

Political Science 510: Nietzsche and His Heirs
Fall 2005

Tuesday and Thursday, 5:00 – 6:15
Bancroft 339

Instructor: Dr. Michael Lipscomb
336 Bancroft
Work phone: 323 – 4666
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Office Hours: Tuesday, 2 to 3;
Wednesday, 5 to 6:15; and by
appointment.

Students with Disabilities

Winthrop University is dedicated to providing access to education. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact Gena Smith, Coordinator, Services for Students with Disabilities, at 323-3290, as soon as possible. Once you have your Professor Notification Form, please tell me so that I am aware of your accommodations well before the first assignment.

I. Objectives of the Course

This class explores a lineage of philosophical and political thought inaugurated by the work of Friedrich Nietzsche. The course will familiarize students with this tradition's sustained critique of western metaphysics, examining both its strengths and weaknesses as a vehicle for thinking about "politics." Particular emphasis will be given to careful readings of selected texts from this lineage, and one of the major objectives of the course is to cultivate the ability to read, understand, and discuss material cast at a high level of theoretical sophistication.

II. Required Texts

Nietzsche, *The Portable Nietzsche*, Walter Kaufmann, editor (Penguin, 1976)
Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil* (Vintage, 1989)
Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals and Ecce Homo* (Vintage, 1989)
Foucault, *Discipline and Punish* (Vintage, 1995)
Derrida and Caputo, *Deconstruction in a Nutshell* (Fordham University Press, 1997)
Butler, *Gender Trouble*, 10th Anniversary Edition (Routledge, 1999)
Lyotard, *Postmodern Fables* (Minnesota, 1997)

- 1) **Attendance is not optional** and will be taken daily. I will excuse absences because of religious holidays, but it is your responsibility to inform me that this is the reason for your absence. I will also excuse absences caused by sickness or family emergency if you provide me with proper written documentation.
- 2) It is your responsibility to see that your **Winthrop email account is set-up and that you have access to the class list serve**. I will use the list serve to make class related announcements throughout the semester.

- 3) You are expected to have completed all **reading** assignments before you come to class.
- 4) To make sure that you keep up with and understand the readings, you will be given **pop quizzes** throughout the semester.
- 5) You will be graded on both the frequency and quality of your **participation in class discussions and, when appropriate, class exercises**.
- 6) This class requires a **term paper** of at least 15 pages in length. In order to successfully produce a high quality term paper, an **annotated bibliography**, a **term paper proposal**, and a **term paper rough draft** are also required (see the “Schedule of Assignments” below).
- 7) You will take a **final** at the end of the semester.

Note: All written work will be penalized half a letter grade (four points) for each day that it is late. This policy will be strictly enforced.

NOTE ON PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Any act of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will result in an “F” for the course and will lead to appropriate administrative action. Ignorance as to what constitutes plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty is not a valid excuse for such transgressions. For clarification about matters of academic dishonesty, students should consult Section V of the **Student Conduct Code** in the **Student Handbook**. For specific questions about plagiarism, the Writing Center, located on the second floor of Bancroft, is an excellent resource. The Center’s web page (www.Winthrop.edu/wcenter) has specific links that can help you with questions about how to cite source material and how to avoid plagiarism. Your instructor is more than glad to talk to you about these matters.

Because of an escalating problem with cheating, I have decided that all papers in this class must be turned in through the electronic detection service provided by the library, Turnitin.com. The ID and the password will be provided for you. We will discuss the protocol for using this system when we go over the first assignment in class.

DROP POLICY: February 14 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic N. I will not grant an N to anyone dropping the course after this date.

IV. Final Grade Distribution

Participation	10%
Pop Quizzes	10%
Annotated Bibliography	20%
Term Paper Proposal	10%
Term Paper Rough Draft	10%
Term Paper	20%
Final	20%

V. Grading Criteria For Written Work

I will grade your written work using the General Education Writing Competency Rubric developed by the English Department (which can be viewed by going to the General Education web page at www.Winthrop.edu/wcenter). Across the University, and specifically in this class, writing competency is expected and taken very seriously. A student and a citizen who cannot write can neither think clearly nor communicate effectively.

VI. Schedule

Note on schedule: the instructor reserves the right to make changes to this schedule as he sees fit, depending on the unfolding needs of the class. Any such changes will be announced in class, and it is the sole responsibility of the student to be aware of such changes.

Date	Reading Assignment	Due Dates and Movie Showing Times
August 23	Introduction	
August 25	Nietzsche, "On Truth and Lie in an Extra-Moral Sense"; "Homer's Contest" Kaufmann, "Introduction," 1 – 20; "Chronology," 20 - 23	
August 30	Nietzsche, <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i>	
September 1	NO CLASS Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association	
September 6	Nietzsche, <i>Zarathustra</i> Strong, "Nietzsche's Political Misappropriation" (Reserve)	
September 8	Nietzsche, <i>Zarathustra</i>	
September 13	Nietzsche, <i>Zarathustra</i>	
September 15	Heidegger, "Who is Nietzsche's Zarathustra?" (Reserve) Deleuze, "Nomad Thought" (Reserve)	
September 20	Nietzsche, <i>Beyond Good and Evil</i>	
September 22	Nietzsche, <i>Beyond Good and Evil</i>	
September	Nietzsche, <i>On the Genealogy of Morals</i>	

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September 29	Nietzsche, <i>On the Genealogy of Morals</i>	
October 4	Nietzsche, <i>Twilight of the Idols</i>	
October 6	Nietzsche, <i>Twilight of the Idols</i>	
October 11	Nietzsche, <i>Ecce Homo</i>	
October 13	Nietzsche, <i>Ecce Homo</i>	
October 17 - 18	Fall Break	Fall Break
October 20	Foucault, <i>Discipline and Punish</i>	Annotated Bibliography Due
October 25	Foucault, <i>Discipline and Punish</i>	
October 27	Foucault, <i>Discipline and Punish</i>	
November 1	Foucault, "Two Lectures" (Reserve)	Term Paper Proposal Due
November 3	Foucault, "The Subject and Power" (Reserve)	
November 8	Foucault, "What is Enlightenment?" (Reserve)	
November 10	Connolly, "Beyond Good and Evil: The Ethical Sensibility of Michel Foucault" (Reserve)	
November 15	Butler, <i>Gender Trouble</i>	
November 17	Butler, <i>Gender Trouble</i>	
November 22	Butler, <i>Gender Trouble</i>	Rough Draft of Term Paper Due
November 24	Thanksgiving Break Lyotard, "A Postmodern Fable"; "The General Line"; "Unbeknownst"; " <i>Anima Minima</i> "	Thanksgiving Break
November 29	Lyotard, "Can Thought Go On Without a Body?" from <i>The Inhuman</i> (Reserve)	
December 1	Derrida and Caputo, <i>Deconstruction in a Nutshell</i> Kirby, "Derrida: The Movie"	Movie Showing at 6:30
December 3	Derrida and Caputo, <i>Deconstruction in a Nutshell</i> Derrida, "The Question of Style"	Final Draft of Term Paper Due

	(Reserve)	
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The **final exam** for this class is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6th at 6:30 p.m. The exam must be taken at this time unless there is a conflict with other exams which has been certified by the registrar. **Travel plans are not a valid excuse for requesting an alternative exam period.**