

Philosophy V3353  
Fall 2011

Tu + Th: 2.40 – 3.55 p.m.

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Office Hours Tu + Th: 4.00 – 5.00 p.m.

**PHILV3353** European Social Thought **Axel Honneth**

A reconstruction of the history of modern social philosophy understood as a diagnostic of social pathologies. Topics include the theoretical status of social philosophy, its central ways of justification and its main diagnostic topics.

**Prerequisite for Undergraduates:** one philosophy course

**Required texts**

Rousseau, *“The Discourse” and other early political writings* (Cambridge UP)  
Rousseau, *“The Social Contract” and other later political writings* (Cambridge UP)  
Hegel, *Elements of the Philosophy of Right* (Cambridge UP)  
*The Marx-Engels-Reader*, ed. by Tucker (Norton & Company)  
Horkheimer/Adorno, *Dialectic of Enlightenment* (Stanford UP)

**Other texts (on reserve in Butler Library):**

Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism* (Harcourt)  
Durkheim, *Professional Ethics and Civic Morals* (Routledge)  
Foucault, *The History of Sexuality*, Vol. 1 (Vintage Books)  
Habermas, *Theory of Communicative Action*, Vol. 2, Ch. VIII. (Beacon Press)  
Lukács, *History and Class Consciousness* (MIT)  
John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty and other writings* (Cambridge UP)  
Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals* (Oxford UP)  
Plessner, *The Limits of Community* (Humanity Books)  
Taylor, *The Ethics of Authenticity* (Harvard UP)  
Tönnies, *Community and Civil Society* (Cambridge UP)  
Weber, *The Protestant Ethics and the Spirit of Capitalism* (Dover)

**Course Requirements for Undergraduate Students**

- Attendance of all seminar meetings
- One 8-page paper, due Thursday, October 13, 11:00 a.m.
- One 15-page term paper, due Monday, December 12, 5:00 p.m.
  - topic proposal & outline due Monday, November 28, 5:00 p.m.

Final grades will be determined as follows:

1/3 First paper  
2/3 Term paper

### Schedule of Class Meetings

Sept. 6	Introductory Session Plan of seminar
Sept. 8	The idea of Social Philosophy Diagnosis of Social Pathologies
Sept. 13	I. Historical Reconstruction: 1. Rousseau
Sept. 15	2. Rousseau
Sept. 20	3. Hegel`s Philosophy of Right
Sept. 22	4. Hegel`s Philosophy of Right
Sept. 27	Cancelled
Sept. 29	5. The early Marx
Oct. 4	6. The late Marx
Oct. 6	7. John Stuart Mill
Oct. 11	8. Nietzsche as a social philosopher
Oct. 13	9. Classical Sociology as social philosophy: Tönnies
Oct. 18	10. Durkheim
Oct. 20	11. Weber and Simmel
Oct. 25	12. Lukács`s critique of reification
Oct. 27	13. Plessner`s critique of community
Nov. 1	14. Adorno`s critique of capitalism
Nov. 3	15. Adorno`s critique of capitalism
Nov. 8	Break
Nov. 10	16. Hannah Arendt`s critique of totalitarianism
Nov. 15	17. Habermas`s critique of colonization
Nov. 17	18. Foucault`s critique of biopolitics

Nov. 22	19. Taylor`s critique of narcissism
Nov. 24	20. Break (Thanksgiving)
Nov. 29	II. Systematic Outline: 1. Diagnosis of Social Pathologies
Dec. 1	2. Ways of Justification: philosophy of history, anthropology, ethics
Dec. 6	3. Continuation
Dec. 8	4. Topics of Social Philosophy today