PHIL 6150*01 W15: Contemporary European Philosophy II—Fichte and Sartre.

Instructor: John Russon

Office Hours: Thursdays 12:00-1:00, or by appointment; Mackinnon 338 Course meets: Tuesdays 2:30-5:30; Mackinnon 034A

For the first half of the semester, we will study the work of J.G. Fichte, whose brilliant development of the central ideas of Kant's philosophy opened up a new philosophical terrain, the rich exploration of which is generally referred to as "German Idealism." Most definitively, Fichte highlights the crucial and distinctive role other people play in our projects of knowledge and self-knowledge. We will study his <u>Science of Knowledge</u> and <u>Foundations of Natural Right</u>, reflecting on such themes as his philosophical method, the essential experience of being recognized by others and the distinctive character of the human body, concluding with the political philosophy derived from this. In the second half of the semester, we will study Jean-Paul Sartre's <u>Being and Nothingess</u>, a founding text of existential phenomenology. Our study of Sartre will especially allow us to further our investigation into the nature and importance of our experience of other people, this time culminating in a study of interpersonal relations rather than political philosophy.

Tentative Schedule of Readings.

Jan 6	Kant, Critique of Pure Reason, selections (on courselink)
	4 th Paralogism, A367-380
	Introduction to "A" Deduction, A98-114
	Introduction to Transcendental Aesthetic, A19-20
	3 rd Antinomy, A444/B472-A447/B475
Jan 13	Fichte, Science of Knowledge,
	"Preface," pp 89-92
	"Fundamental Principles of the Entire Science of
	Knowledge," pp 93-119
	"First Discourse" (opening), pp 120-1.
Jan 20	Science of Knowledge,
	"Deduction of Presentation," pp 203-217
	"Second Discourse" (1 st half), pp 218-233
	Vocation of Man
	"Doubt," pp 3-26, (on courselink).
	Kant, Critique of Pure Reason, selections (on courselink)
	"Table of Categories" and comment,
	"Anticipations of Perception,"
Jan 27	Fichte, Foundations of Natural Right
	"Introduction," pp 3-17
	"Deduction of the Concept of Right," pp 18-52
	"Deduction of the Applicability of the Concept of Right,"
	pp 53-84
Feb 3	Foundations of Natural Right
	"The Doctrine of Right," pp 85-164
Feb 10	Foundations of Natural Right
	"Applied Natural Right," pp 165-265

Week of Feb 16--break

Feb 24	Sartre, Being and Nothingness
	"The Pursuit of Being," pp 11-17
	"The Origin of Negation," pp 35-36, 38-44
Mar 3	Being and Nothingness
	"The Origin of Negation," pp 58-85
Mar 10	Being and Nothingness
	"The Existence of Others," pp 301-303, 340-400
Mar 17	Being and Nothingness
	"The Body," pp 401-470
Mar 24	Being and Nothingnes
	"Concrete Relations with Others," pp 471-493
Mar 31	Being and Nothingness
	"Concrete Relations with Others," pp 494-517(-534), 534-556

Texts:

Fixhte, <u>Science of Knowledge</u>, trans. Heath and Lachs, (Cambridge)
Fichte, <u>Foundations of Natural Right</u>, trans, Baur, (Cambridge)
Sartre, <u>Being and Nothingness</u>, trans. Barnes, (Washington Square)
Recommended:
Fichte, <u>The Vocation of Man</u>, trans. Preuss, (Hackett)
Frederick Crews, The Random House Handbook, (out of print).

Assignments:

10 weekly essays, each one single-spaced page. 10% each

For each of the classes from January 13 through February 10, and from March 3 through March 31, you will be required to hand in an explicative essay, one single-spaced page in length, on a specific topic assigned the week earlier. *Under no circumstances* will you be allowed to hand in more than a single sheet of paper. You must always use normal margins and a normal font.

Secondary literature:

I will select a small number of scholarly articles on Fichte and Sartre. In addition to reading the course texts, you are required to read these articles.

NB: Any work you submit must be your own. Do not under any circumstances present the work of others as if it were your own. Any time you use the work of others, make sure that you provide references in proper form to the work you are using.

College of Arts Standard Statements

EMAIL COMMUNICATION

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their uoguelph.ca email account regularly: email is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

WHEN YOU CANNOT MEET A COURSE REQUIREMENT

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and email contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar's information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.

DROP DATE

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is Friday March 6, 2015. See the Undergraduate Calenda's regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses.

COPIES OF OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Keep paper and/or other reliable backup copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

ACCESSIBILITY

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible. For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email sas@uoguelph.ca__ or refer to the SAS website.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community—faculty, staff, and students—to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar.

RECORDING OF MATERIALS

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

RESOURCES

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs: <u>http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars</u>