PL SC 309R Modernity and the Philosophy of History

Instructor: Brent Gilchrist  
Classes: MWF 9am - 10:50am 280 SWKT  
Office: 730 SWKT  
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Required Texts (available at BYU bookstore):
2. Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *First and Second Discourses*
3. Martin Heidegger, *Introduction to Metaphysics*
4. Friedrich Nietzsche, *On the Advantage and Disadvantage of History for Life*
5. Carl Schmitt, *The Concept of the Political*
(Other readings will be required & available electronically)

Requirements and basis of grading:
- Critical Book Review - (8 pages) 20%
- Reading – 3 critical analyses (4 pages) 30%
- Final exam (take home) 30%
- Attendance, preparation, & participation 20%

PLANNED SCHEDULE OF CLASSES & READINGS

Note: 1. * indicates readings available electronically
   2. Readings for Reviews – These are the readings for your critical analyses.
      Choose 2 from the April and May readings and 1 from the June readings.
      (Each of these should be read before the appropriate class and you should be
      prepared to discuss/report on the reading and turn in your analysis at the next class)

CLASSES

Wed. Apr.25:  
*(optional) Condorcet’s Sketch for a Historical Picture...: Introduction, Chapter 10

Fri. Apr.27:  
*Fukuyama “The End of History and the Last Man”  
*Kant, “Idea for a Universal History”

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Mon. Apr.30:  
*Hegel, Philosophy of History: Introduction #11-43  
*Hegel, Philosophy of Right: Civil Society #182-208 & additions; The State #257-270 & additions; World History #341-360.  
*David Walsh “The Ambiguity of the Hegelian End of History”

Wed. May 2:  
*Hegel, Phenomenology of Mind, #166-230

Fri. May 4:  
*Tocqueville, Democracy in America (selections)  
*Peter A. Lawler “Tocqueville and the End of History” Perspectives on Political Science 21:4

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Mon. May 7:  *Alexandre Kojeve *Introduction to the Reading of Hegel Ch.1&2

Wed. May 9:  *Kojeve “Philosophy and Wisdom” Introduction to the Reading of Hegel Ch.4
   *Michael S. Roth “A Problem of Recognition: Alexandre Kojeve and the End of History” History and Theory 24:3

   Nietzsche, *On the Advantage and Disadvantage of History for Life*

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Mon. May 14: Rousseau, *First and Second Discourses* – “First Discourse”


Fri. May 18:  *Nietzsche, “Homer’s Contest”
   *Nietzsche, “The Greek State”

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Mon. May 21: Schmitt, *The Concept of the Political*

Wed. May 23: Schmitt, *The Concept of the Political*

Fri. May 25:  Heidegger, *Introduction to Metaphysics*

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Mon May 28: Memorial Day - no class


Fri. June 1:  Heidegger, *Introduction to Metaphysics*

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   *John D. Schaeffer “Sensus Communis” in Schaeffer, *Sensus Communis*

   *Michael Mooney “Civility and Rationality” in Mooney, *Vico in the Tradition of Rhetoric*

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   *Donald Phillip Verene, “Wisdom and Barbarism” in Verene, *Vico’s Science of Imagination*

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DUE JUNE 11: CRITICAL BOOK REVIEW

FINAL EXAM – Take Home: DUE ELECTRONICALLY LAST DAY OF EXAMS
PLEASE NOTE:

Preventing Sexual Harassment
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student sexual harassment. BYU's policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees of the University but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination, please talk to your professor; contact the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895 or 367-5689 (24-hours); or contact the Honor Code Office at 422-2847.

Students with Disabilities
Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere that reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability that may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the University Accessibility Center (422-2767). Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the UAC. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You may contact the Equal Employment Office at 422-5895, D-282 ASB.