Nineteenth century is situated between the optimism of the Enlightenment and the turbulent twentieth century of the two world wars. The enlightenment believed in the authority of reason as the antidote to superstition and religious dogmatism. The capacity to reason and to act freely were seen as the sources of human dignity, possessed by all equally. The revolutions at the end of the 18th century (1776, 1789) were fought under the banner of freedom and equality. History was destined to become the record of human progress. What happened to this optimism in the nineteenth century? Politically, economically, socially, and technologically societies were in a state of rapid transformation, but was the outcome the promised paradise of the enlightenment?

Kant’s Copernican revolution, Hegel’s objective idealism, Marx’s critique of political economy, Nietzsche’s transvaluation of all values, and Freud’s analysis of the ego... These are ambitious projects – all defined by their systematic (even in the case of Nietzsche’s critique of systems!) critique and overhaul of the ‘old’ concepts of philosophy and culture. These thinkers are among the makers and first critics of modernity. Their ideas are ‘our’ inheritance, shaping how we understand ourselves today.

The authority of reason and the aspiration to a free development of humanity in history, defended by Kant and Hegel, receive an overarching critique in the works of Marx, Nietzsche and Freud—three thinkers the French philosopher Ricoeur called “masters of suspicion.” As we explore the works of these authors, we will question the authority of reason and its relation to history, as made by ‘free’ human beings.

**Required Texts (available at Runner Bookstore):**

- **Kant: Selections.** Ed. L. W. Beck. Prentice Hall.
- Nietzsche: *Philosophy and Truth.* Ed. by Daniel Breazeale.

**Course Objectives:** This course aims to help students develop

- an understanding of the importance of the history of philosophy;
- an interest in, and appreciation of, late modern philosophy;
- the skills of describing, interpreting, explaining, and evaluating the philosophical ideas of main figures of the late modern period;
- the ability to articulate philosophical ideas verbally and in writing;
- the ability to think philosophically.

**Course Requirements:** Careful and unrelenting reading of the primary texts is necessary to pass this course. If you have trouble completing the reading assignments, come to my office and we will discuss reading strategies together. We will read selections in class together; however, that alone will not be sufficient. All philosophers have a style and a terminology of their own. Do not give up reading if you do not understand the selection at first try. Give yourself time to get acquainted with the author.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Take home exams (3)</td>
<td>60 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>20 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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Participation: Class participation includes being an active and mindful member of the classroom: responding to questions, asking questions, engaging in classroom discussions and group work activities. Your participation grade is based on your
- having the book or photocopied selection of assigned text with you in class,
- performance in quizzes and other assigned work,
- contribution in class exercises, group work, and class discussion, and
- regular attendance.

Final Paper and Presentation: You will write a six to eight page paper on a topic of your choice. Your final paper is due on the final exam date scheduled for our class, December 13th in our classroom. We will begin discussing final paper topics early in the semester. I encourage each of you to write on a topic you are passionate and curious about. Thus, I am leaving the general guidelines quite open: You may want to compare two of the authors we will study on a specific issue (e.g., Kant and Hegel on the possibility of metaphysical knowledge). If you are interested in an earlier figure in the history of philosophy, you may write on the influence s/he had on one of our authors (Kant’s response to Hume, or Spinoza’s influence on Hegel). You may also look ahead to the 20th century and treat an issue or figure in the light of one of our authors’ philosophical position (Nietzsche and existentialism, Kant and analytic philosophy, Marx and critical theory). Your choice will depend largely on your previous training and interests, so I will work individually with each of you to help you find a topic you would like to work on. We will also reserve time in class to work on thesis statements, and developing an outline for your papers.

Phones/Laptops/Tablets: Phones are not permitted in class; having them out will be considered non-participation and will adversely affect your grade. Laptops and tablets are fine, but only for taking notes. If you use these for anything else (email, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) then you will lose the privilege and, as with phones, your grade will be affected.

Academic Integrity: The commitment of acts of cheating, lying, and deceit in any of their diverse forms (such as the use of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism, and copying during examinations) is dishonest. Academic dishonesty in any form is grounds for unconditional failure for the course and a report to the Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

Disability Accommodations: CSUB encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please contact the professor as soon as possible.

Writing Guidelines: For your writing assignments, use Times New Roman, 12 font, double space, and 1-inch margins. All writing assignments must include your name, the date, and the title of the assignment. You may use MLA, APA or Chicago Style as long as you are consistent with your references. Use web sources sparingly, especially since there is a lot of misinformation floating around on the internet. For help with the different styles, you may use the following website: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/

Tentative Schedule

Week One:
8.28  Introductions and Syllabus
8.30  Read “What is Enlightenment” pp. 461-467

Week Two:
9.4  Introduction to Kant: Read Kant pp. 1-23
9.6  Kant’s Copernican revolution: The limits of reason
      Selection from Critique of Pure Reason pp. 87-104
Week Three:

9.11 Transcendental Philosophy: intuitions and concepts and unity of apperception  
Selection from Critique of Pure Reason pp. 104-108, 110-117
9.13 Antinomies of Reason Third Antimony: Freedom and Natural Law  
Selection from Critique of Pure Reason pp. 125-130

Week Four

9.18 Kant’s ethics: Categorical Imperative and the concept of autonomy  
Selection from Groundwork to the Metaphysics of Morals pp. 237-243; 265-281
9.20 Kant’s concept of history  
Read “Universal History” pp. 413-425

Week Five

9.25 Introduction to Hegel  
**Take-home exam on Kant due** (questions will be available on Friday, 9.21)
9.27 Dialectical Method Encyclopedia Par. 79-82, (Handout)  
Science of Logic Being-Nothing-Becoming

Week Six

10.2 Phenomenology of Spirit: Science of Experience “Introduction” (Handout)
10.4 Phenomenology of Spirit Trouble with Sense-Certainty (Handout)

Week Seven

10.9 Phenomenology of Spirit Master-Slave Dialectic (Handout)
10.11 Introduction to the Lectures on Philosophy of History: Concept of Spirit pp. 12-24

Week Eight

10.16 Introduction to the Lectures on Philosophy of History: State as an organism pp. 25-56
10.18 Selections from MER: Marx’s training pp. 3-15

Week Nine

10.23 Thesis on Feuerbach pp. 143-145  
**Take home exam on Hegel due**

Week Ten

10.30 German Ideology pp. 146-163
11.1 Wage Labor and Capital pp. 203-217

Week Eleven

11.6 Nietzsche: On the Truth and Lies in a Nonmoral Sense pp. 79-97
11.8 Nietzsche on the Philosopher pp. pp. 3-27

Week Twelve

11.13 Nietzsche on Truth and Philosophy pp. 27-53
11.15 Wrap-up Nietzsche  
Final Paper Project Thesis statement workshop

Week Thirteen

11.20 Introduction to Freud: Read "Introduction" by Louis Menand and Part I pp. 9-48  
**Take home exam on Marx and Nietzsche due**
Week Fourteen
11.28  Freud: *Civilization and its Discontents*, Parts II-IV pp. 49-97
11.30  Freud: *Civilization and its Discontents*, Parts V-VII pp. 98-155

Week Fifteen
12.4   Reflection session: Freedom, Truth, History, Civilization: Are we moderns?
12.6   Final Presentation Workshop

Final Exam Week:
12.13  Final Presentations

Grading Scale

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