GE CLUSTER 21B
THE HISTORY OF MODERN THOUGHT
Part Deux Winter Quarter 2017
Mondays and Wednesdays 11:00-12:15
De Neve Auditorium

This course is a continuation of GE21A, and brings our study of the history of modern thought into the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Our period begins with the euphoria and terror of the French Revolution and the promise and dangers of the Industrial Revolution. Intellectually, the period brought forth a new hope that economic and political progress may continue indefinitely, linked often to faith in science. That sense of progress was embodied most clearly in theories of evolution, which were applied to society and to the whole cosmos, and not only to biology. Expanded democratic participation was both welcomed and feared, and a new “social science” grew up in part to try to establish order in mass society. In the final part we will examine some of the critiques and reappraisals of “modernity” and modern thought and look to the darker side of the success, or failure, of the Enlightenment.

Instructors:
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Teaching Fellows: Kiel Shaub, Seth Erickson, Twyla Ruby, Gary Yeritsian and Kye Barker.

Course Readings: The readings focus your attention exclusively on primary sources (texts and artefacts which date from the period we are studying). The aim is to engage directly with the evidence we are studying for the history of this period. All texts will be studied in English. In some classes, there will some emphasis on historical context: it often helps to know what is going on in the political, social, economic, religious and intellectual worlds which produce this literature in order to grasp the arguments we will be reading.

Most of the weekly readings are taken from one of the course books (see below); some are posted as individual PDF files on the class website. IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT YOU CONSULT THE SYLLABUS EACH WEEK TO ENSURE THAT YOU ARE DOING ALL THE READING. In most cases, you will not be asked to read more than about 120 pages for any one week; and in some, you will read fewer. It is therefore crucial that you complete this task each time. If you do not manage to finish all of the readings by Monday’s class, then make sure you have completed all the reading by the time you have your section meeting that week. Make notes. You will also need to print out the online readings and bring them to the relevant classes, where you will be regularly asked to refer to them.

Course Requirements: 60% of your final grade is calculated on the basis of two assignments: one in the first half of the quarter, the other in the second half. For these assignments, you will have a choice of questions on topics which we will have studied, and you will be asked to answer only one, in the form of an essay of 5-6 pages long. In both cases, you will be tested on your ability to demonstrate the knowledge you have acquired about the ideas and theories of the course in the shape of a reasoned argument that draws upon the evidence of the texts themselves. The remaining 40% of your grade comes from your
work in class and in section, which is primarily determined by your teaching fellow.

**Course attendance**: Attendance at all classes and section meetings is crucial to your success in this course; failure to turn up will severely damage your final grade. Please let us know by email at least 24 hours before class if you are unable to make any class.

**Technology in Class**: Is not permitted during lectures or sections, other than paper and pencil, or assistive devices approved beforehand.

**Books** (available in ASUCLA bookstore):

Schedule

Part 1: Political Economy and the Industrial Revolution

N.B.: The readings for each week are to be completed by the Monday lecture.
Readings labeled "CCLE" are online in PDF form on the course website. All others are in the printed books from the bookstore.

Week 1: Political Economy: From the French Revolution to the Industrial Revolution

Readings:
Thomas Malthus, Essay on Population (1798): Preface, Chapters I-V and IX-X (At the Bookstore)

• Monday, January 9th: Intro: Themes of the course, political, social and natural science. Burke, the French Revolution and after.
• Wednesday, January 11th: Political Economy, Malthus, The Malthusian Dilemma.

Week 2: Democracy in America

Readings:
Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America (at the Bookstore).

Optional: Volume 1, Part 2, Chapter 10, 365-477.

• Monday, January 16th: Martin Luther King Day, No Class.
• Wednesday, January 18th: de Tocqueville
Week 3: Utilitarianism and *Hard Times*

**Readings:**

Charles Dickens, *Hard Times*, Book the First, 5-85 (the remainder is optional, but recommended) (At the Bookstore).

Jeremy Bentham, *An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation* [1823], Chapter 1, “On the Principle of Utility” and Chapter 4 "Value of a Lot of Pleasure or pain, How to be Measured" (p. 1-7 and p. 29-32). (CCLE)

John Stuart Mill, *Utilitarianism* pages 136-142. (At the Bookstore)

* Monday, January 23rd: Utilitarianism

* Wednesday, January 25th: Hard Times

Week 4: Liberty and Slavery

**Readings:**


**Optional Readings:**

Thomas Carlyle, “Occasional Discourse on the Negro Question” *Fraser’s Magazine*, December, 1849 (CCLE)


* Monday, January 30th: Liberty

* Wednesday, February 1st: Slavery

Part 2: The Rise of the Biological and Social Sciences

Week 5 Marx

**Readings:**

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (the whole thing) (1848) (At the Bookstore)

Marx, *Capital: The Critique of Political Economy* (1867), From Chapter 1 Read: pgs 125-139 (Section 1 and 2), pgs 163-177 (Section 4) (CCLE).

* Monday, February 6th: *The Communist Manifesto* and the revolutions of 1848

* Wednesday, February 8th: *Das Kapital* and the Mystery of Money
Week 6 Darwin

Readings:
In Appleman, ed., Darwin (from The Origin of Species and The Descent of Man and Selection in Relation to Sex) pps. 95-135, [optional: 158-174], 213-254; (At the Bookstore).

- Monday, February 13th: Evolutionary Theory before Darwin
- Wednesday, February 15th: Evolutionary Theory after Darwin

Week 7 Evolutionary theory in the social sciences

Readings:
Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Women and Economics (1898). Chaps 1, 2, 4, pp. 1-39, 58-75 (CCLE)

- Monday, February 20th: Presidents’ Day, No Class.
- Wednesday, February 22nd: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Women and Economics

Part 3: Modernity, and its discontents

Week 8 Nietzsche

Readings:
Friedrich Nietzsche, On the Genealogy of Morality, pages: 3-67 (First and Second Essays, third is optional but recommended) (At the Bookstore).

- Monday, February 27th: Nietzsche, Music, Tragedy
- Wednesday, March 1st: Nietzsche, Morality

Week 9 Freud

Readings:
Sigmund Freud, Civilization and its Discontents (whole thing) (At the Bookstore).

- Monday, March 6th: Freud for Lovers
- Wednesday, March 8th: Freud for Haters
Week 10 Arendt/Foucault

Readings:

- Monday, March 13th: Arendt
- Wednesday, March 15th: Foucault
Statement on Disability

In compliance with the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Public Law 93-112) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336), University of California policy prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability in its programs, services, and activities. If you wish to request accommodations for a disability, please contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) as soon as possible at A255 Murphy Hall, 310.825.1501 or 310.206.6083 (telephone device for the deaf). Website: [http://www.osd.ucla.edu](http://www.osd.ucla.edu). In addition to registering with OSD, please feel free to contact the professors privately.

Statement concerning Title IX

Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, you can receive confidential support and advocacy at the CARE Advocacy Office for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, 1stFloor Wooden Center West, CAREadvocate@caps.ucla.edu, (310) 206-2465. In addition, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) provides confidential counseling to all students and can be reached 24/7 at (310) 825-0768. You can also report sexual violence or sexual harassment directly to the University’s Title IX Coordinator, 2241 Murphy Hall, titleix@conet.ucla.edu, (310) 206-3417. Reports to law enforcement can be made to UCPD at (310) 825-1491.

Faculty and TAs are required under the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment to inform the Title IX Coordinator should they become aware that you or any other student has experienced sexual violence or sexual harassment.