



UNSW
SYDNEY

Australia's
Global
University



ARTS3375

Modern German Philosophy

Term One // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

| Name | Email | Availability | Location | Phone |
|------------------|--|------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Heikki Ikkäheimo | h.ikaheimo@unsw.edu.au | Thursdays 1-2pm | Morven Brown 321 | 93852373 |
| James Phillips | j.phillips@unsw.edu.au | Thursdays 1-2 pm | Morven Brown 369 | 9385 2987 |

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *Philosophy*

This course provides you with an in-depth engagement with one or more major figures in the German philosophical tradition. Topics may include: desire, human existence, freedom, truth, language, the conditions of knowledge and the nature of self-consciousness. By their treatments of these topics thinkers such as Hegel, Heidegger and the Frankfurt School of Critical Theory have significantly reshaped philosophical debate: they remain central points of orientation, illumination and provocation in how to make sense of fundamental aspects of contemporary life and society. They are inescapable points of reference for developing your understanding of contemporary European thought.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Explain theories and arguments from the German philosophical tradition
2. Apply philosophical concepts and arguments to contemporary problems and their proposed solutions
3. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different philosophical approaches to basic questions of knowledge, existence and civil life
4. Apply skills of scholarly inquiry associated with the study of philosophy
5. Communicate and debate complex ideas

Teaching Strategies

The purpose of this course is to provide you with a solid understanding of one or more major figures in the German philosophical tradition central for modern and contemporary European thought. It is also designed to develop your skills for independent philosophical inquiry and research. This course is taught as a three-hour lecture and one hour tutorial. Participation in the course requires reading the weekly readings and participating in the interactive process of making sense of them in class with the other students and the teacher(s).

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

| Assessment task | Weight | Due Date | Student Learning Outcomes Assessed |
|-----------------|--------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| First essay | 40% | 29/03/2019 11:00 PM | 1,3,4,5 |
| Second essay | 60% | 06/05/2019 11:00 PM | 1,2,3,4,5 |

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: First essay

Start date:

Length: 1500 words

Details: 1500-word essay. Written feedback via rubric, individual comments and a mark.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Second essay

Start date:

Length: 2500 words

Details: 2500-word essay. Written feedback via rubric, individual comments and a mark. This is the final assessment task for this course.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance of lectures and tutorials is mandatory in this course. Unexcused absence from more than 20% of lectures or tutorials may result in the award of a fail grade.

In lectures and tutorials you will actively engage with core course content, enabling you to attain CLO 1, CLO 2 and CLO3.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

| Date | Type | Content |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Week 1: 18 February - 24 February | Lecture | Was Heidegger a Nazi? Is Nazism implied by his philosophy? Reading for this week: "Spiegel Interview with Martin Heidegger", trans. Lisa Harries in <i>Martin Heidegger and National Socialism: Questions and Answers</i> , eds. Günther Neske and Emil Kettering (New York: Paragon House, 1990), 41-66. "The Self-Assertion of the German University", trans. William S. Lewis in <i>The Heidegger Controversy</i> , ed. Richard Wolin (Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1993), 29-39. |
| | Tutorial | Tutorial discussion on the theme of the lecture and the texts. What should we make of Heidegger's relation to Nazism? What is the relationship between philosophical theories and political ideologies? |
| Week 2: 25 February - 3 March | Lecture | Introduction to Heidegger's <i>Being and Time</i> and the project of fundamental ontology. Reading: "Introduction" in <i>Being and Time</i> , trans. John Macquarrie and Edward Robinson in <i>Basic Writings</i> , ed. David Farrell Krell (Oxford: Blackwell, 1962), 19-64. |
| | Tutorial | Tutorial for questions and discussion. |
| | Online Activity | Online activity: a film about Heidegger's life, work, and his relation to national socialism and to planetary technology, and discussion. Details and time to be announced in class and on Moodle. |
| Week 3: 4 March - 10 March | Lecture | Basics of the analysis of Dasein Reading: <i>Being and Time</i> , 65-107. |
| | Tutorial | Questions and discussion. |

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| Week 4: 11 March - 17 March | Lecture | Heidegger contra Descartes; being-with others and the (notorious) "they". Reading: Being and Time, 122-68. |
| | Tutorial | Questions and discussion. |
| | Online Activity | Online activity: marking of anonymized student essays and discussion of what is good or bad about them. Details and time to be announced in class and on Moodle. |
| Week 5: 18 March - 24 March | Lecture | "Care as the Being of Dasein". Heidegger's radical idea: our primary relation to the world is not a matter of believing or knowing, but of caring. What does this mean? Reading: Being and Time, 225-73. |
| | Tutorial | Questions and discussion on the text and the lectures. Does the radical idea make sense? |
| Week 6: 25 March - 31 March | Lecture | "The temporality of Dasein: Being-towards-death." Making sense of another radical idea. Reading: Being and Time, 274-311. |
| | Tutorial | What does Heidegger mean by "being-towards-death" and does that make sense? |
| Week 7: 1 April - 7 April | Lecture | Authenticity and resoluteness. Basic concepts of Heideggerian existentialism. Reading: Being and Time, 312-48. |
| | Tutorial | Questions and discussion. Can Heidegger's existentialism provide us with existential, or political guidance? |
| Week 8: 8 April - 14 April | Lecture | "Temporality and the ordinary conception of time." Heidegger's critique of conceptions of time in previous philosophy and his confrontation with Hegel. Reading: Being and Time, 456-88. |
| | Tutorial | Questions and discussion. Is Heidegger right about Hegel? ("No way" say some, "of course" say others.) |
| Week 9: 15 April - 21 April | Lecture | What is metaphysics, what is wrong with it, and where did it start from? Heidegger's inaugural address at Freiburg University in 1929, two years after the publication of <i>Being and Time</i> . Rudolf Carnap's very different take on metaphysics and his critique of Heidegger's text as "nonsensical". |

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| | | <p>Reading:</p> <p>Heidegger: "What is Metaphysics?", trans. David Farrell Krell in <i>Basic Writings</i>, ed. David Farrell Krell (New York: Harper Collins, 2008), 89-110.</p> <p>Rudolf Carnap, "The Elimination of Metaphysics through Logical Analysis of Language", trans. Arthur Pap in <i>Logical Empiricism at Its Peak: Schlick, Carnap, and Neurath</i>, ed. Sahotra Sarkar (New York: Garland, 1996), 10-31.</p> |
| | Tutorial | Questions and discussion. What to make of Heidegger's thoughts on western metaphysics and Carnap's scathing criticism? |
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| Week 10: 22 April - 28 April | Lecture | No lectures and no tutorial due to Anzac Day. |
| | Online Activity | Online activity on Heidegger and his critics. Details and time to be announced in class and on Moodle. |
| Week 11: 29 April - 1 May | Reading | <p>Heidegger's response to Sartre's "Existentialism is a humanism". What are the differences between Sartre and Heidegger? Is Heidegger the first 'theoretical anti-humanist', leading to the declarations of the "death of the subject" in French thought after Sartre?</p> <p>Reading: "Letter on Humanism", trans. Frank A. Capuzzi in <i>Pathmarks</i>, ed. William McNeill (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998), 239-76</p> |
| | Tutorial | Remaining questions and wrap-up. |

Resources

Prescribed Resources

You need to obtain a copy of Martin Heidegger: *Being and Time*. Translated by Macquarrie and Robinson. (Will be available at university bookshop. If you purchase it from elsewhere, make sure to get the Macquarrie & Robinson-translation!)

Other texts will be available on Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Among the many volumes on Heidegger in the UNSW library the following are especially recommended for further reading:

Jean Beaufret, *Dialogue with Heidegger: Greek Philosophy*, trans. Mark Sinclair (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006).

Scott M. Campbell, *The Early Heidegger's Philosophy of Life: Facticity, Being, and Language* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2012).

John Caputo, *Heidegger and Aquinas: An Essay in Overcoming Metaphysics* (New York: Fordham University Press, 1982).

Jacques Derrida, *Of Spirit: Heidegger and the Question*, trans. Geoffrey Bennington and Rachel Bowlby (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1989).

Alexander S. Duff, *Heidegger and Politics: The Ontology of Radical Discontent* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015).

Hans-Georg Gadamer, *Heidegger's Ways*, trans. John W. Stanley (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1994).

Charles B. Guignon (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Heidegger* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006).

François Jaran and Christophe Perrin, *The Heidegger Concordance* (London: Continuum, 2013).

Cristina Lafont, *Heidegger, Language, and World-Disclosure*, trans. Graham Harman (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000).

William Large, *Heidegger's Being and Time* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2008).

Karl Löwith, *Martin Heidegger and European Nihilism*, trans. Gary Steiner (New York: Columbia University Press, 1995).

Werner Marx, *Heidegger and the Tradition*, trans. Theodore Kisiel and Murray Greene (Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1971).

Hugo Ott, *Martin Heidegger: A Political Life* (London: Harper Collins, 1993).

Richard F. H. Polt, *Heidegger: An Introduction* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1999).

François Raffoul and David Pettigrew (eds.), *Heidegger and Practical Philosophy* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 2002).

William J. Richardson, *Heidegger: Through Phenomenology to Thought* (The Hague: Nijhoff, 1967).

Rüdiger Safranski, *Martin Heidegger: Between Good and Evil*, trans. Ewald Osers (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1999).

The following respected academic journals regularly feature peer-reviewed articles on *Heidegger*: *Philosophy Today*, *Research in Phenomenology*, *Continental Philosophy Review*, *Journal of the British Society for Phenomenology*, *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, *Epoche: A Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, *Graduate Faculty Philosophy Journal* and *Review*

of Metaphysics.

The database *The Philosopher's Index* is an excellent resource for locating articles as well as books on a specific topic and author.

Course Evaluation and Development

Students have the opportunity to provide feedback on the course formally at the end of term via the MyExperience survey and informally via face-to-face communication or e-mail with the course convenors. As this is the first time that we have taught a course together on Heidegger, we are especially open to suggestions and constructive criticism. This should be a course after which students believe they have a better understanding of one of the major figures of German philosophy. If there are roadblocks, tell us what they are! If we are on the right track, let us know so that future students have the benefit.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

Image Credit

Martin Heidegger, 1924. Archiv Messkirch.

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