business hours are 11am-9pm except Sunday when it opens at noon:*

Bataille, Georges. *Inner Experience*. Trans. Stuart Kendall (Albany: SUNY Press, 2014).

Fanon, Frantz. *Black Skin, White Masks*. Trans. Richard Philcox (New York: Grove Press, 2008).

Sartre, John-Paul. *Being and Nothingness*. Trans. Hazel E. Barnes (New York: Washington Square Books, 1956).

Evaluation (all assignments must be submitted in hard copy):

- **Critical Response Paper, due October 1st, 20% of final mark (500 words).** A successful critical response paper will: 1) Summarize the primary interest of the article or chapter and the author's thesis; 2) Engage with the arguments and the evidence that support the thesis; 3) Explain why the author considers the thesis and supporting claims to advance the discussion of authenticity and/or alienation.
- **Annotated Bibliography, due November 12th, 30% of final mark (1000-1500 words).** This assignment must propose a thesis statement that will be taken up in the final essay. In addition, it must explain and defend this thesis in a summary essay (600-750 words) and provide full bibliographic information, along with summaries written by the student, of at least two texts from the course, and at least three appropriate academic sources (for example, peer reviewed journal articles, contributions to edited volumes, book chapters) which will be relevant to his or her final essay.
- **Final Essay, due December 21st, 50% of final mark (3000 words).** This paper should expand upon themes taken up in the previous assignments. This assignment will also require that the student propose a thesis regarding the debates discussed in class and defend it. It also requires the student to consider the secondary literature concerning the topic.

Marks will be deducted at the rate of 5% per calendar day written work is late without valid reason. Valid reasons for late submission of written work include illness, severe stress, and family emergencies. Documentation (e.g. doctors' or counsellors' notes) is required.

Reading Schedule (Subject to Change)

Week 1

September 8, 10 Marx, 'Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts'

Week 2

September 15, 17 Sartre, 'The Humanism of Existentialism'
Heidegger, 'Letter on Humanism'

Week 3

September 22, 24 Heidegger, 'Letter on Humanism'
Sartre, *Being and Nothingness*, 56-146

Week 4

September 29 Sartre, *Being and Nothingness*, 56-146
October 1 Sartre, *Being and Nothingness*, 56-146

October 1: ***Critical Response Paper due***

Week 5 October 6, 8	Sartre, <i>Being and Nothingness</i> , 56–146 Bataille, <i>Inner Experience</i> , TBA
Week 6 October 13 October 15	Statutory Holiday, No Class Bataille, <i>Inner Experience</i> , TBA
Week 7 October 20, 22	Sartre, 'A New Mystic'
Week 8 October 27–31	Fall Break, No Classes
Week 9 November 3, 5	Bataille, <i>On Nietzsche</i>
Week 10 November 10, 12	Beauvoir, <i>The Second Sex</i>
November 12:	<i>Annotated Bibliography due</i>
Week 11 November 17, 19	Beauvoir, <i>The Second Sex</i> Sartre, 'Black Orpheus'
Week 12 November 24, 26	Senghor, 'African-Negro Aesthetics'
Week 13 December 1, 3	Fanon, <i>Black Skin, White Masks</i>
Week 14 December 8	Concluding Remarks
December 21:	<i>Final Essay Due</i>

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (2014-15)

Assignments:

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips
- must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box)
- must include the following:
 - student name
 - student number
 - course number and section
 - instructor's name
- The Philosophy Department does not accept assignments by FAX. You may send them by courier, if necessary.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates in next column.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

Deferrals for Term Work:

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a final assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral of examination/assignment. For deferred examinations, you must apply within 5 working days after the scheduled date of your exam. To apply for deferral of a final assignment, you must apply within 5 working days of the last scheduled day of classes. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information.

Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. (Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations, section 14.3, or <http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv14/>)

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The **Paul Menton Centre** for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam

requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your professor to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Important Dates:

Sept. 4	Classes start (after Orientation events).
Sept. 17	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall and Fall/Winter courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 13	Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
Oct. 27-31	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 24	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 8	Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for Fall term courses.
Dec. 8	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 9	No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Dec. 10-21	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
Dec. 21	Take-home exams are due.
Jan. 5	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 16	Last day for registration and course changes in Winter term classes.
Jan. 31	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter courses or winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb. 16-20	Winter Break, classes suspended.
Mar. 24	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Apr. 8	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for Fall/Winter and Winter term courses.
Apr. 8	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 9-10	No classes or examinations take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Apr. 11-23	Final Examinations. Exams are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 23	Take-home exams are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre:	302 Tory www.carleton.ca/sasc 520-7850
Writing Tutorial Service:	4 th Floor, Library http://www1.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/ 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735