



PHIL*3200 Continental Philosophy

Fall 2020

Section(s): C01

Department of Philosophy

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - September 01, 2020

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This course focuses on 20th century French and German philosophy and the influences that shaped it. The course will be part historical, part contemporary. The historical part may survey touchstones of current Continental thought in ancient and modern philosophy. The contemporary part of this course may focus on any of the hundred or so key figures in 20th or 21st century Continental thought, or groupings thereof according to particular thematic.

Pre-Requisites: 1.50 credits in Philosophy or 7.50 credits

1.2 Course Description

European philosophy of the past two and a half centuries has revolutionized the way we think about ourselves and our world. At the centre of this philosophical revolution is the philosophical practice of *phenomenology*. Phenomenology is built on the method of rigorous description of lived experience, and the philosophers who have practiced that method have radically transformed our understanding of the body, emotion, knowledge, technology, politics, art and more. Taking Heidegger's *Being and Time* as our central focus, we will learn the basic parameters of phenomenology, which we will supplement by reading works of a number of other writers in this tradition. We will study the inherently situated character of human experience, authenticity and existential transformation, the meaning of democracy, and the nature of art. Studying this material will leave you well-prepared for more advanced work in philosophy as well as offering potentially transformative insight into various domains of everyday life.

This course will be offered in asynchronous, alternate delivery format. Instruction will primarily take the form of video lectures and power-point notes that students can access on their own schedule, and there will be regular discussion sessions led by the Teaching Assistant.

1.3 Timetable

Asynchronous, remote delivery.

Timetable is subject to change. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

1.4 Final Exam

There will be a final take-home assignment, due in the final exam period.

Exam time and location is subject to change. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor:	John Russon
Email:	jrusson@uoguelph.ca
Telephone:	+1-519-824-4120 x53553
Office:	MCKN 338

2.2 Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistant:	James Belford
Email:	jbelford@uoguelph.ca

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Heidegger, Being and Time, trans. Macquarrie and Robinson (Textbook)

The University bookstore claimed it could not order this book; it might have used copies, though.

The Coop Bookstore does have copies, both new and used.

You can also easily order online--make sure you get the right translation!

Russon, Sites of Exposure (Textbook)

Derrida, Rogues (Textbook)

Fanon, "The Lived Experience of the Black Man" (Readings)

PDF will be available on courselink.

Merleau-Ponty, "Eye and Mind" (Readings)

PDF will be available on courselink.

Selected (Readings)

There will be a few other selected, short readings; pdfs will be available on courselink.

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. *Analyze* and *evaluate* major historical and/or conceptual developments in philosophy.
2. *Identify* and *critically evaluate* the practical significance of major developments in contemporary European philosophy.
3. *Read* and *comprehend* complex original source materials in the history and problems of philosophy.
4. *Write* clearly and cogently on advanced problems in philosophy.
5. *Be skilled* in the use of key tools for sound justification and rational persuasion, including formal and informal logic, the gathering of empirical evidence, the discerning of implicit bias and the balanced judgment of conflicting interpretations.

5 Teaching and Learning Activities

5.1 Lecture

Topics:

Videotaped lectures will be posted regularly. Though there will be a broad time-frame you need to adhere to, you will have a great deal of latitude in determining your own schedule for watching these lectures.

5.2 Seminar

Topics:

There will be regular online discussion sessions scheduled. These discussions will be facilitated by the teaching assistant.

6 Assessments

The course will have three modules with the following general themes:

Heidegger and the Nature of Experience

Derrida and Politics

Merleau-Ponty and Art

For each module, there will be lectures and readings (as well as discussion sessions offered by the TA), and you will have considerable flexibility in determining your own schedule for getting through this material. For the first two modules, the assignment will be two questions, given in advance, which must be submitted by a specific date and for the final module the assignment will be one question, given in advance, which must be submitted by a specific date. The answer to each of the five questions must be no longer than one single-spaced page (c. 700wds).

6.1 Assessment Details

First Take Home Test Questions (40%)

Date: Wed, Oct 14

On this date you are required to submit your written answers (no longer than 1 single-spaced page each) to two questions that you will have been given in advance.

Second Take Home Test Questions (40%)

Date: Fri, Nov 13

On this date you are required to submit your written answers (no longer than 1 single-spaced page each) to two questions that you will have been given in advance.

Final Take Home Test Question (20%)

Date: Fri, Dec 11

On this date you are required to submit your written answer (no longer than 1 single-spaced page) to one question that you will have been given in advance.

7 University Statements

7.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly:

e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

7.2 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 e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

7.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

7.4 Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

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

7.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student

Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website
<https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

7.6 Academic Integrity

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 encourages academic integrity. 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.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

7.7 Recording of Materials

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

7.8 Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's

procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

7.9 Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

7.10 Illness

The University will not require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for the fall 2020 or winter 2021 semesters.
