This course introduces students to the disciplines that comprise and influence the social sciences (philosophy, anthropology, sociology, sociology of religion, philosophy of history, political theory, classical psychology, etc.). Most of the readings are drawn from the classical works that form the intellectual core of social thought and provide the necessary tools for understanding the social infrastructure of contemporary society. Newer readings demonstrate the current relevance and persistence of questions, as well as providing refutations and critique.

***This is a graduate seminar, which means that learning takes place within the context of class discussion as well as in the process of writing. Therefore students are expected to attend all classes and to hand in papers on time. Absences or late papers will seriously impair the quality of your grade.

**Required Packet of Readings:**

Available at Anaconda Printing, 1820 Lincoln St., 303.534.5525

**Required Books to Purchase:**


**Suggested Secondary Sources:**


Course Outline

8/24 Introduction to Social Thought

I. Raising Questions; Creating Frameworks for Interdisciplinary Studies; Defining Concepts/Terms


9/14 de Waal, pp. 98-119; 161-181. (Other commentary chapters optional.)

II. Classic Writings in Social Thought (19th Century)

9/21 Translator’s Introduction to Hegel’s Philosophy of History (Handout distributed in class on 9/14.)


Guest Faculty: Dr. Chad Kautzer, Dept. of Philosophy


III. Psychology, Philosophy, and Culture: Two More “Masters of Suspicion” (After Marx)


Guest Faculty: (for Nietzsche) Dr. Gabriel Zamosc-Regueros, Department of Philosophy

IV. American Pragmatism


10/19  **Midterm Due; Synthesis**  
Class will meet and students’ informal presentations of their midterm responses will drive our discussion.

V. Classic Theories of Religion  

  **Guest Faculty:** Dr. Sharon Coggan, Director of Religious Studies, Dept. of Philosophy

VI. Conceptions of Justice and the State  


  **Guest Faculty:** (For discussion of his article) Dr. Omar Swartz, Dept. of Communication; Master of Social Science Program


  **Question/thesis due for final paper !!**

11/23  **Fall Break**

11/30; 12/7  Synthesis, discussion, student presentations, papers due 12/7
**Requirements**

**All written assignments must conform to length requirements. Use 11 or 12 pt. font and standard margins.**

1. **Weekly Response**
   A (no longer than) one-page double-spaced response to the readings is required each week. Identify the central problem, issue, or question raised in the assigned article(s). Describe 1 or 2 key concepts. What position does/do the author(s) defend? What arguments are presented? **AVOID** comments about your views, opinions, beliefs, or feelings about the text or its subject matter. This is not the place to comment on whether you think the author(s) is/are right or wrong. Save that for a longer essay in which you provide an argument and evidence for your position. Here we are interested in the author’s/authors’ points and arguments. (If something strikes you about the argument and its logic, you can include that.)

2. **Midterm**
   We have discussed a number of factors that come into play when asking questions within the disciplines of the human studies:

   > individual consciousness and psychology  
   > culture  
   > socioeconomic class  
   > history  
   > “human nature”  
   > markets (free vs. state controlled)  
   > morality  
   > language, thought, and knowledge  
   > methods of study

Select 2-3 of these factors. Specify and provide a general definition of each concept that you have chosen in your first paragraph. What are the controversies and issues surrounding each? Describe the interaction between/among the factors you chose. Integrate at least 5 of the thinkers whom we have read into your discussion, demonstrating their positions on these ideas. Cite specific authors and texts from class readings. Limit your paper to 4 pages, double-spaced. **Due 10/19.** Be prepared to present key aspects of your response to the class as a vehicle for a synthesis discussion.

3. **Final Paper**
   Your final paper will be 6-8 double-spaced pages. On 11/2 I will distribute some key quotations selected from the last several class readings. The connections among democracy, justice, rationality, “critique of rationality,” “critique of ideology,” power, values, and social tradition will be pivotal. After reading the quotations, you should **develop a question and/or thesis.** You may focus on one quote or draw on any number of them. Make it explicitly clear on the first page of your paper to which quote(s) you are responding. Use at least 5 authors we have read this semester to **answer your question and/or defend your thesis.** You may cite 1 or 2 outside sources to enhance your discussion or bolster your argument. Limit your response to 6-8 double-spaced pages. Your question/thesis is due on **11/16.** Your paper is due on **12/7.**
In your final paper, be sure to cite specific references from class materials. Please **paginate** and **do not** use folders or plastic covers. A paper cover sheet is perfect.

**NOTE** The internet can be a valuable resource but proceed with caution. You must evaluate the merit of information accessed by determining the credentials and affiliations of the author and by checking all quotes and references. (Include this information in parentheses after the web citation in your bibliography.) Use the academic style (MLA, APA, Chicago, etc.) of your choice but be correct and consistent.

**GRADING**

Weekly written comments and class participation 20%

Midterm 30%

Final Paper 50%

**Grading of Weekly Response Papers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Meaning of grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check+</td>
<td>Excellent; innovative; good connections among ideas; well-written;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>includes ideas from all readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check</td>
<td>Very good; good; satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check (OK)</td>
<td>Acceptable for now but cursory; too brief; lacks depth; and/or poorly or not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>clearly written</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check-</td>
<td>Unacceptable; should be rewritten</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Policies**

- Contact professor in advance concerning absences whenever possible; no make-up work will be assigned for absences; weekly response papers are due the night of class even in the case of unavoidable excused absences.
- Snow policies: when possible, you will be contacted by phone or through Blackboard if class is being cancelled for a major snowstorm or for other significant reason. You can also call 303.556.2401 for weather closures.
- The standard of conduct essential for this class is that of professionalism with a high level of integrity. Be sure to cite any words not your own. Plagiarism means putting forth others' work as your own; plagiarism is not tolerated in this course; the penalty for plagiarism is failing the assignment in which it occurs, with a high probability of failing the entire course.
- Classroom policies: please turn off cell phones; eating during class time is okay; discussion should be professional and courteous at all times toward all persons; confidentiality of personal information obtained during classes should be permanently maintained.
- It is **your responsibility** to have an official cudenver email address. Otherwise you will not receive critical course and university correspondence.
Fall 2010 CLAS Academic Policies

The following policies pertain to all students and are strictly adhered to by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS).

- Every student MUST check and verify their schedule prior to the published drop/add deadlines. Failure to verify a schedule is not sufficient reason to justify a late add or drop later in the semester.
- CLAS students must use their email.ucdenver.edu email address. Email is the official method of communication for all University of Colorado Denver business. All email correspondence will take place using your UCDHSC email address. Go to [http://www.ucdenver.edu/student-services/resources/registrar/students/policies/Pages/EmailPolicy.aspx](http://www.ucdenver.edu/student-services/resources/registrar/students/policies/Pages/EmailPolicy.aspx) to activate your email address.
- Students are NOT automatically added to a course off a wait list after wait lists are dropped. If a student is told by a faculty member that they will be added off the wait list, it is the responsibility of the student to complete the proper paperwork to add a course.
- Students are not automatically notified if they are added to a class from a wait-list. Again, it is the responsibility of the student to verify their schedule prior to any official dates to drop or add courses.
- Students must complete and submit a drop/add form to make any schedule changes. Students are not automatically dropped from a class if they never attended, stopped attending or do not make tuition payments.
- Late adds will be approved only when circumstances surrounding the late add are beyond the student’s control and can be documented independently. This will require a petition and documentation from the student. Please note that the signature of a faculty member on an add form does not guarantee that a late add petition will be approved. Undergraduates should contact the Advising office and Graduate students should contact the Dean’s office to petition for a late add.
- Late drops will be approved only when circumstances surrounding the late drop have arisen after the published drop deadlines, are beyond the student’s control, and can be documented independently. This will require a petition and documentation from the student. Pre-existing circumstances (circumstances that existed prior to the published drop deadlines) regarding illness, work, family, or other confounding issues will not be considered adequate reason to drop or withdraw from courses after the published University and/or College drop deadlines. Please note that the signature of a faculty member does not guarantee that a late drop petition will be approved. Undergraduates should contact the Advising office and Graduate students should contact the Dean’s office to petition for a late drop.
- Undergraduate students wishing to graduate in fall of 2010 must meet with their academic advisor and complete their graduation application and intent to graduate form by 5 PM on September 8, 2010. You can obtain an application ONLY after meeting with your academic advisor so make your appointment early. There are no exceptions to this policy or date.
- Graduate students wishing to graduate in fall semester 2010 must complete their Intent to Graduate form and have a Request for Admissions to Candidacy on file with the CLAS Dean’s office no later than 5 PM, September 8, 2010.
- Students are responsible for completing financial arrangements with financial aid, family, scholarships, etc. to pay their tuition. Students will be responsible for all tuition and fees for courses they do not officially drop using proper drop/add procedures and forms. Students who drop after the published drop/add period will not be eligible for a refund of the COF hours or tuition.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 23, 2010</td>
<td>First day of Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 29, 2010</td>
<td>Last day to add a class or be added to a wait list for a class using the UCDAccess portal. Please note that if your course does not appear as “enrolled” on your schedule you are not enrolled in the class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 30, 2010</td>
<td>LAST DAY TO DROP WITHOUT DROP CHARGE – THIS INCLUDES SECTION CHANGES.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 30, 2010</td>
<td>Wait Lists are dropped. Any student who was not added to a course automatically from the wait list by this date and time MUST complete a schedule adjustment form to be added to the class. Students are NOT automatically added to the class from the wait list after this date and time. If your name is not on the official student roster, you are not registered for the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 31, 2010</td>
<td>First day instructor may approve request to add a student to a course with a Schedule Adjustment Form. (Late start classes may be added up until the day the class starts).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2010</td>
<td>Census date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2010 at 5 PM</td>
<td>Last day to add structured courses using a schedule adjustment form with instructor signature without a written petition for a late add. This deadline does not apply to independent study, internships, project hours, thesis hours, dissertation hours, and late-starting modular courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2010 at 5 PM</td>
<td>Last day to drop a fall 2010 course or completely withdraw from all fall 2010 courses with a tuition adjustment minus the drop charge and no transcript notation – this includes section changes. Drops after this date will appear on your transcript. Drops will require instructor approval and withdraw from all classes requires a dean’s signature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2010 at 5 PM</td>
<td>Last day to request pass/fail or no credit option for a course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2010 at 5 PM</td>
<td>Last day to for a graduate student to register for a Candidate for Degree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2010 at 5 PM</td>
<td>Last day for a Ph.D. student to petition for a reduction in hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8, 2010 at 5 PM</td>
<td>Last day to apply for fall 2010 graduation. Undergraduates must make an appointment and see your academic advisor before this date to apply for graduation if you are an undergraduate; graduate students must complete the intent to graduate and candidate for degree form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 6, 2010</td>
<td>Labor Day (campus closed/ no classes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20-29, 2010</td>
<td>Faculty can use the early alert system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2010 at 5 PM</td>
<td>Last day for students to drop or withdraw from all classes without approval from the student’s academic Dean.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 15, 2010 at 5 PM</td>
<td>Last day for CLAS students can obtain dean’s permission to drop or withdraw without a full petition. This is treated as an absolute deadline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After November 15, 2015</td>
<td>All schedule changes require a full petition. Undergraduates should contact their CLAS advisor, graduate students should contact the dean’s office.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 25, 2010</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Day Holiday (campus closed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No schedule changes will be granted once finals week has started. There are NO exceptions to this policy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>