

**HUMS 4104**  
**INTELLECTUAL HISTORY**  
**IDENTITY, POWER, AND THE GLOBAL**

Lectures 10-11.30 Tuesday and Thursday  
Autumn 2009

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will try to do too much. It looks at the concept of human *identity* in the context of 20<sup>th</sup> century epistemological and ontological debates spurred by two apparently contradictory forces that have in many respects defined the intellectual contours of the century. On the one hand, there has been a clear attempt to continue the emancipation of the *individual* from various regimes of oppression, namely through attacks on race, class, and gender as delimiting categories of “species being”. On the other hand, this century also saw the full flowering of European and North American imperial control over much of the world. As fleeting as the age of formal imperialism turned out to be, it was, in the end, an expression of cultural and ideological assumptions about social and intellectual hierarchy that have proven difficult to uproot even in the subsequent age of decolonization.

What we’ll attempt to do this term is explore the intellectual foundations of this dual process by looking at how the idea of the “self” evolved under the conditions of “modernity” and imperialism. This involves some preliminary ground clearing on the development of a post-humanist account of

the individual (which some of your other Humanities courses address), as well as the relatively new emancipatory strains of thinking focused on *race* and *gender*. Much of what we’re looking at here involves uncovering what Peter Dews has called the “subterranean links between the metaphysics of identity and structures of domination.” How can we, as members of an increasingly cosmopolitan and globalized society, explain or challenge the trace effects of these hierarchies? Can we escape structures of power by simply escaping into a particular identity? Or do we have to, by definition, move toward a concept of the *global human* in which no sub-categories can exist? In each half of the term, this will entail visiting some fairly heavy theoretical lifting before looking at the consequences of these works for discussions of class, race, and gender, culminating in our account of contemporary cosmopolitanism and globalization.

This course does not propose any final verdict on these issues but rather seeks to lay open the basic philosophical parameters of the debate over identity in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## READINGS

You may wish to purchase the following:

- + Sigmund Freud, *Civilization and its discontents* (1929).
- + Virginia Woolf, *A room of one's own* (1929)
- + Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on colonialism* (Monthly Review Press, 2001)
- + Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri, *Empire* (Harvard University Press, 2000)
- + Kwame Anthony Appiah, *Cosmopolitanism* (Norton, 2006)
- + Pheng Cheah, *Inhuman conditions: on cosmopolitanism and human rights* (Harvard University Press, 2006)

These may be found at Haven Books (43 Seneca Street at Sunnyside, ph. 613.730.9888; info@havenbooks.ca; www.havenbooks.ca/carletonsite/carletonnews-e.php), which is located in Old Ottawa South, just east of campus. All other readings will be made available in the Common Room or on the course web site. In many cases, the readings (or portions of them) may be found online at various web sites. You may use them if you are reasonably sure that they're complete.

## ASSIGNMENTS

### Course Requirements

1. Two Reading Reports. 15 percent each
2. Class Participation 20 percent
3. Term Paper 30 percent
4. Take Home Exam 20 percent

### Reading Reports

Students must submit two reading reports, one for the segment *The Modern Self* and one for the segment *The Subaltern*. These reports must be no more than 750 words. Students may select the readings on which to report. Reports are due at the beginning of the lecture that treats the readings in question.

### Class Participation

Students are expected to attend class having completed the readings and prepared to discuss the material. We will try to set aside time every Thursday for a general discussion, but feel free to interrupt the lectures any time to engage the material as problems and questions arise.

### Term Paper

Term papers should address a topic covered in the course from the perspective of the history of ideas. To that end, the papers should cover the intellectual sources and influences on the historical development of the emancipation of the "subaltern," or what Foucault calls "the insurrection of subjugated knowledge's." Papers should be 2500 words, honour scholarly conventions of a research paper in history or political thought, and are due **November 26, 2009**. The late penalty for papers in HUMS 4104 is 5 percent per day.

### Take Home Exam

The take home exam will cover all the material covered in the course. It will be handed out on **December 3rd** in my office at 11:30 am and must be returned to my office (Patterson 414) by 1:00pm on Tuesday **December 8th**. Take Home exams submitted after 1:00pm will receive a grade of zero. Electronic submissions of take home exams will not be accepted.

### Completion of Course Work

All components of the course, including class attendance, are mandatory. Failure to complete any component of the course will result in a failing grade in the course as a whole.

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# LECTURE AND DISCUSSION SCHEDULE

## PART 1 ( THE MODERN SELF

### WEEK 1 ( September 10 (INTRODUCTION

Charles Taylor, "The making of modern identity," from *Sources of the self* (1989)

### WEEK 2 ( September 15 and 17 (STRUCTURALISM

Max Weber, "Science as a vocation," (1918) and selection from *The protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism* (1905)

Ferdinand De Saussure, selection from *Course in general linguistics* (1916)

Claude Levi-Strauss, selection from *The structural study of myth* (1958)

### WEEK 3 ( September 22 and 24 (PRAGMATISM

Charles Sanders Peirce, "The fixation of belief" (1877)

William James. "The consciousness of self" from *Principles of psychology* (1890); "What Pragmatism means" (1907)

George Herbert Mead, "Social Consciousness and the Consciousness of Meaning," *Psychological Bulletin* 7 (1910) and "The Mechanism of Social Consciousness", *Journal of Philosophy, Psychology and Scientific Methods* 9 (1912)

### WEEK 4 ( September 29 and October 1 ( PSYCHOLOGY

Sigmund Freud, *Civilization and its discontents* (1929).

Jacques Lacan, "The mirror stage as formative of the function of the I as revealed in psychoanalytic experience." (1949)

### WEEK 5 ( October 6 and 8( WOMEN

Virginia Woolf, *A room of one's own* (1929)

Emma Goldman, "Tragedy of Woman's Emancipation" (1917)

Simone De Beauvoir, selections from *The second sex* (1953)

### WEEK 6 ( October 13 and 16 (RACE

J.S. Mill, "The Indian form of government."

Karl Marx, "The British rule in India." (1853)

W.E.B. Du Bois, "The conservation of races." (1897); "Of our spiritual strivings" and "Of the dawn of freedom" from *The souls of black folk* (1903)

Alain Locke, selections from *Race contacts and interracial relations* (1916)

Franz Boas, "The interrelation of races," from *Anthropology and modern life* (1928)

### WEEK 7 ( October 20 and 22 ( CRITICAL THEORY

Max Horkheimer "Critical and traditional theory" (1937)

Walter Benjamin, "Theses on the philosophy of history" (1940/1947) from *Illuminations*.

Louis Althusser, "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses," from *Lenin and Philosophy and Other Essays* (1971)

## PART 2 ( THE SUBALTERN

### WEEK 8 ( October 27 and 29 ( ANTI-COLONIALISM

Jean-Paul Sartre, "Black Orpheus" (1948)

Aimé Césaire , *Discourse on colonialism* (1952)

Franz Fanon, "The lived experience of the black man" from *Black skin, white masks* (1952); "Concerning violence" and "The pitfalls of national consciousness." from *The wretched of the earth*. (1961/1963)

### **WEEK 9 ( November 3 and 5 ( POST-STRUCTURALISM**

Roland Barthes, *Inaugural lecture at the Collège de France* and "The great family of man," from *Mythologies* (1957)

Jacques Derrida, "Différance" (1968)

Michel Foucault, "Two lectures" (1976) from "*Society must be defended*": *lectures at the Collège de France* (1997)

Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe, "Hegemony: the genealogy of a concept" (1985)

### **WEEK 10 ( November 10 and 12 ( GENDER**

Luce Irigaray, "The sex which is not one." (1981)

Hélène Cixous, "Sorties," (1975)

Julia Kristeva, "The system and the speaking subject," (1973); "Women's time" (1993)

Sandra Harding "Feminism, science, and the anti-Enlightenment critiques" in *Feminism/postmodernism* (1990).

Judith Butler, "Subjects of sex/gender/desire" from *Gender trouble* (1999)

### **WEEK 11 ( November 17 and 19 ( POST-COLONIALISM**

Edward Said, "Introduction" from *Orientalism* (1978)

Homi Bhabha, "Interrogating identity: Frantz Fanon and the postcolonial prerogative," "The 'Other' question," and "'Race' time and the revision of modernity," from *The location of culture* (1994)

Giyatri Spivak, "Can the subaltern speak?" in C. Nelson and L. Grossberg, eds., *Marxism and the interpretation of culture* (1988). A longer and updated version is embedded in the chapter entitled "History" in *A critique of postcolonial reason* (1999). You may read either.

Dipesh Chakrabarty, "The idea of provincializing Europe" and "Postcoloniality and the Artifice of History" in *Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference* (2007)

## **PART 3 ( THE GLOBAL**

### **WEEK 12 ( November 24 and 26 ( GLOBALIZATION**

Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri, *Empire* (2000)

### **WEEK 13 ( December 1 and 3 ( COSMOPOLITANISM**

Kwame Anthony Appiah, *Cosmopolitanism* (2006)

Pheng Cheah, *Inhuman conditions: on cosmopolitanism and human rights* (2006)

## REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

### COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

### 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 range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work to a final grade of “F” for the course, and even suspension from all studies or expulsion from the University.

### GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

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

F	Failure. No academic credit
WDN	Withdrawn from the course
ABS	Absent from the final examination
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

### WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from Fall term courses is November 16, 2009. The last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter (full year) and Winter term courses is March 12, 2010.

### REQUESTS FOR 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 me 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://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student\\_guide.htm](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm)

**Religious obligation:** write to me 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://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student\\_guide.htm](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm)

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that I receive your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you **only** require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the last official day to withdraw from classes in each term. For more details visit the PMC website: [http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/acad\\_accom.html](http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/acad_accom.html)

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

### PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to complete a **final** term paper or write a **final** examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply in writing within five working days to the Registrar's Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered.

### ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Classics and Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608	500 Unicentre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-6632	4 <sup>th</sup> floor Library
Learning Commons 520-1125	4 <sup>th</sup> floor Library