

19th and 20th Century Philosophy
Philosophy 247
Professor Carol J. Moeller
Spring 2006

Office: Zinzendorf 202, 610-625-7881, moeller@moravian.edu

Required Texts: (roughly in the order to be read, except Weston, used throughout)

Anthony Weston, *A Rulebook for Arguments, Third Edition*, Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Press, 2000.

Cornel West, *The American Evasion of Phil: A Genealogy of Pragmatism*, Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press, 1989.

Walter Kaufmann, *Existentialism from Dostoevsky to Sartre*, New York, NY: Penguin, 1975

Anthony Appiah, *The Ethics of Identity*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2004.

Michele Le Doeuff, *The Sex of Knowing*, translated by Kathryn Hamer and Lorraine Code, NY, NY: Routledge, 2003.

Giovanna Borradori, *Philosophy in a Time of Terror: Dialogues with Jurgen Habermas and Jacques Derrida*, Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2004.

Class Meets: Mondays, Wednesdays: 2:20 - 3:30. Memorial 303.

Office Hours: M: 12:30-2:10; T, Th: 11:30-12:40, and by appointment.

This course can fulfill the **Writing Intensive** requirement.

Course Description

This course examines directions in recent philosophy inaugurated by Nietzsche, Marx, and Kierkegaard, and by Mill, Russell, and Ayer, through the present, as well as the manifestation of these trends in contemporary phenomenology and analytic philosophy. The course may emphasize Continental or British-American traditions in current philosophy. Writing Intensive.

The following are some of its learning outcomes:

1. achieve a broad understanding of the nineteenth and twentieth century philosophy, focusing upon such themes as who we are (individually and collectively), how to make sense of the world, and how we should live.
2. strengthen skills for fair and sympathetic treatment of philosophical views and for critical reflection upon them.
3. develop verbal, writing, and thinking abilities to understand philosophical work, examine it in depth, evaluate work critically, take positions, argue for them, and defend against competing views.
4. understand the thought of particular key figures of 19th and 20th century philosophy,

Course Requirements (as percentage of final grade)

Attendance and participation, both qualitative and quantitative, and average on quizzes, in-class exercises, any group projects, and presentation	10%
Reading journal, with each entry to be written and a copy submitted before the reading is discussed in/ due for class	10%
Further writing assignments including two 9 -11 page essays, with "paper starts" and drafts submitted beforehand	40%
Two examinations: 2 exams @ 20% each	40%

General Issues

Intellectual Environment: Teaching and learning, on all of our parts, requires consistent effort. An atmosphere supporting high intellectual levels of discussion and written work is invaluable.

Work Expectations: These readings will range from difficult to extremely difficult and up from there. To be understood they must be read, reread, and questioned in great detail. One needs to be able to express the author's ideas in one's own words precisely. Expect to work hard to understand the readings, then still harder to respond to them.

Class Protocol: Since we are all adults, I need not specify all of the various ways in which we ought to treat each other with respect, being silent (especially while another person is speaking), being on time, having cell phones and pagers turned off, etc. Treat one another with kindness and respect. Be sure to make any criticisms as constructive as possible, challenging an idea without attacking a person. Anyone appearing to be disruptive or disrespectful will be asked to leave class. On a second occurrence the person would be dismissed from the course altogether.

Academic Integrity: Be sure to observe strictly Moravian College policies on academic integrity. Do your own work. Give credit any time you quote, paraphrase, or use anyone else's words or ideas. Give credit wherever it is due. Failure to do so -- *whether intentional or accidental* -- is academic dishonesty and is taken seriously, resulting in at least a 0 on the relevant assignment. For further specific information and resources on academic honesty, see the Student Handbook, the professor, or the Academic Dean's Office.

Documentation: You must document your work correctly. Use a style manual (such as M.L.A. or Turabian) access one through the Internet, or use a library copy. Please see a librarian or me if you need help with documentation. Pay special attention to the documentation of any Internet sources. If you use an Internet source, you must include the web address plus a hard copy of the article used, attaching these as an appendix.

Seeking help: Please see me with any questions you may have. Come to office hours. If those do not work out for you, arrange an appointment outside of office hours. Email me with questions, to find a time to meet, etc. I am available to talk over essay topics and to look at essay drafts as well.

Disability Issues: Students with disabilities should inform me right away so that we can discuss how to negotiate any related issues.

Final note on grading: Please be aware that there is a qualitative component to grading that is up to the professor's judgment. If you do not understand the comments or grade on any assignment (or for the course), please ask me about it. If you wish to challenge a grade and are not satisfied with my response, you may appeal to the department chair, Professor Dana Dunn, 2nd floor, PPHAC, x1562.

RESP X = Summary/Response paper due (number X) on or before that day

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Text</i>	<i>Pages</i>	<i>Presenter:</i>	
1/16	Monday	----			
1/18	Wednesday	EXIST	1-82		
1/23	M	EXIST	83-121	_____	
1/25	W	EXIST	121-157	_____	
1/30	M	EXIST	158-232	_____	
2/1	W	EXIST	233-279	_____	
2/6	M	EXIST	280-345	_____	
2/8	W	EXIST	345-382	_____	RESP 1
2/13	M	AM EV	beginning – 68	_____	
2/15	W	AM EV	69-111	_____	RESP 2
2/20	M	AM EV	112-181	_____	1 st Phil Paper Start Due
2/22	W	AM EV	182-242	_____	RESP 3
2/27	M	MIDTERM			MIDTERM
3/1	W	ID	begin-62	_____	Essay 1 Draft Version Due
3/6	M	No Class – Spring Break			
3/8	W	No Class – Spring Break			
3/13	M	ID	63-154	_____	
3/15	W	ID	155-213	_____	

3/20	M	ID	214-275	_____	Essay 1 Final Version Due
3/22	W	SX	beginning – 68	_____	RESP 4
3/27	M	SX	69-142	_____	2 nd Phil Paper Start Due
3/29	W	SX	69-142 (cont)	_____	RESP 5
4/3	M	SX	143-220	_____	Essay 2 Draft Version Due
4/5	W	SX	143-220 (cont)	_____	RESP 6
4/10	M	TER	beginning -45	_____	
4/12	W	TER	45-81	_____	Essay 2 Final Version Due
4/17	M	No Class (College “Easter Break”)			
4/19	W	TER	85-136	_____	RESP 7
4/24	M	TER	137-172	_____	
4/26	W	More Discussion/Review for Take-Home Exam			
4/29	Sat	Last Day of Classes			
5/1	(M) – 5/6 (Sat)	Final Exams, Take-Home, due as scheduled during finals week			

Attendance and Participation, Oral Presentation (5%): Attendance and participation are required. Unexcused absences or failure to participate will detract from your grade. (Participation need not always be overtly verbal; however, students ought to be prepared, present and attentive, having read the assignments thoroughly, engaging in the material somehow even if one is fairly quiet in class.) Details will follow about the **oral presentations**. Occasional outside of class events and video screenings may be assigned, either required or for extra credit. It is up to each student to be aware of these, to schedule make-up opportunities in advance if a conflict with such required attendance occurs.

Average on quizzes, in-class exercises, group project (5%): Occasional quizzes, in-class exercises, as well as a group project (week of

Exams: Three Exams (60%): For the final exam, most of the material will be drawn from the last series of readings, and the remainder will come from those covered earlier in the term.

10 - 12 Page Essay (30%): The longer essay will be 10-12 pages on a topic (from a set of choices) that allows you to apply several of our course readings to the issue at hand. The topic may be selected from those I distribute, or it may be your own proposed topic with my written approval. Please type, double spaced 10-12 font (no decorative fonts please), use 1-inch margins (top/bottom/sides) and properly document sources. Use a complete bibliography. It is preferable to use parenthetical references (name of author, page of reference), in the body of the paper. Be sure to cite the page in question, so your documentation is complete. Also, please note guidelines on Internet use. Come see me for any help or for feedback on a draft of your essay.