

States and Nomads: From Kant to Nietzsche (Phil 2140).

2:00 pm - 3:50 pm MW, Sturm Hall 311

Autumn Quarter 2011

CRN 4234

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Office: 382 Sturm, 303-871-4917

Office Hours: 12pm - 1pm MW



Course Description.

“Originally no one has more of a right to be at a given place on earth than anyone else.”

—Kant, *Perpetual Peace*

“It is absolutely necessary for every individual to be a citizen of a state.”

—Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*

“*We who are homeless*—Among Europeans today there is no lack of those who are entitled to call themselves homeless in a distinctive and honorable sense: it is to them that I especially commend my secret wisdom and *gaya scienza*.”

—Nietzsche, *The Gay Science*

In the 19th century the nation-state became the central organizing force of political life in modern Europe. However, it was also the source of a variety of intractable philosophical and political dilemmas, many of which continue into the 21st century: who counts as part of a nation-state? if nation-states are each sovereign how can we reconcile the lawlessness of international relations? what are the “rights” of those who have no state, or do they have any at all? If so, on what grounds? What is the relationship between philosophy and the historical emergence of the political form of the state?

This course offers an introduction to 19th century philosophy through two concepts central to the thought of philosophers during this time: the state and the stateless (the nomadic). In this course we will read primary selections from the work of Immanuel Kant, Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, Karl Marx, and Friedrich Nietzsche. While not every single reading in the syllabus engages directly the political problem posed by exclusionary nation-states and their nomadic counter-parts, many of the readings do and serve to function as a hinge or thread to guide our readings of several challenging texts in the history of philosophy. The outcomes of this course are not only for students to understand some of the major thinkers in 19th century European philosophy, but to be able to write philosophical essays, and locate the relevance of the history of philosophy in contemporary life.

Required Readings.

All texts are available as PDF's. Students are expected to print these texts and bring them to class every day. All texts in the reading are required reading.

Course Requirements.

1. Participation	10%
2. Midterm paper (4-6 pages)	40%
5. Final paper (6-9 pages)	50%

Participation/Attendance: You are expected to participate actively in this class, which includes attending class, reading all assigned material prior to class, bringing all readings to class, and participating productively and professionally in class discussions. Missing three classes for any reason will result in a full grade reduction. An additional full grade reduction will be made for each additional missed class after the third. You will be expected to document your presence in class by signing a daily roll sheet. Three late arrivals for class will count as one absence. If you fail to bring the appropriate texts to class you will be counted as late. The quality and quantity of your participation in the class discussion will be evaluated in assigning 10% of your final grade. In addition to any penalties that you receive for failure to attend class, absences from class will also negatively affect your participation grade.

Midterm Paper: This first paper will be 4-6 pages in length. You will be given a choice between more than one prompt to write on.

Final Research Paper: In your final 6-9 page paper you will have the option between more than one prompt or writing on an independently chosen topic approved by the Professor and requiring an ungraded 1-2 page proposal and short bibliography.

Policies.

Incompletes and extensions will be given only in the event of documented emergencies. Late papers will lose one letter grade for each calendar day that they are late.

Retaining copies of all coursework: Please retain copies of all work submitted and the original copy of all work returned to you during the term until the final course grade has been posted. In the event of any question concerning whether grades have been accurately recorded, it is your responsibility to provide these copies as documentation.

Computers and other electronic equipment: Use of electronic equipment, including cell phones, pagers, MP3 players, AND LAPTOP COMPUTERS is prohibited during this class. Exceptions to the prohibition of laptops may be requested from the instructor and will be granted only for legitimate academic reasons. Use of laptops for academic reasons will be monitored throughout the term, and failure to restrict their use to this function will result in the revocation of any laptop privileges.

Email: Please check your email regularly, I will be emailing you several times during the term.

Academic Honesty: Please review and familiarize yourself with the provisions of the University of Denver Honor Code regarding academic honesty. You can find a summary in each term's Schedule of Classes or at: <http://www.du.edu/studentlife/ccs/2010-->

2011%20Honor%20Code.pdf. Violations of academic honesty will be met with disciplinary action (the usual punishment is an “F” for the course). Definitions and examples of plagiarism, fabrication, and cheating are posted in the student life handbook.

Inclement Weather: It is generally expected that class will meet unless the University is officially closed for inclement weather. If it becomes necessary to cancel class while the University remains open, this will be announced via email.

Individual Differences: If you experience difficulty in this course for any reason, please don't hesitate to consult with me. If you have a documented disability that may prevent you from fully demonstrating your abilities, you should contact me personally as soon as possible so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure your full participation and facilitate your education process. The university offers a wide range of services to support you in your efforts to meet the course requirements. Students may also contact the Disability Services Program (DSP) by email dsp@du.edu, phone (303-871-2278), or in person. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities and is located on the 4th floor of Ruffatto Hall, 1999 E. Evans Ave. DSP -- 303.871. 2278 / 7432 / 2455. Information is also available on line at <http://www.du.edu/disability/dsp>; see the Handbook for Students with Disabilities.

Reading Schedule. (schedule is subject to changes made by the instructor)

Unit	Week	Date	Readings Due	Assignments Due
Unit 1 Kant	Week 1	9/12	Introductions, syllabus, course readings and expectations. Goals: 1. Learn to write, 2. Learn to Think/read critically.	
		9/14	Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , (Preface to the 1st Edition, Preface to the 2nd Edition pg. 5-40).	
	Week 2	9/19	Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , (Introduction to the 2nd Edition pg. 43-63).	
		9/21	Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , (Transcendental Aesthetic pg. 71-104).	
	Week 3	9/26	Gilles Deleuze, <i>Kant's Critical Philosophy</i> pg. 11-18 Kant, <i>Perpetual Peace and Other Essays</i> , "An Answer to the Question What is Enlightenment?"	
		9/28	Kant, <i>Perpetual Peace and Other Essays</i> . "Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitanism Purpose"	
Unit 2 Hegel	Week 4	10/3	Kant, <i>Perpetual Peace and Other Essays</i> , "To Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch" (read until the first supplement, 92)	
		10/5	Hegel, <i>The Phenomenology of Spirit</i> , "Lordship and Bondage" and "Freedom of Self-Consciousness" 111-138.	Midterm Essay Due
	Week 5	10/10	Hegel, <i>Introduction to the Philosophy of History</i> , "The State as Realization of Spirit" pg. 40-56.	
		10/12	Hegel, <i>Outlines of the Philosophy of Right</i> , 228-262	
	Week 6	10/17	Hegel, <i>Outlines of the Philosophy of Right</i> , 263-284	
		10/19	Hegel, <i>Outlines of the Philosophy of Right</i> , 285-314	
Unit 3 Marx and Nietzsche	Week 7	10/24	Marx, <i>1st and 2nd Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts</i>	
		10/26	Marx, <i>Marx, 3rd Economic and Philosophical Manuscript</i>	
	Week 8	10/31	Marx, <i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i>	
		11/2	Marx, <i>Capital Vol. 1</i> , Chap. 25 section 3, 4, 5C.	
	Week 9	11/7	Marx, <i>Capital Vol. 1</i> , Chapter 26 and 27.	
		11/9	Nietzsche, <i>The Gay Science</i> , "We Who Are Homeless" pg.338-340. Nietzsche, <i>The Genealogy of Morals</i> , pg. 15-40.	
	Week 10	11/14	Nietzsche, <i>The Genealogy of Morals</i> pg. 41-70.	
		11/16	Nietzsche, <i>The Genealogy of Morals</i> , pg. 71-97.	
		11/19 - 11/22	Final Essay due. 11/21 by midnight.	Final Essay Due