

University of California, San Diego
Philosophy 108 Nineteenth-Century Philosophy
Spring 2019

Professor Don Rutherford (drutherford@ucsd.edu)
Office hours: Tu 12:30-1:30 pm, W 4-5 pm (HSS 8046)
Office phone: 858-534-6802
Class website: <http://tritoned.ucsd.edu>

Class: TuTh 3:30-4:50 pm
SEQUO 147

Nietzsche's writings pose a set of fundamental challenges to Western philosophy. They dispute specific claims philosophers have made about the existence of God, the nature of reality and the foundations of value, as well as calling into question the general ability of philosophy to arrive at timeless truths about these and other topics. We will examine the considerations Nietzsche offers on behalf of these criticisms, as well as the broader cultural background against which he interprets the development of Western philosophy. This will lead us to look closely at some of his most distinctive ideas: the death of God, the overcoming of nihilism, the will to power, and the reevaluation of all values.

I. Texts:

- F. Nietzsche (ed. W. Kaufmann), *The Gay Science*
- F. Nietzsche (tr. W. Kaufmann), *On the Genealogy of Morals/Ecce Homo*
- F. Nietzsche (tr. W. Kaufmann), *Beyond Good and Evil*
- F. Nietzsche (tr. R. J. Hollingdale), *Twilight of the Idols/The Anti-Christ*

All other texts will be made available as PDFs on class TED site.

II. Assignments and Grading

1. Take-home midterm exam, due at turnit.com by 11:59 pm on Sunday, April 28. (25%)
2. Shorter paper (1000-1500 words total) on *The Gay Science* or *Beyond Good and Evil* due at turnit.com by 11:59 pm on Sunday, May 19 (topics will be handed out one week in advance). (25%)
4. Final paper in lieu of final exam. You may write on a topic assigned by me or one of your own choosing. If you do the latter, you must submit a 1-2 pp. proposal to me by the last day of class. Your paper should be 2500-3000 words total. (40%)
4. Attendance and participation. (10%)

III. Other Important Information

- Regular attendance and completion of the required reading ahead of class are critical. Engagement with the course presupposes that you have done the assigned reading and are prepared to discuss it in class.
- Use of computers and other electronic devices is allowed in class for legitimate pedagogical purposes, not for web surfing or personal communications. In general, you should remain as focused on the content of the class as possible.
- If accommodations are needed for a disability or for religious reasons, please discuss the matter with me as soon as possible.
- Extensions will only be given to those who present evidence of a valid excuse in a timely manner. Note that computer or printer failure does **not** usually constitute a valid excuse, so be sure to take all necessary precautions to safeguard your work (backup, backup, backup!). If at any time you believe you have a legitimate claim to an extension, bring it to my attention as soon as possible (e.g., if you are going to be out of town for a legitimate purpose, such as a university-sponsored concert performance, athletic event, conference, or the equivalent). Unexcused late exams or papers will be penalized the equivalent of one +/- letter grade per day.

Students should familiarize themselves with the UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship: <http://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/policy.html>. There is a zero-tolerance policy on plagiarism in this class. If you are pressed for time or blocked, it is **always** better to talk with me and to take the late penalty if necessary, than to submit work that is not your own. All written work will be submitted to turnitin.com, so there is a very high probability that plagiarism will be detected. Anyone who is found to plagiarize work will receive an automatic F for the course. Additional disciplinary penalties may be assigned by the UCSD administration. Receipt of this syllabus constitutes an acknowledgement that you are responsible for understanding and acting in accordance with UCSD guidelines on academic integrity.

IV. Schedule of Classes

Week 1

Tu 4/2 Introduction

Th 4/4 I. Kant, "What is Enlightenment?" (1784)
W. von Humboldt, *The Limits of State Action*, chs. 1-2 (1792)

Week 2

Tu 4/9 L. Feuerbach, *The Essence of Christianity* (1843), chs. 1-4

Th 4/11 R. W. Emerson, "The Over-Soul" (1841); "Experience" (1844)

Week 3

Tu 4/16 A. Schopenhauer, Excerpts from *World as Will and Representation* (1818); "Additional Remarks on the Doctrine of the Nothingness of Existence"; "Additional Remarks on the Doctrine of the Suffering of the World" (1851)

Th 4/18 F. Nietzsche, "Schopenhauer as Educator" (1874), secs. 1-5 (at least)

Week 4

Tu 4/23 F. Nietzsche, *Daybreak* (1881), Preface, bk. 2

Th 4/25 No class—DR away (Midterm due Sunday, 4/28, 11:59 pm)

Week 5

Tu 4/30 F. Nietzsche, *The Gay Science* (1882), Prelude, bks. 1-2

Th 5/2 F. Nietzsche, *The Gay Science*, bks. 3-4

Week 6

Tu 5/7 F. Nietzsche, *The Gay Science*, bk. 5

Th 5/9 F. Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil* (1886), bks. 1-3

Week 7

Tu 5/14 F. Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil* (bks. 4-6)

Th 5/16 F. Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil* (bks. 7-9)
Short paper due Sunday, 5/19, 11:59 pm)

Week 8

Tu 5/21 F. Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals* (1887), First Essay

Th 5/23 F. Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Second Essay

Week 9

Tu 5/28 F. Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morals*, Third Essay

Th 5/30 F. Nietzsche, *Twilight of the Idols* (1888)

Week 10

Tu 6/4 F. Nietzsche, *Twilight of the Idols*

Th 6/6 Summing Up

Final paper due by 11:59 pm, Tu 6/11.