

CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THEORY

Political Science 4096
C. L. Eubanks

MWF 10:30 AM
Spring 2017

THE FACES OF MODERNITY: DIFFERENT WAYS OF THINKING

René Descartes

I. Kant

The fate of our times is characterized by rationalization and intellectualization and, above all, by the 'disenchantment of the world'. Precisely the ultimate and most sublime values have retreated from public life either into the transcendental realm of mystic life or into the brotherliness of direct and personal human relations.

Max Weber

Required Readings:

René Descartes, Selections from Meditations on First Philosophy
<http://webspaceship.edu/cgboer/descartesmeditations.html>

Immanuel Kant, Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals (Especially the Preface)
<http://www.justiceharvard.org/resources/immanuelkantgroundworkfor-themetaphysicsof-morals1785/>

<https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/kant/kant1.htm>

(E-Reserve)

MISGIVINGS WITHIN MODERNITY

Universal freedom, therefore, can produce neither a positive work nor a deed; it is merely a negative action; it is merely the absence of a hindrance.

G. W. F. Hegel

Man, and also Nature as the final property, into an alien being and into a means for his individual existence. It alienates from man his own body, external nature, his mental life and his human life. A direct consequence of the alienation of a man from the produce of his labour, from his life activity and from his species-being, is that man is alienated from himself.

K. Marx & F. Engels

civ - i - li - za - tion, n. 1. an advanced state of human society in which a high level of art, science, religion, and government has been reached. 2. that which is largely responsible for our misery.

American College Dictionary & Sigma/γ(1 39)8g

Required Readings:

G. W. Hegel, Excerpts from The Phenomenology of the Spirit
(A. Consciousness & B. Self-Consciousness)

<http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/hegel/phindex.htm>

C. L. Eubanks,

A BRIEF HUSSERLIAN INTERLUDE ON THE RECOVERY OF NAÏVETÉ

3 , W Z L O O b e c o m e c l e a r , a n d f i n a l l y b e c o m p l e t e l y c l e a r , t h a t t h e p r o p e r r e t u r n t o t h e n a ï v e t é o f l i f e
± b u t i n a r e f l e c t i o n w h i c h r a i s e s a b o v e t h i s n a ï v e t é t h e o n l y p o s s i b l e w a y t o o v e r c o m e t h e p h i l o s o p h i c a l
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E. Husserl

MARTIN HEIDEGGER AND THE REMEMBRANCE OF BEING

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s u r r e p t i t i o u s s u b s t i t u t i o n o f t h e a t t e m t a t i c a l l y s u b s t r u c t e d w o r l d o f i d e a l i t i e s f o r t h e o n l y r e a l w o r l d , t h e
o n e t h a t i s a c t u a l l y g i v e n t h r o u g h p e r c e p t i o n , t h a t i s e v e r e x p e r i e n c e d a n d e x p e r i e n c e a b l e e v e r y d a y
l i f e - Z R U O G
E. Husserl

3 7 K L V W K L Q N L Q J L V Q H t i d . K i t t a k e s p l a c e b e f o r e w i s e i d e o l o g y . T h i s t h i n k i n g
i n s o f a r a s i t i s , i s t h e r e m e m b r a n c e o f B e i n g a n d n o t h i n g e l s e S u c h t h i n k i n g h a s n o r e s u l t . I t h a s n o
H I I H F W , W V D W L V I L H V L W V Q D W X U H V L P S O \ E \ E H L Q J , W O H V
M. Heidegger

Required Reading:

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<http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/sartre/works/exist/sartre.htm>

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS

The study of political theory or philosophy is the study of meaning: the meaning of time, of being, of history, of individual and communal existence is not possible to divorce that study from value or