

# Existentialism and Continental Philosophy

Phi 308, section 1

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This course will introduce the basic theories of phenomenology, existentialism, (post)-structuralism and Frankfurt School Marxism. .

## REQUIREMENTS

There are a number of scholarly and personal virtues necessary for success in this or any other class:

FIDELITY, or constancy of purpose in devotion to learning;

INDUSTRIOUSNESS, or always working when working is called for;

DILIGENCE, or always working well, both as the task requires and as your abilities permit;

PERSPICACITY, or always learning the details of a matter instead of being merely 'vaguely familiar' with it;

HUMILITY, the proper understanding of one's own self-worth without claiming to be entitled to anything beyond that worth; and

GRATITUDE, the acknowledgement that something transcends oneself and provides appreciable natural gifts.

## REQUIRED BOOKS

Dermot Moran, Introduction to Phenomenology. London: Routledge, 2000.

ISBN 978-0-415-18373-4

Kearney, Richard and Mara Rainwater, eds. The Continental Philosophy Reader. London: Routledge, 1996.

ISBN 13 978-0-415-09526-6

## FINAL GRADE

Your final grade will be the average of three tests and one composite grade consisting of a presentation and class participation. There will also be 2 or four 50 point pop quizzes.

## EXAMINATIONS

Your tests will consist of fill-in-the-blank and short-essay questions.

## ATTENDANCE

Here are the rules pertaining to attendance.

First, you may excuse any absence if you show a medical, legal or other official document. It must be dated. Also, if you perform or compete for Rutgers University, necessary absences will be excused.

Second, you may miss class TWICE without excuse, that is to say, you may miss two classes without penalty.

Third, when you miss the third class without excuse, I will subtract ten points from the next test.

Fourth, when you miss the fourth class without excuse, I will subtract ten points from your final average.

Fifth, when you miss the fifth class without excuse, you automatically fail the course.

So, again,

2 absences—no penalty

3<sup>rd</sup> absence—ten points off next test

4<sup>th</sup> absence—ten points off the final average

5<sup>th</sup> absence—automatic failure of the course

## TARDINESS

You may be tardy for class twice this semester, but I will subtract three points from the next test for each tardy arrival after the first two.

You may leave the class temporarily twice this semester, without penalty, but I will subtract three points from the next test for every temporary absence after the first two.

### COMPOSITE GRADE

One of your grades this semester will be a composite of two assignments: a presentation and class participation. You will receive up to 50 points for the presentation you offer. You will receive up to 50 points for class participation, mainly questions you ask of other presenters.

### LAPTOPS AND CELL-PHONES

USE OF LAPTOPS AND CELL-PHONES DURING CLASS IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN.

### MAKE-UP TESTS

Many students choose to miss an exam because they have not prepared for it and imagine that extra time to prepare will be to their advantage. If you are absent (with or without excuse) when an exam takes place, you will take a make-up AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE. This make-up test will not resemble the exam taken by everyone else. For example, if everyone else takes a matching, fill-in-the-blank or multiple-choice exam, your exam will consist of short-essay questions.

### LATE FOR AN EXAM?

Bear in mind that if you are late for an exam you will not hear certain important instructions. To discourage excessive tardiness for an exam, this policy states that if you are ten to twenty minutes late for an exam, ten points will be subtracted from the exam itself. If you are more than 20 minutes late for a test, you will NOT be permitted to take it.

## SCHEDULE

### Week One

T Moran 1-23 (Phenomenology)

TH Moran 60-91 (Husserl)

### Week Two

T Moran 91-124 (Husserl)

TH Moran 124-164 (Husserl)

### Week Three

T Moran 164-192 (Husserl)

TH Moran 192-222 (Husserl)

### Week Four

T Husserl and Phenomenology Test

TH Moran 192-222 and Kearney Heidegger 27-47

### Week Five

T Moran 222-248

TH Kearney 62-77 and Moran 354-391 (Sartre)

### Week Six

T Moran 354-391 (Gadamer)

TH Kearney 109-122 (Gadamer)

### Week Seven

T Moran 320-354 (Levinas) and Kearney 122-136

TH Moran 435-475 (Derrida) and Kearney 438-468 (Derrida)

### Week Eight

T Heidegger, Sartre, Gadamer, Levinas and Derrida test

### Week Nine

T Kearney, Lyotard, 425-438

TH Kearney, Lukacs (169-181)

### Week Ten

T Kearney, Gramsci (181-194)

TH Kearney, Horkheimer and Adorno (194-212)

### Week Eleven

T Kearney, Benjamin (212-224)

TH Kearney, Marcuse (224-235)

### Week Twelve

T Kearney, Habermas (235-254)

TH Kearney, Arendt (275-289)

### Week Thirteen

T Review

TH Marxism Test

## Academic Integrity Violations

The Rutgers University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as the representation of the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic work. Intentionally committing plagiarism is a serious offense with severe consequences. Instructors are required to report students who intentionally violate this policy to the department chairperson and to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. The most common forms of plagiarism are:

Quoting directly or paraphrasing without acknowledging the source (this includes copying or paraphrasing material from a web site without providing a proper citation for the site)

Presenting the work of another as one's own

Plagiarizing major portions of a written assignment

Submitting purchased materials such as term papers

The Rutgers University Academic Integrity Policy establishes levels of violations and recommends sanctions. Depending upon the severity of the case and the level of the violation, the sanctions for these violations include: a failing grade for the assignment, failure in the course, mandatory participation in a series of noncredit academic integrity workshops, academic probation, and/or suspension. (If you are in doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism or are concerned that you are misappropriating someone's words or ideas, speak immediately with your instructor. For more information, you can also consult the University Code of Student Conduct or the Student Judicial Affairs website <http://judicialaffairs.rutgers.edu>.)