

# **Philosophy 3145 DMWA: 19<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy**

**Baruch College, CUNY**

**Spring Term 2024**

Professor Thomas Teufel

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<https://baruch.zoom.us/my/thomas.teufel>

## **Syllabus**

# I. General

## 1. Meetings

### Lectures

### Platforms

**In Person:** W (bi-weekly)\*, 12:50pm – 2:05pm ET, VC 9-120

*CUNY Blackboard 9.1*

**Online, Synchronous:** M/W (bi-weekly)\*, 12:50pm – 2:05pm ET

*Blogs@Baruch*

<https://baruch.zoom.us/j/88136957033>

*Dropbox*

Office Hours: <https://baruch.zoom.us/my/thomas.teufel>

*Slack*

\* See below, §VII

## 2. Description

In this course, we will follow three towering figures of 19<sup>th</sup> century philosophical thought—G.W.F. Hegel, Arthur Schopenhauer, and Friedrich Nietzsche—through some of their major writings. We will study Hegel’s idealism, with a look at one of its real-world inspirations in the Haitian revolution (1791-1804); the backlash against Hegel’s rational optimism in Schopenhauer’s pessimism and metaphysics of the will; and Nietzsche’s proto-existentialist turn to the self and critique of all morality.

Our learning goals are three. First, to become familiar with some of the basic ideas driving one of the great periods in human intellectual in history. Second, to gain fluency in reading and understanding the texts in which those ideas are promulgated (among them some of the most difficult texts ever published!). Third, to gain fluency in writing about those ideas and, by extension, about abstract matters in general.

## 3. Readings

(All readings are available as pdfs on Blackboard or as ebooks at the Newman Library)

### Primary Literature

Hegel *Phenomenology of Spirit* (1807)

<https://www-cambridge-org.remote.baruch.cuny.edu/core/books/georg-wilhelm-friedrich-hegel-the-phenomenology-of-spirit/6FEDB42FDEF2E5FF97FEAE0EEEDABE8E>

Nietzsche *Genealogy of Morals* (1887)

Schopenhauer *The World as Will and Representation* (vol. 1, 1818)

Schopenhauer *The Fourfold Root of the Principle of Sufficient Reason* (1818/1847)

Schopenhauer *Essays & Aphorisms* ('Suffering,' 'Vanity,' 'Antithesis')

### Secondary Literature

Buck-Morss *Hegel, Haiti, and Universal History*

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/baruch/reader.action?docID=2038835>

Stern, Robert *Routledge Guidebook to Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit*

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/baruch/reader.action?docID=1125242>

## 4. Course Requirements

Blog Posts	25%
Post-Quizzes	15%
Term Paper	25%
Final Exam	20%
Participation (in-class; zoom chat; slack; email; off. hours)	15%

## II. Course Mechanics

### 1. Weekly Class Prep

The readings are generally short but often difficult and, in the case of Hegel, *very difficult*. Read the assigned materials **before** class meetings. Only then will you be able to understand what we are talking about **in** class! In philosophy, a single sentence or paragraph often won't disclose its meaning until you've read it several times over (and sometimes even then it won't). The best strategy is to read the assigned material **more than once**. This is something no-one else will be able to do for you. Start preparing the week's readings early!

### 2. Lectures

- **In Person Lectures**

- bi-weekly Wednesdays, 12:50pm – 2:05pm ET
- VC 9-120

- **Synchronous Online Lectures**

- Every Monday & bi-weekly Wednesday, 12:50pm – 2:05pm ET
- Zoom Link: <https://baruch.zoom.us/j/88136957033> (*pass*: 462190)

- **Recordings**

- All recordings will be posted on our class Dropbox (*PHI 3145 DMWA*)
- You are encouraged to turn your camera on (students who turn their cameras on often have better academic results)

### 3. Blackboard

Many class interactions will happen on Blackboard (including quizzes, assignments, announcements, syllabus updates, etc.). Please check your Baruch email for announcements and class communication.

### 4. Dropbox

You will receive an invitation to our class Dropbox (*PHI 3145 DMWA*) early in the semester. The main purpose of the class Dropbox is to store recordings of our synchronous meetings.

### 5. Slack

Some class interactions will happen on Slack. You will receive an invitation to join early in the semester.

### III. Course Policies

#### 1. Paper policies

- The term paper is due by midnight on the due date (TBD) and must be submitted to through **SafeAssign** (on Blackboard). Extensions will be granted only for:
  - i. compelling academic reasons (e.g., conflicts with other due dates) and only with **advance** notice
  - ii. compelling personal reasons (to be assessed on a case-by-case basis).
- Late papers will be marked down by 1/6 of a grade per day in the first week and 1/3 of a grade per week after that.

#### 2. Quizzes

- **Post-Quizzes**  
There will be a quiz following each of our three course segments (hence, 'post')  
Available on Blackboard under "Quizzes → Post-Quizzes"  
Available @ **6pm** on the day that concludes the segment the quiz covers

#### 3. Attendance

Attendance of in-person class meetings and of synchronous Zoom meetings (as reported by the platform and recorded by the instructor) is *not* a grade-bearing course requirement. However:

- if you never attend, you will be dropped from the roster
- if you attend the first meeting, but miss all others, you are entitled to attend the final exam. (However, you are **unlikely** to succeed in the course if you do not attend **all** synchronous meetings and review all asynchronous lectures)

#### 4. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will not be tolerated.

- To learn more about plagiarism, please go here:  
<https://guides.newman.baruch.cuny.edu/plagiarism>
- The punishment for plagiarism in this course is a Failing Grade (F) for the assignment *or* the course. All incidents of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students.

#### 5. Disabilities

Students with disabilities may be eligible for accommodations to enable them to participate fully in courses at Baruch. [disability.services@baruch.cuny.edu](mailto:disability.services@baruch.cuny.edu)

#### 6. Tips for doing well

- Turn your cameras on during zoom meetings
- Take copious notes, organize them well, review them regularly
- Take *all* post-quizzes
- Ask frequent questions: in class, by email, during office hours, on Slack

## IV. Course & Program Learning Goals

### A. PHI 3145: *Course Learning Goals*

In this course, you will learn to:

#### *Logical Reasoning*

- identify and distinguish various logical notions (such as ‘soundness’ and ‘validity’)

#### *Philosophical Argumentation*

- distinguish pre-philosophical from philosophical positions and arguments
- express and develop, orally and in writing, philosophical positions and arguments

#### *Key Positions and Key Philosophers*

- identify, distinguish, analyze, and attribute, orally and in writing, key philosophical positions of the 19<sup>th</sup> century

#### *Critical Thinking*

- reflect critically and empathetically on matters such as your own and others’ epistemic agency and identity

### B. Philosophy Major/Minor: *Program Learning Goals*

#### *Logical Reasoning*

1. demonstrate a firm grasp of the notions of ‘truth’, ‘soundness’, and ‘validity.’
2. identify and understand various forms of logical fallacy.
3. identify and construct logically well-formed arguments.

#### *Philosophical Argumentation*

1. understand what constitutes a philosophical (e.g., metaphysical, epistemic, ethical) position or argument.
2. comprehend the relations (e.g., entailment) between pre-philosophical commitments and philosophical positions or arguments.
3. identify and analyze reasons that contribute to the justification or (conversely) invalidation of philosophical positions or arguments.
4. describe and evaluate, orally and in writing, philosophical positions and arguments
5. express and develop, orally and in writing, philosophical positions and arguments

#### *Key Positions and Key Philosophers*

1. identify, understand, and express, orally and in writing, key philosophical positions in a variety of philosophical genres and traditions.
2. Identify, attribute, understand, and express, orally and in writing, salient arguments of key philosophers (such as: Aquinas, Aristotle, Avicenna, Confucius, Darwin, Hume, Hypatia, Kant, Lao Tzu, Marx, Mill, Plato, Sartre, Socrates, Taylor-Mill, Wollstonecraft).

#### *Critical Thinking*

1. Reflect critically and empathetically on matters such as their own and others’ personal, racial, gender, and cultural identity.
2. Reflect critically and empathetically on matters such as their own and others’ moral, political, and epistemic agency.

## V. Post- Quiz Instructions & Grading Scheme

### A. Logistics

1. You will find active Post-Quizzes on Blackboard under “Quizzes”
2. Post-Quizzes will become available after each of our 3 class segments
3. Each quiz consists of 10 multiple-choice prompts (4-5 responses per prompt)
4. Each quiz is randomly generated from a larger pool (no two quizzes will look exactly alike)
5. You will receive one question at a time
6. You will be able to backtrack (i.e., move back and forth between questions)
7. You have *one* attempt
8. You have *60 minutes* to complete your attempt (on average, students need about 20 minutes)
9. Have the text, your lecture notes, a dictionary and a keyboard or pen and paper (for notes) by your side
10. You will be able to see your score upon submission
11. You will be able to see right and wrong answers after the due date
12. Prepare by reading the text carefully at least once or twice *before* you take the quiz!

### B. Grading Scheme

10/10 =	A
9/10 =	A-
8/10 =	B+
7/10 =	B
6/10 =	B-
5/10 =	C+
4/10 =	C
3/10 =	C-
2/10 =	D+
1/10 =	D
0/10 =	F

## VI. Philosophy Paper Grading Rubric

(hint: this also works on other stuff!)

- I. Analysis/Problem (35)**
- a. *Identification* — discerns dimensions and parameters of the problem
  - b. *Orientation* — distinguishes relevant from irrelevant considerations
  - c. *Prioritization* — distinguishes more from less relevant considerations
  - d. *Analysis* — formulates appropriate questions & sub-questions
  - e. *Context* — considers historical/social/textual factors
  - f. *Strategizing* — formulates proper lines of inquiry
  - g. *Judgment* — displays good intellectual/philosophical sense
- II. Synthesis/Argumentation (35)**
- a. *Thesis* — formulates a well-defined position
  - b. *Reexamination* — considers antitheses
  - c. *Soundness* — uses pertinent and true premises; no factual mistakes
  - d. *Validity* — provides an internally consistent argument
  - e. *Conclusion* — resolves the problem
  - f. *Dialectic* — accommodates competing evidence/arguments
  - g. *Creativity* — argues in an engaging, inspired, or inspiring way
- III. Exposition (30)**
- a. *Road-mapping* — provides a clear plan & sticks to it
  - b. *Guide-posting* — updates reader on position & progress
  - c. *Perspicacity* — makes clear, logical, accessible, reasonable claims
  - d. *Flow* — easy to follow with transparent transitions
  - e. *Readability* — writes in straightforward, idiomatic English
  - f. *Grammar* — writes grammatically correct English

## VII. Online & In Person Schedule

WEEK	DATE	Monday	DATE	Wednesday
1	1/29	ONLINE	1/31	IN-PERSON
2	2/5	ONLINE	2/7	ONLINE
3	2/12	COLLEGE CLOSED	2/14	IN-PERSON
4	2/19	COLLEGE CLOSED	2/21	ONLINE
5	2/26	ONLINE	2/28	IN-PERSON
6	3/4	ONLINE	3/6	ONLINE
7	3/11	ONLINE	3/13	IN-PERSON
8	3/18	ONLINE	3/20	ONLINE
9	3/25	ONLINE	3/27	IN-PERSON
10	4/1	ONLINE	4/3	ONLINE
11	4/8	ONLINE	4/10	IN-PERSON
12	4/15	ONLINE	4/17	ONLINE
13	4/22	SPRING RECESS	4/24	SPRING RECESS
14	4/29	SPRING RECESS	5/1	IN-PERSON
15	5/6	ONLINE	5/8	ONLINE
16	5/13	ONLINE	5/15	IN-PERSON
<b>Final Examinations</b>				
5/16-22				



**VIII. Schedule of Classes****Week 1**

M 1/29 *Overview* 19<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy

**I. Hegel**

W 1/31 *Introduction* **Hegel's Philosophy**  
*Required:* *Phenomenology* §§73-76, 49-52  
*Recommended:* Stern, *Guidebook* Ch. 1, 1-37

**Week 2**

M 2/5 *Phenomenology* **Forms of Consciousness**  
W 2/7  
*Required:* *Phenomenology* §§77-89, 52-59  
*Recommended:* Stern, *Guidebook* Ch. 1, 37-53

**Week 3**

M 2/12 **COLLEGE CLOSED**  
W 2/14 *Phenomenology* **A: Consciousness – Sense-Certainty**  
*Required:* *Phenomenology* §§90-110, 60-68  
*Recommended:* Stern, *Guidebook* Ch. 2, 54-62

**Week 4**

M 2/19 **COLLEGE CLOSED**  
W 2/21 *Phenomenology* **A: Consciousness – Perception, Intro & Phase I**  
*Required:* *Phenomenology* §§111-116, 68-71  
§§117-118, 71-73  
*Recommended:* Stern, *Guidebook* Ch. 2, 62-71

**Week 5**

M 2/26 *Phenomenology* **A: Consciousness – Perception, Phase II, III, & Conclusion**  
W 2/28  
*Required:* *Phenomenology* §§119-122, 73-74  
§§123-128, 75-77  
§§129-131, 77-79  
*Recommended:* Stern, *Guidebook* Ch. 2, 71-84

**Week 6**

M 3/4 *Phenomenology* **B: Self-Consciousness – Self-Certainty**  
W 3/6  
*Required:* *Phenomenology* §§166-177, 102-108  
*Recommended:* Stern, *Guidebook* Ch. 3, 85-89

**Week 7**

M 3/11 *Phenomenology* **B: Self-Consciousness – Master/Slave**  
W 3/13  
*Required:* *Phenomenology* §§178-188, 108-112  
*Recommended:* Stern, *Guidebook* Ch.3, 89-97

**Week 8**

M 3/18 *Phenomenology* **B: Self-Consciousness – Master/Slave**  
W 3/20  
*Required:* *Phenomenology* §§189-196, 112-116  
*Recommended:* Stern, *Guidebook* Ch.3, 97-100

**Week 9**

M 3/25 *Phenomenology* **Hegel & Haiti**

W 3/27 *Required:* Buck-Morss, *Hegel, Haiti, & History*, 21-75  
*Recommended:*

## I. Schopenhauer

### Week 10

M 4/1 *Schopenhauer* **Pessimism**  
W 4/3 *Required:* *Essays: 'Suffering'* 41-50  
*Essays: 'Vanity'* 51-54  
*Essays: 'Antithesis'* 55-60

### Week 11

M 4/8 *Schopenhauer* **Principle of Sufficient Reason**  
W 4/10 *Required:* *Fourfold Root* Ch. III, §§15-16,  
Ch. VIII, §§46-52

### Week 12

M 4/15 *Schopenhauer* **Knowledge of the Idea**  
W 4/17 *Required:* *WWR* §§34-36, 178-188

### Week 13

M 4/22 **SPRING RECESS**  
W 4/24 **SPRING RECESS**

## II. Nietzsche

### Week 14

M 4/29 **SPRING RECESS**  
W 5/1 *Nietzsche*  
*Required:* *Genealogy, 'Essay I'* 'Preface' & §§1-7  
*Recommended:* —

### Week 15

M 5/6 *Nietzsche*  
W 5/8 *Required:* *Genealogy, 'Essay I'* §§8-17,  
*Recommended:* —

### Week 16

M 5/13 *Nietzsche*  
W 5/15 *Required:* *Genealogy, 'Essay II'* §§1-24  
*Recommended:* —

5/16-22

**FINAL EXAM PERIOD**