Phil 290  Advanced Seminar: Nietzsche

Professor Tom Leddy
Fall 2021, Online, W 1800-2045

Course Description and Goals

Although often dismissed in the first half of the 20th century as a mere literary figure, Nietzsche has come to be seen as one of great philosophers. His contributions to epistemology, ethics, political theory and aesthetics are of considerable significance. The goal of the Nietzsche seminar will be for students to gain an understanding of his main ideas with a special emphasis placed on using secondary sources. We will be looking at such ideas as the Apollonian/Dionysian duality, the Will to Power, the Doctrine of Eternal Recurrence, and the Master/Slave relationship. Since this is a seminar, class participation and discussion are particularly important.

Required Texts

Basic Writings of Nietzsche  tr. and ed. Walter Kaufmann (New York: The Modern Library, 2000)


Laurence Lampert. Nietzsche’s Teaching: An Interpretation of Thus Spoke Zarathustra (Yale University Press, 1986)

Recommended:

I Am Dynamite!: A Life of Nietzsche  Sue Prideaux  2019  [can get used for as little as $7]