

**NATIONAL RESEARCH UNIVERSITY, HIGHER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
MOSCOW, RUSSIA**

**Course syllabus: THE HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY
(A two-semester course)**

Lecturer: Krister R. Sairsingh

Class teacher: Krister Sairsingh

Course description:

The History of Western Philosophy is a one-year course on the main philosophers of the western world. In this course we investigate the thought of each of the great philosophers in order to understand the main traditions of epistemological, moral and political thought in western philosophy. These philosophers and their ideas will be studied in their historical, social and economic context as we search for connections between ideas and their social origins. While ideas must be understood in their social, historical and economic context, we will be concerned with the question: To what extent can ideas be reduced simply to their social and economic function? What do philosophers mean when they claim that an idea is true?

The course will begin with an investigation into the origins of philosophy in the west. We will examine the Pre-Socratic philosophers and their importance for understanding the central questions of philosophy, Plato and the later history of Greek philosophy. Then we will give careful attention to the life and thought of Socrates as told by Plato in some of his early dialogues, Plato's thought in the later dialogues, Aristotle's metaphysics, ethics and politics. We will conclude this part of the course with a discussion of the search for the meaning of human existence by philosophers in the Hellenistic age, the age that begins with the death of Aristotle and the Macedonian conquest of Athens. We shall be concerned with the following questions: How do the ancient Greek philosophers understand the idea of happiness and the good life? How important is politics to their conception of happiness? How do they understand the nature

of reality? How do they view the relation between beauty, goodness and truth? How do they understand human desire and the nature of love? What have these philosophers contributed to the emergence of the political and cultural institutions of the West? This survey of the history of philosophy also provides the necessary historical and philosophical background for courses in politics, law, sociology and in philosophy and the methodology of the social sciences.

Through both primary and secondary sources students are introduced during the first semester to the central questions of Western philosophy from the Pre-Socratics, Plato, Aristotle, later Hellenistic philosophy and its encounter with Christianity in the Greek East and the Latin West, especially in the writings of St. Augustine. The course will then proceed by considering the ways in which Christianity, Judaism and Islam responded to the critical challenges that arose from their encounter with Greek philosophy as a result of the availability of nearly all of Aristotle's works in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. In our study of medieval philosophy, we will give special consideration to Anselm of Canterbury, Peter Abelard, Al-Farabi Avicenna, Al-Ghazali, Averroes, Moses Maimonides, and Thomas Aquinas. We will examine their attempts to harmonize philosophy and religious faith through the use of scientific reason and Greek logic. How did this encounter of medieval theology and philosophy with ancient Greek thought shape the conceptions of religious faith, morality and politics that defined the ideals and cultural institutions of the West?

Alfred North Whitehead said that the history of Western philosophy is simply a series of footnotes to Plato. To what extent did the Platonic tradition and its Aristotelian modification affect the subsequent history of philosophy? We will also examine the impact of Aristotle's philosophy in shaping the conception of money and usury- the practice of making money with money- in medieval philosophy. We will also take note of the idea of the universal and the individual in medieval philosophy and discuss how the notion of the individual emerged as a reaction against Platonic universalism.

In the second semester we will begin with Descartes and discuss the epistemological (theory of knowledge) revolution that he brought about in European thought. We will then analyze the responses of Spinoza, Leibniz, Locke, Hume and Kant to Cartesian rationalism. In a scientific age that no longer appeals to traditional religious

authority, what is the basis for ethics, moral values and political authority? How did Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Kant, Mill, Marx, Hegel and Nietzsche reorient European moral, metaphysical and political thought without the support of the church and traditional authority? Students will be introduced to primary source material from Internet sites. Bertrand Russell's *History of Western Philosophy*, Robert Paul Wolff's *About Philosophy*, and a collection of primary sources in Franklin Le Van Baumer's *Main Currents of Western Thought* will be the main texts for the course. In addition to these texts, required reading from Copleston, *The History of Philosophy*, and Anthony Kenny, *A New History of Western Philosophy*, will be placed on the website with weekly assignments. Most of the assigned readings for the course can be found in the ICEF Reader for Intellectual History, Russell's *History of Western Philosophy*, books in the ICEF library, and sources from the Internet. The lectures and seminars are conducted in English.

Course objectives:

The course aims at introducing students to the life and thought of each of the great philosophers of the western philosophical tradition. Our goal is to understand the fundamental categories of philosophical thought which have shaped the Western mind and to enable students to understand the diversity of traditions and modes of critical inquiry within Western thought. For example, in the study of medieval philosophy, students would gain some understanding of how philosophers from the Jewish, Christian and Islamic traditions used ancient Greek philosophy, especially Plato and Aristotle, to reconcile the claims of religious faith with the demands of reason.

Fundamental to the course is an introduction to the main ideas of the great philosophers from ancient Greece through modern times and their role in shaping the metaphysical, moral and political traditions and values of the West. While the major emphasis will be upon ideas and their cultural and historical significance, the course also attempts to draw attention to the political and social context in which the great ideas have emerged and to discuss their economic implications.

The methods:

The following methods and forms of study are used in the course:

- Lectures (2 hours per week)
- Seminars (2 hours per week)
- Consultations with teachers
- Self study with literature
- Use of Internet resources

The course includes: 48 hours of lectures, 48 hours of classes. During each semester students will be expected to contribute to class discussion, submit printed answers to class assignments, and write an essay of 4 to 5 pages.

Main texts:

Apart from Internet sources, most of the required and recommended readings will refer to the following texts. Selections from these texts can be found in the Reader for the course.

1. Franklin Le Van Baumer, *Main Currents of Western Thought* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1966). This is a collection of primary sources from which many of the second semester readings will be assigned.
2. Marcia Colish, *Medieval Foundations of the Western Intellectual Tradition* (Yale University Press, 1997). Selection in the Reader.
3. Frederick Copleston, *A History of Philosophy*. 9 volumes
4. Bryan Magee, *The Great Philosophers* (Oxford, 1987). Based on BBC interviews with contemporary philosophers. Selections in the Reader. These interviews can be seen on You Tube.
5. Bertrand Russell, *A History of Western Philosophy* (available in Russian translation from local stores). Apart from the Reader, this is the main textbook for the course.
6. Peter Watson, *The Modern Mind: An Intellectual History of the Twentieth Century* (HarperCollins, 2001). Selections in the Reader.

7. Robert Paul Wolff, *About Philosophy* (Prentice Hall, 2000). Selections in the Reader.
8. Aristotle, *The Nicomachean Ethics*. Internet Classics Archives: <http://classics.mit.edu>
9. Augustine, *Confessions*, trans. Henry Chadwick (Oxford, 1992). Translation by Albert Outler is available on the Internet.
10. Plato, *The Apology, The Eutyphro, the Crito* and selections from the *Republic* (The Internet Classics Archives: <http://classics.mit.edu>)

Highly Recommended:

1. *The Shorter Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Edited by Edward Craig. (Oxford: Routledge, 2005).
2. Ted Honderich (edited), *The Oxford Companion to Philosophy*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995).
3. Anthony Kenny, *A New History of Western Philosophy*. (Oxford: Clarendon Press.) This is a four -volume work now available in one volume. This is perhaps the best history of philosophy available in one volume.

Internet sources for required reading

Socrates, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/socrates/> (especially section 3 A)

Plato, *The Crito*. <http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/crito.html>

Plato, *The Apology*. <http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/apology.html>

Plato, *The Euthyphro*. <http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/euthyphro.html>

Plato's Ethics and Politics in The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/plato-ethics-politics/>

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*. The Internet Classic Archives: <http://classics.mit.edu>

Aristotle's Ethics: The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: Aristotle ethics:
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/aristotle-ethics/>

Aristotle's Politics: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/aristotle-politics>

Justin Martyr, <http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/0126.htm>

Augustine, The Confessions. <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/augustine/confessions.x.html>

Descartes, Meditations on First Philosophy.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meditations_on_First_Philosophy

John Locke, An Essay Concerning Human Understanding.

<http://humanum.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/Philosophy/Locke/echu/>

Locke, Second Treatise on Civil Government.

<http://www.constitution.org/jl/2ndtreat.htm>

Locke <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/locke/>

Rousseau, The Social Contract. <http://www.constitution.org/jjr/socon.htm>

Kant, What is Enlightenment?

<http://www.english.upenn.edu/~mgamer/Etexts/kant.html>

Hegel, The Philosophy of History

<http://www.class.uidaho.edu/mickelsen/texts/Hegel>

Marx, <http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/sw/index.htm>

(Marx's Theses on Feuerbach, Critique of the German Ideology, and The Communist Manifesto are available through this website.)

Mill, J.S. On Liberty. <http://www.utilitarianism.com/ol/one.html>

Mill's books on Utilitarianism and his autobiography are also available on this website.

Berlin, Isaiah. Two Concepts of Liberty.

<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/nissenbaum/papers/twoconcepts.pdf>

1. Internet Encyclopaedia of Philosophy <http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/>

2. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: www.plato.stanford.edu

3. The Internet Classics Archives: <http://classics.mit.edu>

Grade determination:

There will be an intermediate examination at the end of the first semester and final examination at the end of the second semester. During each semester a 4 to 5-page essay

on assigned topics will be required. Attendance and active participation in the weekly seminars are required. The final grade will consist of:

- Home assignments and participation in seminars 20%
- Essays 20%
- Final examination 60%

Course outline:

First Semester

1. From Myth and Religion to Philosophy.
 - A. Myth, religion and philosophy: The origins of speculative thought.
 - B. A brief survey of Minoan and Mycenaean civilization
 - C. The flowering of Greek culture, 500-336 BCE.
 - D. The beginnings of Greek philosophy in Miletus and Southern Italy.

In this lecture we will examine the role of myth and religion in the birth of philosophy. Do they contribute significantly to the birth of philosophy as F.W. Conford argues in his book, *From Religion to Philosophy?* Or is philosophical thinking opposed to myth and religion? The lecture and discussion will be based on the first chapter of Bertrand Russell's text, *The History of Western Philosophy*, which is also the textbook for the course. The lecture will also provide a brief overview of the rise of Greek civilization and the Milesian school from which the first philosophers emerged.

Literature:

Bertrand Russell, *The Rise of Greek Civilization* in part 1, chapter 1 of the *History of Western Philosophy*. Russell provides a good overview of the rise of Greek civilization in the first chapter of his *History of Philosophy*

Bertrand Russell, *The Milesian School*. Part 1, chapter 2 in *The History of Western Philosophy*.

Recommended:

Copleston, The History of Philosophy. Volume 1, chapters 2 and 3.

William H. McNeill, The Formulation of Greek Civilization. The Reader.

2. The Development of Greek Thought.

A. Beginnings of Greek Philosophy.

B. The development of pre-Socratic thought: Pythagoras, Heraclitus, Parmenides and the Atomists.

Literature:

Bertrand Russell, History of Western Philosophy, Read chapters on Pythagoras, Heraclitus, Parmenides and the Atomists. Chapters 3, 4, 5 and 9 in the English text. The most important figures to focus on are Pythagoras, Heraclitus, Parmenides and Democritus.

Socrates, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/socrates/> (Read section 3 A)

Highly recommended: Copleston, History of Philosophy. Chapters 4-6

3. The Sophists and Socrates.

A. The Sophists and their rejection of cosmology, metaphysics and truth.

B. Socrates in the early dialogues of Plato. Sources of our knowledge of the historical Socrates.

C. The last days of Socrates and the argument of the Apology and the Crito

D. Why is Socrates considered the ideal philosopher?

Literature:

Plato, The Euthyphro and the Apology: Internet Classics Archives. <http://classics.mit.edu>

Socrates, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/socrates/> (especially section 3 A)

Russell, History of Western Philosophy. Read Russell's discussion of Protagoras in Chapter 10.

Recommended secondary source for a discussion of Socrates: Frederick Copleston, A History of Philosophy: Volume 1, Chapter 14.

Recommended for understanding the Sophists: Copleston, volume 1, chapters 12 and 13.

4. Plato.

- A. Life of Plato and the influence of Socrates upon him.
- B. Plato's philosophy of virtue and the good life.
- C. Plato's theory of love.
- D. The Plato's theory of Forms and its importance for the interpretation of Truth.
- E. Plato's allegory of the cave: What is its significance?
- F. Plato's politics. What is Justice?

Literature:

The Eutyphro. The Internet Classic Archives: <http://classics.mit.edu> Go to 441 titles and select Plato.

The Theory of the Healthy Personality: Robert Wolff, About Philosophy, 182-188 (selections from Plato's Republic included). The Reader.

Plato, The Allegory of the Cave. <http://webspace.ship.edu/cgboer/platoscave.html>

Bertrand Russell, History of Western Philosophy. Book 1, Part 2. Plato's Utopia, The Theory of Ideas. Chapters 14 and 15. It is essential to read these two chapters in Russell.

Recommended reading for essays and examination.

Copleston, Volume 1, Chapters 20, 22, and 23.

Plato's ethics and politics in The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/plato-ethics-politics/>

5. Aristotle.

- A. Aristotle and his teacher Plato. How do they differ?
- B. Aristotle the great scientist, metaphysician and logician.
- C. The Four Causes: Meaning and Purpose in Nature.

- D. Politics as the supreme practical science.
- E. Ethics and the search for happiness.
- F. The role of friendship in Aristotle's moral philosophy

Literature:

Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics: Book 1, chapters 1 through 8, and 13. Book 2, chapters 1 and 6, especially the last page of chapter 6. Book 6, chapters 12 and 13. Book 7, chapters 1 and 2. Book 10, chapters 7 and 8. Several of these chapters are no more than one or two pages. Please read carefully these texts that you can find at The Internet Classic Archives: <http://classics.mit.edu>

Bertrand Russell, Chapters on Aristotle's Metaphysics, Ethics and Politics. These chapters will be discussed in the seminars. Chapters 19-21 in the English text.

Recommended:

Bryan Magee, Aristotle. Interview with Martha Nussbaum in The Great Philosophers. The Reader. This can also be viewed on YouTube under Bryan Magee.

Aristotle's Ethics: The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: Aristotle ethics: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/aristotle-ethics/>

Aristotle's Politics: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/aristotle-politics>

- 6. Ancient Philosophy after Aristotle: Hellenistic Thought
 - a. The Hellenistic World
 - b. Cynics and Skeptics
 - c. The Epicureans
 - d. Stoicism

Literature;

Bertrand Russell, The History of Western Philosophy. Ancient Philosophy after Aristotle. Read chapters 26, 27, and 28.

7. Philosophy and Christianity in the Roman Empire.

- A. Plotinus to Boethius

- B. Early Jewish and Christian uses of philosophy: The role of Greek Philosophy in the writings of Philo of Alexandria, Justin Martyr, Clement of Alexandria, and Origen.
- C. Arguments for toleration in an age of persecution.
- D. The Latin tradition in early Christian philosophy.

Literature:

Russell, Chapter on Plotinus in Book 1, part 3, chapter 30. Read the discussion of Boethius in Book 2, Chapter 5. It is towards the end of the chapter.

F. Copleston, The History of Philosophy. Volume 2, chapter 2.

The Acts of the Apostles in the Bible (The New Testament). Read chapter 17, verse 16-34. (Chapter 17 is an account of Saint Paul in Athens and his speech to the philosophers.)

Recommended: Justin Martyr, First Apology to the Romans.
<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/0126.htm>

8. Augustine and the Transformation of Ancient Thought.

- A. Augustine as the Christian Plato.
- B. Augustine's life and his search for truth: Augustine's Neo-Platonic quest.
- C. Augustine's theory of time and his philosophy of history. The Two Cities.
- D. Augustine's political philosophy: Church, state and society.
- E. Augustine's philosophy of love and desire

Literature:

Augustine, The Confessions, Books 6, 7 and 8. Available on the Internet and in Russian translation. <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/augustine/confessions.x.html> This English translation is by Albert Outler.

English translation by Henry Chadwick highly recommended, (Oxford, 1992).

Bertrand Russell, History of Western Philosophy. Book 2, chapter 4, "Saint Augustine's Philosophy and Theology. 352-358 in the English text, about 7 pages of this long chapter.

Recommended. Chadwick, The Development of Latin Christian Thought: The Early Church, 213-236, The Reader.

Although it is long and comprehensive, for motivated students Copleston's discussion of Augustine is worth reading. Copleston, *The History of Philosophy*, Book 2, Part 1, Chapters 3, 4, 5.

The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/augustine/>

9. Medieval Islamic and Jewish Philosophy.
 - A. Jewish and early Muslim Neo-Platonism.
 - B. Abu Nasr Muhammed al Farabi, Avicenna, Al-Ghazali
 - C. Averroes
 - D. Moses Maimonides
 - E. Jewish Averroism
 - F. Isaac Luria and the Kabbalah

Literature: Russell, Chapter 10. Muslim Culture and Philosophy.

Coplestone, *The History of Philosophy*. Volume 2, Chapters 19-20

Recommended: Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. Read sections 1, 2, 3 and 5 on Maimonides

10. The Golden Age of Medieval Scholasticism (**Two lectures**. The second will be on Thomas Aquinas and late medieval philosophy.)

- A. The rediscovery of Aristotle.
- B. The scope of reason. The unity of philosophy and faith in medieval Scholasticism.
- C. Anselm and the Ontological Argument
- D. Realism and Nominalism in Medieval Philosophy.
- E. Aquinas and Natural Law
- F. Aquinas on money and usury (charging interest).
- G. Moral and political theory of Aquinas.
- H. Collapse of the medieval synthesis with the rise of Nominalism: William of Ockham

Literature:

A general survey of all the main themes of medieval philosophy can be found here:
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/medieval-philosophy/>

Bertrand Russell, *History of Western Philosophy*. Book 2, Part 2. Chapter 11, The Twelfth Century. Read only the last section on “The Growth of Scholasticism.”

Read the whole of chapter 13 on Saint Thomas Aquinas.

Of Reason and Faith: Baumer, 51-53

On the Ethics of Trading, Baumer: 88-91.

Russell, Book 2, Chapter 14, The Franciscan Schoolmen. Read the sections on Duns Scotus and William of Ockham. For a more comprehensive discussion, curious readers should look at Copleston, volume 3, chapters 3-5.

Recommended: *The Legacy of Scholasticism*: Marcia L. Colish, *Medieval Foundations of the Western Intellectual Tradition 400-1400* (New Haven & London: Yale University, 1997), Reader: 319-330.

Bryan Magee and Anthony Kenny on YouTube: Discussion of Medieval Philosophy.

12. Renaissance Philosophies.

- A. The rediscovery of classical civilization
- B. Renaissance Platonism
- C. Renaissance Aristotelianism
- D. Renaissance humanism from Petrarch to Erasmus.
- E. The new politics: Machiavelli.

Literature:

Bertrand Russell, *History of Western Philosophy*. Book 3, Part 1. Chapters 3-4

Copleston, *The History of philosophy*, volume 3, chapters 13-14 on Platonism and Aristotelianism.

Petrarch, Letter to Classical Authors: Baumer, 123-126;

Mirandola, Oration on the Dignity of Man: Baumer, 126-128;

Erasmus, Christian Humanism: Baumer, 149-161.

Second Semester

1. Philosophy and Science in the Seventeenth Century: Bacon, Galileo, Descartes, The Royal Society, Cambridge Platonism, Newton, and Pascal.
 - A. Medieval methods of scientific explanations: Explanation by purposes.
 - B. Bacon's method: An attack on medieval metaphysics and tradition.
 - C. Galileo's "Two New Sciences."
 - D. Descartes' revolution.
 - E. The Newtonian World-Machine.
 - F. The Cambridge Platonists
 - G. Philosophy and the reasons of the heart: Pascal.

Literature:

Bertrand Russell, History of Western Philosophy. Book 3, Part 1. Chapter 6, The Rise of Science. Chapter 7, Francis Bacon.

Selections from Francis Bacon: Baumer, 280-289.

Newton's Optics: Baumer, 322-325.

Galileo, On Theology as Queen of the Sciences: Baumer, 326-328.

Recommended: Pascal <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/pascal-wager/>

Francis Bacon and the Foundations of the Scientific Method: Robert P. Wolff, About Philosophy, 123-129. The Reader.

2. The Rationalist Tradition in European Thought: Descartes and the Skeptical Crisis of the Seventeenth Century.
 - A. The birth of modern philosophy and the epistemological revolution.
 - B. The Skeptical Crisis: Montaigne and the Revival of Pyrrhonism
 - C. The Cartesian method of doubt.

- D. Descartes' Cogito argument..
- E. The function of God in Descartes' method.
- F. The validation of reason
- G. Mind and body in Descartes' philosophy.

Literature:

Descartes, Meditations on First Philosophy.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meditations_on_First_Philosophy

Read books 1-3.

Bertrand Russell, Book 3, Part 1. Chapter 9. Descartes, 557-568.

Descartes, The Principles of Philosophy: The Reader: Baumer, 315-318.

Descartes' Method of Doubt, Robert Wolff: About Philosophy, 42-54. (This text will be carefully analyzed in the seminars.)

YouTube. http://watchdocumentary.com/watch/the-great-philosophers-bernard-williams-on-descartes-video_8d8226483.html

Recommended, <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/descartes-epistemology/>

3. The Rationalist Tradition in European Thought: The Metaphysics of Spinoza and Leibniz.
 - A. Spinoza's pantheism as a solution to the Cartesian mind/body problem.
 - B. Nature, freedom and determinism according to Spinoza.
 - C. Spinoza's Ethics: The emotions and happiness.
 - D. The meaning of Leibniz's Monadology.
 - E. Russell's critique of Leibniz's theistic arguments.
 - F. Leibniz's Theodicy: A rationalist approach to the problem of evil.
 - G. The modernity of Leibniz's view of the world according to Quinton and Magee.

Literature:

Bryan Magee, Spinoza and Leibniz. BBC interview with Anthony Quinton in The Great Philosophers, 98-117 in the Reader. Video of this interview is on YouTube in five segments.

Russell, History of Western Philosophy. Book 3, Spinoza and Leibniz, chapters 10 and 11.

4. British Thought in the 17th and 18th Century. The Empiricism of John Locke, David Hume and Bishop Berkeley.

A. How Descartes shaped the terms of the debate among the empiricists.

B. Locke's theory of knowledge. Russell's critique of Locke.

C. Berkeley's theory of knowledge.

D. Hume's theory of knowledge. Can we know anything in the external world?

E. Hume's affirmation of the passions and his attack on reason.

F. Ethics without rational foundation. Hume's ethics.

Literature:

Bertrand Russell, Locke's Theory of Knowledge, chapter 13 of Book 3. Hume, chapter 17 of Book 3.

Locke, Journal: Baumer, 297-299. The Reader

Locke, An Essay concerning Human Understanding, in Baumer: This excerpt is about Locke's discussion of faith and reason--the role of reason in religious belief. The Reader.

YouTube video: Interview of John Passmore by Bryan Magee on Hume.

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Recommended: Hume and Empiricism, Wolff: 62-72 The Reader.

Locke <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/locke/>

Hume <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/hume/>

5. European Social and Political Philosophy in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century. Social contract theories and the basis of governmental authority.
(Reading assignment will be discussed in two seminars.)

- A. Hobbes' theory of the origin of political association and the Social Contract.
- B. Locke's theory of government and the Social Contract.
- C. Locke's political liberalism and his theory of natural law.
- C. Rousseau's on the origins of political society and the social contract.
- D. Montesquieu and political theory.
- E. How has theory affected practice? Locke and the American Revolution.

Literature: To be analyzed in two seminars. Hobbes and Locke will be discussed before Montesquieu and Rousseau.

Bertrand Russell, Book 3, Chapter 8, Hobbes' Leviathan.

Russell, Chapter 14, Locke's Political Philosophy.

Russell, Part 2, chapter 20. Rousseau

Rousseau and the Theory of the Social Contract, Wolff: The Reader.

Rousseau, The Social Contract, in Baumer: 419-427. The Reader.

Montesquieu, The Spirit of the Laws, Baumer: 414-419. The Reader.

Recommended: Locke's Second Treatise on Civil Government
<http://www.constitution.org/jl/2ndtreat.htm>

6. The European Enlightenment: Reason, Progress and the Conquest of Nature

- A. Voltaire and the age of reason. His synthesis of Locke and Newton.
- B. The Enlightenment in Scotland, England, France and Germany.
- C. Kant and the concept of Enlightenment.
- C. The Encyclopedia and the unification of knowledge.
- D. Condorcet's Utopia: Reason and progress.

E. The ideals of the Enlightenment and the French Revolution

Literature:

Kant, What is Enlightenment? <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/kant-what-is.html>

The Philosophes, the Enlightenment and the Idea of Progress: R.R. Palmer, A History of the Modern World, 290-300. The Reader.

The Encyclopedia, Baumer: 370-375. The Reader.

Voltaire, Philosophical Dictionary, in Baumer: 410-414. The Reader.

Condorcet, The Progress of the Human Mind, Baumer: 427-429, 441-447. The Reader.

Recommended: Copleston, History of Philosophy, volume 6, chapters 1 and 6.

7. Kant's Copernican Revolution and His Moral Worldview.

- a. Kant's theory of knowledge
- b. Kant's relation to the Enlightenment. A Copernican revolution.
- c. Kant's solution to the rationalism/ empiricism conflict.
- d. Kant's moral worldview. The categorical imperative.
- e. Kant's moral argument for God's existence.
- f. Kant's response to the conflict of science and religion.

Literature:

Ethical Theory, Wolff: 158-172, The Reader. (Wolff's analysis of Kant's moral philosophy will be carefully analyzed in the seminars. Texts from Kant's writings are included in Wolff.)

Bryan Magee: BBC interview with Geoffrey Warnock on Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLF039B81515C73831>

Russell, Book 3, Part 2. Kant.

The Bourgeois Century, Baumer: 451-459. The Reader

Very highly recommended. Chapter 11 of Copleston, A History of Philosophy, volume 6, part 2, “The Problems of the First Critique,” and chapter 14, Morality and Religion.

Recommended. Kant (sections on empiricism, rationalism, resolution of the opposition, and sections on ideas of reason and ethics), The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy: <http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/>

8. Philosophy after Kant: Schelling, Fichte, Hegel and Marx.

- A. Kant’s successors: Schelling and Fichte
- B. Hegel’s philosophy of history and the idea of reason.
- C. Hegel’s social and political philosophy. Ethical Theory.
- D. The concept of dialectic in Hegel and Marx.
- E. The main pillars of Marxism.

Literature:

Hegel, Lectures on the Philosophy of History, Baumer: 479-484. The Reader
Hegel and Marx, in Magee’s interview with Singer: The Great Philosophers, 188-208. The Reader. Also on YouTube.

The Socialist Attack on Capitalism: Wolff, About Philosophy, 256-266. The Reader (This is an excellent analysis of the main principles in Marx, especially the social forces of production and the concept of alienation. This should be read at least once.)

Karl Marx, The Communist Manifesto, On Moral Business: 238-244. The Reader.
Recommended: Copleston, The history of Philosophy, volume 7, chapter 10, Hegel (especially the discussion of the philosophy of history at the end of the chapter).

Hegel: The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy.
<http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/>

9. Philosophy after Hegel: Kierkegaard, Schopenhauer, Feuerbach and Nietzsche.

- A. Kierkegaard

B. Schopenhauer

B. Feuerbach on atheism and alienation.

C. Nietzsche on the cultural crisis of Europe and the meaning of the death of God

Watch and take notes. Bryan Magee interviews J. P. Stern on Nietzsche in five parts on YouTube. <http://www.cosmolearning.com/documentaries/bryan-magee-talks-to-jp-stern-about-nietzsche-872/>

Russell, Chapter 24, Schopenhauer.

Ludwig Feuerbach, The Essence of Christianity: Baumer, 569-572. The Reader

Recommended: Nietzsche. <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/nietzsche/>

Kierkegaard: <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/kierkegaard/> Section 1, 3, 4, and 5.

Russell's chapter on Nietzsche is too negative a portrait of Nietzsche. It should be read with caution

10. For and against the Enlightenment: Liberalism, Romanticism, Utilitarianism, Positivism, and Social Darwinism: Bentham, J. S. Mill, Spencer and Comte.
 - a. The ideals and legacy of Classical Liberalism. Difference from modern Liberalism.
 - b. The decline of 19th Century Liberalism: Economic trends.
 - c. The rise of Utilitarianism: Bentham and Mill.
 - d. Mill on Liberty.
 - e. Mill's views on women.
 - f. Positivism in the philosophy of A. Comte.

Literature:

Mill and Classical Laissez-Faire Liberalism: Wolff, About Philosophy, 244-256.
The Reader.

John Stuart Mill, Private Property and its Critics, On Moral Business: 216-224.
The Reader.

Baumer, The Bourgeois Century: 123-127. The Reader

J. S. Mill, Autobiography; Jeremy Bentham: Baumer, 285-288. The Reader.

Auguste Comte, The Positive Philosophy: Baumer, 488-491. The Reader.

Recommended:

Russell, Chapter 26, The Utilitarians.

Liberalism <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/liberalism/>
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/mill/>

11. Introduction to The Great Philosophers of the late 19th and early 20th century.

G. Frege
C. S. Peirce
William James
Bertrand Russell
L. Wittgenstein

Literature: Read Chapter 2 of Book 4 from Anthony Kenny, A New History of Western Philosophy. (Available as an e-book on Amazon.com. If this book is unavailable in the library, go the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy and read the biographical summary of each of the above philosophers.

12. Psychoanalysis, Phenomenology and Existentialism

- a. The Freudian revolution. The unconscious and reason.
- b. Husserl and Heidegger.
- c. Existentialism: Sartre, Jaspers and Camus.

Sigmund Freud, The Future of an Illusion: Baumer, 606-608, The Reader

Sigmund Freud, Selected texts on the nature of man: Baumer, 654-662.

Jean-Paul Sartre, Existentialism: Baumer, 612-625, 710-712. The Reader
Sartre: Peter Watson, The Modern Mind, 407-410. The Reader.

Read Chapter 3 of Book 4 from Anthony Kenny, A New History of Western Philosophy. (Available as an e-book on Amazon.com. If this book is unavailable in the library, go the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy and read the biographical summary of Heidegger and Sartre.

13. Movements in late Twentieth Century Thought:

- A. Structuralism and Post-Structuralism,
- B. Feminism and philosophy
- C. Philosophers of human rights, justice and freedom at the end of the 20th century
- C. Postmodern rejection of scientific reason and rationality.

Literature:

Equality, Freedom and Justice: Hayek, Friedman, Berlin, Rawls, Nozick and B. F. Skinner: Peter Watson, The Modern Mind, An Intellectual History of the 20th Century, 517-519, 544-545, 548-551. The Reader.

Local Knowledge, (Science and Society in Postmodern Thinking): Peter Watson, The Modern Mind, 667-677. The Reader.

Feminist Epistemology and Philosophy of Science, Elizabeth Anderson: The Stanford Encyclopedia, www.plato.stanford.edu

Recommended: Isaiah Berlin, Two Concepts of Liberty.

<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/nissenbaum/papers/twoconcepts.pdf>

Teaching hours for topics and activities:

No	Topic titles	TOTAL (hours)	Contact hours		Self- study
			i. e.		
			Lectures	Classes	
1.	Historical background of European Civilization.	30	8	8	14
2.	History of Ideas from early Greeks to Aristotle	26	8	8	10
3.	Jewish, Christian, and Muslim uses of philosophy from Philo of Alexandria through Augustine to the early Middle Ages.	20	6	6	8
4.	The High and late Middle ages to the Renaissance	16	4	4	8
5.	Philosophy and Science in Modern World.	16	4	4	8
6.	The Rationalist Tradition in European Culture	18	4	4	10
7.	British Thought in the 17 th & 18 th Centuries: Social, Political and Epistemological	20	6	6	8
8.	The European Enlightenment, Kant and his successors	26	8	8	10
9.	The Hegelian Synthesis and its Collapse: Hegel, Mill and Marx.	28	8	8	12
10.	The Great Philosophers at the end of the 19 th and beginning of the 20 th century.	22	6	6	10
11.	Philosophical Movements in the 20 th Century.	21	6	6	9
	Total	243	68	68	107