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I. Course Description

The high period of German Idealism -- from 1781, the year of the publication of Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*, to the death of Hegel in 1831 -- was one of the great revolutionary epochs in the history of philosophy. We shall study the thought of the period using the central notions of history and freedom as our guide. As we shall see, many of our modern conceptions of the self and society were shaped by ideas regarding history and human agency that emerged at that time. We conclude the course by looking at how Marx's critique of capitalism and his vision of communism emerged from the reworking of the ideas of history and freedom that he inherited from the Idealist tradition.

II. Course Requirements and Policies

Composition of Final Grades

Section Participation	20%
First Paper (6-9 pages)	20%
Second Paper (8-12 pages)	30%
Take-Home Final Assignment	30%

Requirements for Undergraduates

The readings in this course will both require and reward your patience. You should plan to devote time each week to careful study, and you are asked to prepare regularly for your thoughtful participation in section.

In addition, you are asked to write a shorter paper of 6-9 pages, due at the beginning of lecture on Wednesday, October 19th, and a longer paper of 8-12 pages, due at the beginning of our last meeting on Wednesday, November 30th. Paper topics consisting of a choice of questions will be distributed in advance. You may design your own topic for the longer paper, provided that you discuss your topic in advance with one of the teaching staff.

The final assignment will be distributed during Reading Period, and will be due electronically forty-eight hours thereafter. The assignment will consist of a list of questions covering material discussed in lectures and sections. You will be asked to choose two questions and to respond in short essay form.

Requirements for Graduate Students

Course requirements for graduate students will be agreed upon during the first graduate section.

III. Timetable

[Readings are assigned by lecture; consult the list below to see what will be covered in section.]

Week 1	Lecture 1:	Introductory Lecture.	Wed, Aug 31
Week 2	Lecture 2: Lecture 3:	Rousseau. – State, Self, Freedom, God. Turgot and Smith. – Harmony, Progress, History.	Wed, Sep 7 Mon, Sep 12
Week 3	Lecture 4: Lecture 5:	Kant. – Kant’s Copernican Revolution. Kant. – The Categorical Imperative.	Wed, Sep 14 Mon, Sep 19
Week 4	Lecture 6: Lecture 7:	Kant. – The Problem of Freedom. Kant. – Politics, History, Evil.	Wed, Sep 21 Mon, Sep 26
Week 5	Lecture 8: Lecture 9:	Herder and Hamann. – Language. Herder. – History.	Wed, Sep 28 Mon, Oct 3
Week 6	Lecture 10: Lecture 11:	Schiller.– The State and Freedom. Fichte.–Introduction.	Wed, Oct 5 Wed, Oct 12
Week 7	Lecture 12: (First Paper due at beginning of lecture on Wed, Oct 19) Lecture 13:	Fichte. – Freedom, Morality, and the State. Schelling. – History and Freedom	Mon, Oct 17 Wed, Oct 19
Week 8	Lecture 14: Lecture 15:	The Oldest System-Program. Art and Freedom I.	Mon, Oct 24 Wed, Oct 26
Week 9	Lecture 16: Lecture 17:	Art and Freedom II. Nature and <i>Naturphilosophy</i>	Mon, Oct 31 Wed, Nov 2
Week 10	Lecture 18: Lecture 19:	Hegel. –Philosophy. Hegel. –Freedom and the Self.	Mon, Nov 7 Wed, Nov 9
Week 11	Lecture 20: Lecture 21:	Hegel. – The State. Hegel. – History.	Mon, Nov 14 Wed, Nov 16

Week 12	Lecture 22:	Marx. –The Early Writings	Mon, Nov 21
	Lecture 23:	Marx-The Critique of Capitalism	Wed, Nov 28
Week 13	Lecture 24:	Legacies of German Idealism- General Discussion	Mon, Nov 30

(Second Paper due at beginning of lecture on Mon, Nov 30)

IV. Course Readings

Location of Course Readings

All of the required and suggested readings for the course will be made available electronically on the course website.

In addition, copies of the following works have been requested at the Harvard Coop:

Hegel, G. W. F. *Hegel: Elements of the Philosophy of Right*. Ed. Allen W. Wood. Cambridge University Press, 1991.

Herder, J. G. *Herder: Philosophical Writings*. Ed. Michael Forster. Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Kant, Immanuel. *Critique of Pure Reason*. Ed. Paul Guyer and Allen W. Wood. Cambridge University Press, 1998.

_____. *Kant: Political Writings*. Ed. H. S. Reiss. 2d ed. Cambridge University Press, 1991.

Finally, many of the required and suggested readings for the course will be made available on reserve at Lamont. Students are advised to check the course website for a complete list of readings on reserve.

Secondary Sources

For those who wish to consult secondary sources, a list of recommended works can be found on the course website, and the relevant books will be put on reserve.

V. Schedule of Readings

1. Introductory Lecture. (Wed, Aug 31)

Required: None.

Recommended: Heinrich Heine, *On the History of Religion and Philosophy in Germany*, ed. John Snodgrass (State University of New York Press, 1986), Part III, pp. 105-162.

2. Rousseau. – State, Self, Freedom, God. (Wed, Sep 7)
 Required: *Discourse on Political Economy*
Discourse on the Origins of Inequality (excerpts), in John Hope Mason, ed., *The Indispensable Rousseau* (Quartet Books, 1979), chap. 5.
The Social Contract (excerpts), *ibid.*, chap. 12.
- Recommended: *Discourse on the Arts and Sciences* (excerpts), *ibid.*, chap. 4.
Emile (excerpts), *ibid.*, chs. 13, 14.
Confessions (excerpts), *ibid.*, chap. 20.
3. Turgot, Smith. – Harmony, Progress, History. (Mon, Sep 12)
 Required: Turgot, “A Philosophical Review of the Successive Advances of the Human Mind,” in Ronald Meek, ed., *Turgot on Progress, Sociology and Economics* (Cambridge University Press, 1973), pp. 41-59.
4. Kant. – Kant’s Copernican Revolution. (Wed, Sep 14)
 Required: Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason*, ed. Paul Guyer and Allen Wood (Cambridge University Press, 1998):
 “Preface to the First Edition”;
 “Preface to the Second Edition”;
 “Introduction”;
 I. (“Transcendental Doctrine of Elements”), Second Part (“Transcendental Logic”), Book I (“Analytic of Concepts”), Chap 2 (“On the Deduction of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding”), Section 1 [13] (“On the Principles of Transcendental Deduction in General”), pp. 219-24.
5. Kant. – The Categorical Imperative. (Mon, Sep 19)
 Required: Kant, *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, ed. Christine Korsgaard (Cambridge University Press, 1997), Sections I & II, pp. 1-51.
 Recommended: Editor’s introduction by Christine Korsgaard.
6. Kant. – The Problem of Freedom. (Wed, Sep 21) .
 Required: Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, ed. P. H. Nidditch, 3d ed. (Clarendon Press, 1975), §8 (“Of Liberty and Necessity”), pp. 80-103.
 Kant, *Groundwork*, Section III, pp. 52-66.
7. Kant. – Politics, History, Evil. (Mon, Sep 26)
 Required: Kant, *Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch*, in H. S. Reiss, ed., *Kant: Political Writings*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge University Press, 1991), pp. 93-130.
 Kant, “On the Common Saying: ‘This May be True in Theory, But It Does Not Apply in Practice’”, Part II (“On the Relationship of Theory to Practice in Political Right”), in *ibid.*, pp. 73-86.

8. Herder and Hamann. – Language. (Wed, Sep 28)
 Required: Herder, “Treatise on the Origin of Language,” in Michael Forster, ed., *Herder: Philosophical Writings* (Cambridge University Press, 2002), pp. 97-105 & 127-164.
 Hamann, “Metacritique on the Purism of Reason,” in James Schmidt, ed., *What is Enlightenment?* (University of California Press, 1996), pp. 154-67.
9. Herder. – History. (Mon, Oct 3)
 Required: Herder, “*Ideas for the Philosophy of History of Humanity*,” Part III, Book 15, Chap 5, in T. Churchill, ed., *Outlines of a Philosophy of the History of Man* (London, 1802) .
10. Schiller. – The State and Freedom. (Wed, Oct 5)
 Required: Schiller, *On the Aesthetic Education of Man: In a Series of Letters*, ed. Elizabeth Wilkinson and L.A. Willoughby (Clarendon Press, 1982), Letters 3-7.
11. Fichte.– Introduction.(Wed, Oct 12)
 Required: Fichte, “Review of *Aenesidemus*,” in Daniel Breazeale, ed., *Fichte: Early Philosophical Writings* (Cornell University Press, 1988), pp. 59-77.
 Fichte, “Annals of Philosophical Tone,” in *ibid.*, pp. 341-354.
 Recommended: K. L. Reinhold, “The Foundation of Philosophical Knowledge,” (excerpts) in George di Giovanni and H. S. Harris, eds., *Between Kant and Hegel: Texts in the Development of Post-Kantian Idealism*, rev. ed. (Hackett, 2000), pp. 51-103.
12. Fichte. – Freedom, Morality, and the State. (Mon, Oct 17)
 Required: “Some Lectures concerning the Scholar’s Vocation,” in Breazeale, ed., *Fichte: Early Philosophical Writings*, pp. 144-69.
13. Schelling. – History and Freedom. (Wed, Oct 19) – **First Paper Due**
 Required: Schelling, “Of the I as the Principle of Philosophy, Or on the Unconditional in Human Knowledge,” in Brian O’Connor and Georg Mohr, eds., *German Idealism: An Anthology and Guide* (University of Chicago Press, 2007), pp. 64-80.
14. The Oldest System-Programme. (Mon, Oct 24)
 Required: “The Oldest System-Programme of German Idealism” in Frederick Beiser, ed., *The Early Political Writings of the German Romantics* (Cambridge University Press, 1996), pp. 3-5.
15. Art and Freedom I. (Wed, Oct 26)
 Required: Kant, *Critique of Judgement* (excerpts), in Albert Hofstadter and Richard Kuhns, eds., *Philosophies of Art and Beauty: Selected Readings in Aesthetics from Plato to Heidegger* (Modern Library, 1964), pp. 277-313.
 Recommended: Kant, *Critique of Judgement* (excerpts), *ibid.*, pp. 313-343.

16. Art and Freedom II. (Mon, Oct 31)
Required: Schiller, *On the Aesthetic Education of Man: In a Series of Letters*, Letters 13-15.
Recommended: Schelling, *System of Transcendental Idealism* (excerpts), in *ibid.*, pp. 344-77.
17. Nature and *Naturphilosophie*. (Wed, Nov 2)
Required: Kant, *Critique of Judgment*, §§61-68, "Critique of Teleological Judgment," in O'Connor and Mohr, eds., *German Idealism*, pp. 347-64.
Recommended: Schelling, "Introduction to the Outline of a System of the Philosophy of Nature, Or on the Concept of Speculative Physics and the Internal Organisation of a System of this Science," in *ibid.*, pp. 367-79.
18. Hegel. – Philosophy. (Mon, Nov 7)
Required: Hegel, *Elements of the Philosophy of Right*, ed. Allan Wood (Cambridge University Press, 1991), Preface and Introduction.
19. Hegel. – Freedom and the Self. (Wed, Nov 9)
Required: Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*, §§182-208, 230-256.
20. Hegel. – The State. (Mon, Nov 14)
Required: Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*, §§257-69, 287-320.
21. Hegel. – History. (Wed, Nov 16)
Required: Hegel, *Lectures on the Philosophy of World History*, trans. J. Sibree (Prometheus Books, 1991), "Introduction", pp. 8-58.
22. Karl Marx – The Early Writings (Mon, Nov 21)
Required: Marx, "Introduction to a Critique of the Philosophy of Right";
"On the Jewish Question";
Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844 [Selections];
The German Ideology [Part I];
Theses on Feurbach.

23. Karl Marx- The Critique of Capitalism. (Wed, Nov 30)- **Second Paper Due**

Required: Marx, *Critique of the Gotha Program*;

The Communist Manifesto;

"Preface to the Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy";

Grundrisse ['Introduction' and 'Chapter on Capital']

Das Kapital [Preface; Part I, Sec. 1, Ch. 4; Part II, chs. 4-6;

Part III, ch. 7, Sec. I and ch. 8, Sec. I; Part IV, chs. 14-15