

San José State University
College of the Humanities and the Arts/ Philosophy
Dept.
Phil 113: Existentialism and Phenomenology
Spring, 2016

Instructor: Peter Hadreas
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Email: Peter.Hadreas@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Wednesdays from 2 to 4 and by appointment
Class Days/Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00 to 4:15.
Classroom: BBC 130
Prerequisites: 3 units of philosophy or upper division standing.

Catalog Description

Twentieth century philosophies of experience and human existence. Main topics include description of consciousness, personal authenticity, choice, anxiety, death of God. Philosophers range from Husserl and Heidegger to Sartre and de Beauvoir.

Required Texts

1. Solomon, Robert C., *Phenomenology and Existentialism*, New York: Roman & Littlefield, 2001. ISBN: -0-7425-1240-1 | 2001 Edition, paperback. Abbreviated below: **P&E**.
2. Marino, Gordon, *Basic Writings of Existentialism*, New York: The Modern Library, 2004. ISBN: 0-375-75989-1. Abbreviated below: **BWofE**.

The following additional readings will be made available to students on-line.

The URL for this course is <https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1184257>

Additional readings can be accessed through the canvas website by clicking the 'Module' tab.

Additional Readings

1. Selections from Heidegger, Martin, *Being and Time*
2. Heidegger, Martin, "The Origin of the Work of Art"
3. Heidegger, Martin, "Letter on Humanism"
4. Heidegger, Martin, "Building, Dwelling Thinking"
5. selections from Hadreas, Peter, *A Phenomenology of Love and Hate*.

Attendance and Discussions

It's highly recommended that students attend class regularly since the language of many of the philosophers, especially Husserl and Heidegger, likely will be unintelligible without in-class instruction. Students are not expected to absorb the texts fully before discussions. What is sought is a thoughtful reading of the assigned texts. Indication of such an effort, as shown through class discussion, will enable students to obtain full credit for class participation.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Assignments: The written assignments consist in three papers, becoming longer in length from five to seven-eight pages. There will be one midterm-like exam in which students will be asked several questions from which they'll pick one or two to write on.

Grades: The weighting of grading is as follows: Midterm 15%; first paper 20%; second paper, 25%; final paper 30%; and, class participation 10%.

Possible Class Cancellation

The California Faculty Association is in the midst of a difficult contract dispute with management. It is possible that the faculty union will call a strike or other work stoppage this term. I will inform the class as soon as possible of any disruption to our class meeting schedule.

University Policies

Academic integrity

Students are expected to be familiar with the University's Academic Integrity Policy. Please review this at http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct. "Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical development."

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. "If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors."

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Students with disabilities need to register with San Jose State University Accessible Education Center (AEC), formerly known as the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The Center is located in ADMIN 110, Telephone 408-924-6000; email aec-info@sjsu.edu

Special accommodations for exams generally require ample notice -- at least a week -- to the testing office and should be submitted to the instructor well in advance before the exam date.

U. S. Department of Education Policy

U. S. Department of Education document GEN-11-06 published on October 29, 2010 requires that the following language describing time spent outside of class be included in the syllabus:

"Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each hour of class time, a minimum of two hours on preparation, studying or other course related activity. Internships, labs and online courses will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus."

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are

the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

Existentialism and Phenomenology/Phil 113

Course Schedule

(Note: subject to change with fair notice.)

| Week | Date | Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines |
|------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 1/28 | Introduction to Phil 113 |
| 2 | 2/2-4 | Kierkegaardian Christian Existentialism Read, BWofE : pp. 41-105. 2/4: First five page paper topics handed out. |
| 3 | 2/9-11 | Husserlian Phenomenology – I Read: P&E : pp. 42-57; pp. 110-127. From Hadreas, <i>A Phenomenology of Love and Hate</i> available through the canvas course website. |
| 4 | 2/16-18 | Nietzschean Existentialism Read, BWofE : pp. 107-187. |
| 5 | 2/23-25 | Husserlian Phenomenology – II Read: P&E : pp. 145-160. <u>2/23: in class midterm</u> |
| 6 | 3/1-3 | Husserlian Phenomenology – III Read: P&E : pp. 187-212; 227-237; 241-250. <u>3/1: First 5 page paper due</u> |
| 7 | 3/8-10 | Heideggerian Hermeneutical Phenomenology – I Read: P&E : pp. 303-312; 354-376; 406-417. and on-line selections from Being and Time 3/8: Topics handed out for five page second paper |
| 8 | 3/15-17 | Heideggerian Hermeneutical Phenomenology – II Read: BWofE : pp. 295-336. And Heidegger: “Origin of the Work of Art” available through the canvas course website. |
| 9 | 3/22-24 | Sartrean Existentialism and a Dostoevskian Illustration Read: BWofE : pp. 189-230; 337-367. |
| | | March 28 to April 1: Spring Recess |
| 10 | 4/5-7 | Husserlian Phenomenology – IV With Heideggerian, Marcel and Sartrean revisions Read: P&E : pp. 389-394; 418-447. <u>4/7: Second 5 page paper due.</u> |

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| 11 | 4/12-14 | Camusean Existentialism Read: BWofE : pp. 442-494. |
| 12 | 4/19-21 | Merleau-Ponty's Existential Phenomenology Read: P&E : pp. 296-299; 377-386; 448-454. 4/19: Topics handed out for final 7-8 page paper. |
| 13 | 4/26-28 | Heideggerian Hermeneutical Phenomenology – III Read: Heidegger, Martin, "Letter on Humanism" available through the canvas course website. |
| 14 | 5/3-5 | Existential themes in Simone de Beauvoir and Ralph Ellison Read: BWofE : pp. 411-436; 493-505. |
| 15 | 5/10-12 | Heideggerian Hermeneutical Phenomenology – IV Read: Heidegger, "Building, Dwelling Thinking" available through the canvas course website. |
| | | Final Exam: Final Paper Due Monday, May 23rd <u>There will be no final exam but the final 7-8 page paper will be due on the day of the final exam. Do not bring your paper to the classroom. Leave it with Prof. Hadreas at his departmental office or in his mailbox in the Philosophy Department anytime on Monday, May 23rd.</u> |