### FALL 2010 PHILOSOPHY V2108 SECTION 001
#### PHILOSOPHY & HISTORY

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### SYLLABUS

**DAY & TIME**  
MW 9:10AM-10:25AM  
HAMILTON 517

**INSTRUCTOR**  
LYDIA GOEHR

**OFFICE HOURS:** MON 11.00-12.30 OR BY APPOINTMENT; TEL. 4-3665; EMAIL LG131 [emails are preferred]

**A LECTURE AND DISCUSSION CLASS. READING IS REQUIRED**  
**CLASS ATTENDANCE IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.**

**ASSIGNMENTS**  
NO EXAMS; 3 X 4 PAGE PAPERS. QUESTIONS PROVIDED IN ADVANCE. You may choose which of the 3 paper to do.

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**BOOKS/READINGS AVAILABLE AT BOOK CULTURE OR ON COURSEWORKS.**

**OPTIONAL BACKGROUND READINGS:** ARTICLE ON PHILOSOPHY OF HISTORY IN STANFORD ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PHILOSOPHY [WEB]

**JOHN H. ARNOLD.** *HISTORY. A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION*

**MARC BLOCH,** *THE HISTORIAN'S CRAFT*

**9/13 WEEK 1** PHILOSOPHY OF PHILOSOPHY AND INTRODUCTORY THEMES AND SELECTION FROM HERODOTUS, THE HISTORIES [ON GYGES] AND PASSAGE FROM PLATO, REPUBLIC BK 2 [ON GYGES]

**9/20 WEEK 2** KANT, "IDEA FOR A UNIVERSAL HISTORY WITH A COSMOPOLITAN PURPOSE" and SCHILLER, "WHAT IS, AND TO WHAT END DO WE STUDY, UNIVERSAL HISTORY?" [otherwise titled: THE NATURE AND VALUE OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY]

**9/27 WEEK 3** DISCUSSION CLASS WITH TA HUME ON THE STUDY OF HISTORY

**10/4 WEEK 4** HEGEL, *INTRODUCTION TO THE PHILOSOPHY OF HISTORY* [SELECTION] Purchase at Book Culture or http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/hegel/works/hi/history1.htm#001

**PAPER 1** All paper questions and topics for this semester will be posted on courseworks
10/11 WEEK 5 MARX AND ENGELS, selection on MATERIALIST IDEOLOGY from *THE GERMANY IDEOLOGY*

10/18 WEEK 6 NIETZSCHE, “ON THE USES AND DISADVANTAGES OF HISTORY FOR LIFE”

10/25 WEEK 7 COLLINGWOOD, *THE IDEA OF HISTORY*, INTRODUCTION and 2 selections from PART 5

11/1 FALL BREAK

11/8 WEEK 8 POPPER “ORACULAR PHILOSOPHY AND THE REVOLT AGAINST REASON” and “HAS HISTORY ANY MEANING?”

PAPER 2

11/15 WEEK 9 CARL HEMPEL, “EXPLANATION IN SCIENCE AND IN HISTORY” and LOUIS MINK: “THE AUTONOMY OF HISTORICAL UNDERSTANDING”

11/22 WEEK 10 WALTER BENJAMIN, “THESES ON THE PHILOSOPHY OF HISTORY” AND A SCHLEGEL FRAGMENT: “DER HISTORIKER IST EIN RÜCKWÄRTS GEKEHRTER PROPHET”


PAPER 3

12/ 6 WEEK 12 ARTHUR DANTO “NARRATIVE SENTENCES” and “NARRATIVE AND STYLE”

ALLAN MEGILL, "RECOUNTING THE PAST: "DESCRIPTION, EXPLANATION, AND NARRATIVE IN HISTORIOGRAPHY."

12/13 WEEK 13 HAYDEN WHITE, “THE BURDEN OF HISTORY”; ROLAND BARTHES “WRITING THE EVENT” and JILL KER CONWAY: *WHEN MEMORY SPEAKS* CHAPS. 1 & 9

FINAL PAPER 4