

SAIC HUM 3330-002 Spring 2009 Wednesdays 1 - 4 PM MC 619

Marx and Marxism: Philosophy and Modernity

Instructor: Chris Cutrone (e-mail: ccutrone@speedsite.com, tutorials by appointment)

Course description:

The issues of modern philosophy have been inseparable from critical aspects of social modernity. From the 18th Century Enlightenment and 1789 French Revolution to the social revolutions of the 19th and 20th Centuries, philosophers have radically interrogated problems of consciousness and subjectivity in terms of modern society, and have been concerned with possibilities for social transformation and emancipation. This course proceeds from early liberal political and economic critiques by Rousseau and Smith to philosophies of social modernity by Kant and Hegel, and the critique and attempt to get beyond the problems of modern society by Marx and his followers Lukács, Korsch and Adorno.

Course e-reserves available at:

<http://docutek.artic.edu/eres/coursepage.aspx?cid=520>
(password: marx)

Course schedule (15 weeks):

Week 1: Introduction: selections from Horkheimer *Dämmerung*, Adorno *Messages in a Bottle*

Week 2: Rousseau *Discourse on Inequality*, selections from *The Social Contract* (1 week)

Weeks 3-4: Smith selections from *On the Wealth of Nations* (2 weeks)

(Week 3:) Vol. 1: 1-4, 7-43, 53-110, 399-446

(Week 4:) Vol. 2: 66-158, 282-309, 338-340

Week 5: Kant *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, Benjamin Constant *Liberty* (1 week)

Week 6: Hegel *Introduction to the Philosophy of History* (1 week)

Weeks 7-10: Marx selections from *Marx-Engels Reader* (4 weeks)

(Week 7:) *1844 Manuscripts* 70-101; *Manifesto of the Communist Party* 469-491, 499-500

(Week 8:) *Grundrisse* 221-226, 236-244; *Capital* 294-312

(Week 9:) *Capital* 319-329; *Grundrisse* 247-250; *Capital* 384-388, 389-417

(Week 10:) *Capital* 422-438; *Grundrisse* 278-292

Weeks 11-12: Lukács *Reification and the Consciousness of the Proletariat* parts 1 and 3 (2 weeks)

Week 13: Korsch *Marxism and Philosophy* (1 week)

Week 14: (Critique Week) Adorno selections from *Negative Dialectics*

Preface xix-xxi; Introduction 3-11; Part II 143-144, 146-148, 151-153, 158-161, 189-192, 197-198, 204-207; Part III 217-221, 244-245, 261-265, 300-303

Week 15: Adorno *Late Capitalism or Industrial Society?*, *Marginalia to Theory and Praxis*

Writing assignments: 1 of 3 short papers (4-5 double-spaced pp. or ~1,000 words each):

- 1.) Emergence: Rousseau / Smith / Kant / Hegel, due week 7
- 2.) Critique: Marx, due week 11
- 3.) Revolution?: Lukács / Korsch / Adorno, due week 15

Chris Cutrone: Marx and Marxism SAIC HUM 3330-002 Spring 2009

Course books:

J. J. Rousseau *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality* (Hackett, 1992) ISBN: 0872201503

Adam Smith *The Wealth of Nations* (Chicago, 1977) ISBN: 0226763749

I. Kant *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals* (Cambridge, 1998) ISBN: 0521626951

G. W. F. Hegel *Introduction to the Philosophy of History* (Hackett, 1988) ISBN: 0872200566

Robert C. Tucker, ed. *Marx-Engels Reader* (Norton 2nd edition, 1978) ISBN: 039309040X

G. Lukács *History and Class Consciousness* (MIT, 1972) ISBN: 0262620200

T. W. Adorno *Negative Dialectics* (Continuum, 1983) ISBN: 0826401325

Selections from Adorno *Negative Dialectics* (1966), alternate translation by Dennis Redmond at:

<http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/adorno/1966/negative-dialectics/index.htm>

<http://www.efn.org/~dredmond/ndtrans.html>

[*Negative Dialectics* on-line section title list:]

- Prologue

Introduction:

- On the Possibility of Philosophy 15-16

- Dialectics Not a Standpoint 16-18

- Reality and Dialectics 18-19

- Interest of Philosophy 19-21

- The Antagonistic Whole 21-22

Part II. Negative Dialectics: Concept and Categories:

- Relationship to Left Hegelianism 146-147

- On the Dialectics of Identity 149-151

- Objectivity of the Contradiction 154-156

- Critique of Positive Negation 161-163

- Objectivity and Reification 190-193

- Dialectics No Sociology of Knowledge 197-198

- Materialism Imageless 204-207

Part III. Models. Freedom: Metacritique of Practical Reason:

- Freedom and Organized Society 217-221

- Contemplation 242-243

- Self-experience of Freedom and Unfreedom 258-262

Part III. Models. World-spirit and Natural History. Excursus on Hegel:

- Tendency and Facts 295-297