

Carleton University
Winter 2016
Department of Political Science

PSCI 4809/5309. CONCEPTS OF POLITICAL COMMUNITY II
(Fridays 8:35 - 11:25 am. Please confirm location on Carleton Central)

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Office hours: Tuesdays 12 noon to 3 pm.
Loeb D691. x 2765

The Modern Search for Political Wholeness

G.W.F. Hegel seeks in *THE PHENOMENOLOGY OF SPIRIT* to recover the Platonic account of the soul's search for transcendence so as to off-set the widespread feeling that the Modern Age of the Enlightenment and liberalism had debased the human spirit with its excessive emphasis on individual self-interest and materialism. We will consider how Hegel's attempt to synthesize Platonism with the progress of history emerged from the thought of Rousseau (who was, along with Plato, Hegel's favorite thinker), Kant and Schiller. We will then examine how Hegel's grand synthesis of history and transcendence was attacked from both the left and the right by Marx, Nietzsche and Heidegger, with the result that Hegel's moderate political progressivism was increasingly set aside in favor of ever more revolutionary expectations for the future transformation of the human condition, a Third Age of collective bliss variously evoked by Marx's proletariat, Nietzsche's Superman and Heidegger's vision of the German "community of destiny."

Texts:

* on order at Bookstore ** available free on-line *** hand-out

Jean-Jacques Rousseau. *BASIC POLITICAL WRITINGS*. *

Immanuel Kant. *GROUNDWORK OF THE METAPHYSICS OF MORALS*. *

Friedrich Schiller. *LETTERS ON THE AESTHETIC EDUCATION OF MAN* **

G.W.F. Hegel. *THE PHENOMENOLOGY OF SPIRIT*. * and **

Karl Marx. "The Communist Manifesto;" "On the Jewish Question" *

Friedrich Nietzsche. BEYOND GOOD AND EVIL * THE WILL TO POWER.**

Martin Heidegger. AN INTRODUCTION TO METAPHYSICS* ON THE SELF-OVERCOMING OF THE GERMAN UNIVERSITY**

Leo Strauss. "German Nihilism." ***

Evaluation:

- 1) A term paper to be submitted at my office on the last day of the Winter term, Friday April 8, at 12 noon. 15 pages double-spaced typed. Worth 50% of grade.
- 2) Weekly oral presentations on the readings on an equally rotating basis. Worth 50% of grade.

Attendance and Lateness Policy:

- 1) Attendance is obligatory, not optional. Every student is expected to attend every class unless the student has a recognized medical or personal excuse for being absent.
- 2) Late papers will be penalized by half a grade a day after the final due date for submission.

Schedule of Readings and Topics:

Jan. 8. Introductory remarks.

- Jan. 15. Rousseau, *First and Second Discourses*; *Social Contract Books 1 and 2*.
- Jan. 22. Kant, *Metaphysics of Morals*, parts 1-2. Schiller, *Letters on the Aesthetic Education of Man*, letters 1,2,13,20,21,22.
- Jan. 29. Hegel, *Phenomenology of Spirit*. Miller translation (Oxford). Readings are by section number, not page number. Preface, 1-41; Introduction (entire); The Truth of Self-Certainty, 166-167; Lordship and Bondage, 178-196; Stoicism, 197- 201; Skepticism, 202-205; Unhappy Consciousness, 206-230.
- Feb. 5. Spirit, 438-443. Lecture 13: Phenomenology. Ethical World, 446-463; Ethical Action, 464-476; Right, 477-483; Self-estrangement, 484-486. Absolute Freedom and Terror, 582- 596; Forgiveness, 670-671; Religion, 672-683.
- Feb. 12. Marx, *On the Jewish Question*. Lecture 14: Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*.

WINTER BREAK

- Feb. 26. Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*, Preface, Parts 1-2.
- March 4. Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*, parts 3, 5, 6-9. *The Will to Power* (selections).
- March 11. Heidegger, *An Introduction to Metaphysics*, part 1.
- March 18. Heidegger, *Introduction to Metaphysics*, parts 2-4.

MARCH 25. UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY

- April 1. Heidegger, “On the Self-Overcoming of the German University.” Strauss, “German Nihilism.”
- April 8. Concluding remarks.

Academic Accommodations

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 me 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 me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a

stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Carleton E-mail Accounts: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/> or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.