

GE CLUSTER 21B

THE HISTORY OF MODERN THOUGHT, PART TWO

Winter Quarter 2014, Mondays and Wednesdays 11:00-12:15, De Neve Auditorium

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Course Description and Aims

This course continues 21A in our survey of the history of modern thought. Chronologically it overlaps with the first quarter stretching from the late 17th century to the 20th century. However, it will emphasize slightly different approaches, specifically literary analysis, social and cultural analysis, and the history of science, technology and economics. We will continue to explore important ideas of politics and philosophy, including the rise of the new “sciences of man” from the 18th century philosophers David Hume and Adam Smith to the 19th century growth of sociology, economics, anthropology and biology. We will also cover the Industrial revolution and its thinkers, as well as several key moments in 20th century thought including modern economics and literature, feminism, existentialism and humanism. You will be expected to read both fiction and non-fiction in this course, and to think about how both of them relate to the history of modern thought.

Course Reading

Reading is the single most important activity in this course. The readings focus your attention exclusively on **primary sources** (texts and artefacts which date from the periods we are studying). The aim is to engage directly with the evidence we are studying from this period. All texts will be studied in English. In some lectures, there will be some emphasis on **context**: it often helps to know what was going on in the political, social, economic, religious and intellectual worlds which produce these works in order to grasp the arguments we will be reading with.

All the weekly readings for the course are posted as individual PDF files on the class website, unless they are taken from one of the course books (see below). There is a schedule of classes (again, see below) in which the details are given for the readings you need to cover each week. The most up-to-date version is always the assignments listed on the CCLE website—check there to confirm what you should be reading. **In most cases, you will not be asked to read more than about 120 pages for any one week; and in some, you will often have to read fewer.** It is therefore crucial that you complete this task each time. If you do not manage to finish all of the readings by Monday’s class, then make sure you have completed all the reading by the time you have your section meeting that week. Make notes. You will also need to print these readings out and bring them to the relevant classes, where you will be regularly asked to refer to them.

Course Textbooks (required, available at UCLA bookstore).

Please buy these editions, as working from other editions will mean that you will not be able to locate page numbers, and some editions abridge or annotate texts differently. We’ve tried to balance good editions with price as much as possible. Although many of these books exist in electronic editions (both free and to buy),

you will find it annoyingly difficult and disruptive to follow along (and to cite the work in your papers) unless you are working from these editions. Many of these editions also have valuable introductions, annotations, and critical literature included with them, which can aid you in composing a paper.

1. Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* (Penguin) ISBN-13: 978-0141439822
2. David Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* (Hackett) ISBN-13: 978-0872202290
3. Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (Norton, 2nd Ed.) ISBN-13: 978-0393927931
4. John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty and Other Essays* (Oxford World's Classics), ed. John Gray. Oxford University Press, 2008. 978-0199535736
5. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto (Oxford World Classics)* ed. David McLellan, Oxford University Press, 1992 [1848] ISBN: 978-0199535712
6. Charles Darwin, *Darwin* (Norton Critical Editions, 3rd ed.) Philip Appleman ed., WW Norton and Co, 2000. ISBN: 978-0393958492.
7. Virginia Woolf, *To the lighthouse, Annotated*. Annotated and with an introduction by Mark Hussey, Harvest Publishers ISBN: 9780156030472
8. Jean-Paul Sartre, *Existentialism is a Humanism*, Yale University Press, ISBN: 978-0300115468

Course Requirements

You grade in this course is determined by your ability to read and understand the texts, and your ability to communicate your understanding in discussion and in writing. Lecture and section attendance are therefore mandatory and essential to your success in the course.

Writing, lectures and lecture activities (60%): Lectures are designed to introduce you to the texts and especially, the contexts and arguments related to the texts and to ease your understanding of them. It is often difficult or impossible to read and understand the texts without the help of the lectures, and it is therefore to your benefit to make the most of the lectures. Occasionally, there will be classroom activities that test your knowledge: quizzes, discussions, etc. These activities are at the discretion of the instructors and are not scheduled in advance. You must be present to engage in them, there will be no make-ups. The *most significant component* of your final grade is calculated on the basis of two assignments: one in the first half of the quarter, the other in the second half. For these assignments, you will have a choice of questions on topics which we will have studied, and you will be asked to answer only one, in the form of an essay of 5-6 pages long. In both cases, you will be tested on your ability to demonstrate the knowledge you have acquired about the ideas and theories of the course in the shape of a reasoned and argument that draws upon the evidence of the texts themselves. We will do some work on how to write these essays in class and section.

Discussion sections (40%): The remaining 40% of your grade comes from your work in class and in section. Each section will be designed around the teaching fellow's own system of awarding points or grades for your participation. You may be expected, for instance, to demonstrate that you have read the texts, to come up with provocative questions for the discussion, to make connections to other texts or events, etc. Expectations for section will be outlined at the first meeting of each quarter.

General Education Requirements and Information

Upon completion of all three quarters of the cluster, students will satisfy 4 GE course requirements:

- 3 in Foundations of Society & Culture (1 in Historical Analysis and 2 in Social Analysis)
- 1 in Foundations of the Arts & Humanities (Philosophical and Linguistic Analysis)

Upon completion of the Spring seminars, students may receive Writing II credit, provided they have completed Writing I credit, either prior to the course, or concurrently by taking Comp 3 in Winter 2014 (instructions are on the website).

Detailed Schedule

N.B.: The readings for each week are to be completed by the Monday lecture.

Week 1: You find yourself shipwrecked on a desert island...

Monday January 6th: Introduction and Review; Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*.

Wednesday, January 8th : *Robinson Crusoe* cont'd.

Readings:

For 1/6: Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, Look at title page and preface on two unnumbered pages following “note on the text” before main text starts. In addition read 5-6, 30-65, 90-121

For 1/8: Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* 122-137, 148-180, 238-241

Week 2: Rationality, the Science of Human Nature, Emotion and Affect

Monday, January 13th Hume’s Skepticism

Wednesday, January 15th Hume and Smith on sympathy and imagination

Readings:

For 1/13: Hume, *Enquiry*, 1-53 (Book from Bookstore); *A Treatise of Human Nature*, 263-274 (PDF Online).

For 1/15: Hume, *A Treatise of Human Nature*, 316-24, 368-371, 574-591 (PDF Online); *Enquiry* “Of the Association of Ideas,” (original version, PDF online), 17-23, Smith, *Theory of Moral Sentiments* 9-16, *Lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres* Lecture 6 (25-32) (PDF online).

Week 3: Political Economy

Monday, January 20rd Martin Luther King Day, No Class.

Wednesday, January 22th Adam Smith on *The Wealth of Nations*

Readings:

Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, (1904 Edition, edited E. Cannan). I.1-7 (p. 1-72) (PDF online).

Week 4 Liberty and rights; individuals and populations

Monday, January 27th : Benjamin Franklin, *Autobiography*; Mary Wollstonecraft, *Vindication*

Wednesday, January 29th: Political Economy and the Industrial Revolution / Utilitarianism.

Readings:

For 1/27: Franklin, 1-20, 45-6, **66-76 [most important bit]**, 77-83, 130-134; Wollstonecraft, 170-195 (PDF Online).

For 1/29: Malthus, *Essay on Population* (1798) preface, chaps I-II, V, X, XVIII-XIX (PDF online); Jeremy Bentham, *An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation* [1823], Chapter1 “On the Principle of Utility” and Chapter 4 “Value of a Lot of Pleasure or pain, How to be Measured” (p. 1-7 and p. 29-32. PDFs online)

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Week 5 Romanticism and Imagination in modern thought

Monday, February 3rd Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Biographia Literaria* Chapters 13, 14, “Rime of the Ancient Mariner”

Wednesday, February 5th Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*

Readings:

For 2/3: Coleridge, *Rime of the Ancient Mariner* (Norton Edition) (PDF Online)

For 2/5: *Frankenstein*, 7-40, 65-80, 88-101, 140-161 (Book at the Bookstore)

Week 6 Liberty at home and Slavery abroad

Monday, February 10th Mill *On Liberty*

Wednesday, February 12th Mill, Carlyle and Slavery in the Colonies

Readings:

John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty and Other Essays* Pages: *On Liberty* chapters 1-3 (p. 5-82) (Book at the Bookstore)

Thomas Carlyle, “Occasional Discourse on the Negro Question” *Fraser’s Magazine* vol. XL December 1849, (p. 670-679) (PDF Online)

John Stuart Mill “The Negro Question,” *Fraser’s Magazine* vol. XLI, January 1850, (p.25-31) (PDF Online)

Week 7 Communism

Monday, February 17th Presidents Day. No class

Wednesday, February 19th *The Communist Manifesto* and *Das Kapital*.

Readings:

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (1848) (p. 1-39) (At the Bookstore)

Marx, *Capital: The Critique of Political Economy* (1867), From Chapter 1 Read: pgs 125-139 (Section 1 and 2), pgs 163-177 (Section 4) (PDF online).

Week 8 Evolutionary Theory and Social Science (Darwin and Gilman)

Monday, February 24th: Darwin and Evolutionary theory

Wednesday, February 26th: Darwin and Gilman on humans, emotions and sex.

Readings:

For 2/24: In Appleman, ed., *Darwin* (from *The Origin of Species* and *The Descent of Man and Selection in Relation to Sex*) pps. 95-135, [optional: 158-174], 230-254; From Lamarck, *Zoological Philosophy* (pgs 44-49). (Book from the Bookstore).

For 2/26: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *Women and Economics*, (p. lxxi-lxxiii, 1-75) [PDF online].

Week 9 Modernism in Economics and Literature

Monday, March 3rd John Maynard Keynes, modern economics and the Bloomsbury scene.

Wednesday, March 5th Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*

Readings:

For 3/3: John Maynard Keynes, Selections from *Essays in Persuasion* (W.W. Norton, 1963): “The Great Slump of 1930” (p. 135-147), “The End of Laissez-Faire,” (p. 312-322). Conclusion to *The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money* (p. 372-384); (PDFs Online)

For 3/5: Virginia Woolf, *To The Lighthouse* [required: p. 1-65] [optional: finish the novel] (Book from the Bookstore)

Week 10 Existentialism, Totalitarianism and the end of Enlightenment?

Monday, March 10th Sartre and Beauvoir, Existentialism, humanism and feminism.

Wednesday, March 12th Conclusion: On Beyond Modern Thought

Readings:

Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*, Introduction (p. 13-29) (PDF online).

Jean-Paul Sartre: *Existentialism is a Humanism* (p. 17-54) (Book from Bookstore).

Final

There is no final exam, but your attendance during the scheduled final is required for a panel discussion and in class exercise.

Time and Date TBD

De Neve Auditorium