

# Nineteenth-Century Philosophy (PHIL 304)

## Fall 2007

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Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 3-4; Wed. 2-4 and by appointment

The metaphysical ambitions of the nineteenth-century continue to inform many modern (and indeed postmodern) philosophical concerns. We will begin by discussing a central source of nineteenth-century thought, the work of Immanuel Kant. In Hegel's idealism we see philosophy and history converge; Schopenhauer, Kierkegaard and Marx provide critiques of this Hegelian convergence. Finally, Nietzsche raises fundamental questions about the very notions around which this century revolves, e.g. the self (consciousness, the will, the scope of reason) and the world (scientific and ethical realism).

In addition to these central texts we will also read excerpts from other nineteenth-century thinkers such as Fichte and Feuerbach.

### Required Texts:

Hegel *Phenomenology of Spirit* (Oxford)  
Schopenhauer *Essays and Aphorisms* (Penguin)  
Marx *Early Writings* (Penguin)  
Kierkegaard *Either/Or, Part I* (Princeton)  
Nietzsche *On the Genealogy of Morality* (Cambridge)  
Hough *Nietzsche's Noontide Friend* (Penn State Press)

### Tentative Reading Schedule:

August 21-23	Introduction; Kant (handout)
August 28-August 30	Hegel's <i>Phenomenology</i> ; selections from Preface; 46-57
September 4-6	<i>Phenomenology</i> , 58-79; 79-104
September 11-13	<i>Phenomenology</i> , 104-138
September 18-20	<i>Phenomenology</i> , 236-262 ( <b>first paper due</b> )
September 25-October 2	Schopenhauer, <i>Essays and Aphorisms</i> , 41-79; 155-197; 80-88
October 4-9	Marx, <i>Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts, 1844</i> ; 322-334; 341-358; 379-400
October 11	<b>MIDTERM</b>
October 16	<b>FALL BREAK</b>
October 18-23	Kierkegaard, <i>Either/Or, Part I</i> , "Diapsalmata," "The Immediate Erotic"
October 25-November 6:	<i>Either/Or, Part I</i> , "The Tragic in Ancient Drama," "Rotation of Crops," "The Diary of the Seducer"
November 8	Hough, <i>Nietzsche's Noontide Friend</i> , Preface; 1-44
November 13-15	Nietzsche, <i>On the Genealogy of Morality</i> , I ( <b>second paper due</b> )
November 20	<i>On the Genealogy of Morality</i> , II
November 22	<b>THANKSGIVING</b>
November 27-29	<i>On the Genealogy of Morality</i> , III; Conclusion

Requirements: two short essays (5-7 pages; 25% each), a midterm and a final (as posted in the exam schedule; 25% each).

**You must bring the text to class.** Plan on reading an average of 50 pages of difficult reading each week.