

**PHILOSOPHY 314**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy: Nietzsche in Context**

PHIL 314  
SPRING 2017  
Tues., Wed., Fri.: 12:30-1:20  
Clearihue A203

Instructor: Nina Belmonte  
Office: Clearihue 318  
Office Hours: Tues: 1:30-2:30  
Thursday:  
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**Course Objectives**

A founding figure of our intellectual epoch, Nietzsche's influence on subsequent thought and culture cannot be overstated. He wrote "in blood" - his language lofty, ennobling, excessive and notoriously opaque. How are to understand him, then?

In this course we will explore Nietzsche's work in the context of the philosophy of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, from his roots in Schopenhauer and Emerson, and his disdain for socialist movements to the conception and development of his extraordinary notions of the Will to Power, the Overman and Eternal Return, Genealogy, Art and Life. We will read *The Birth of Tragedy* and *Thus Spoke Zarathustra* through *Beyond Good and Evil* and *Genealogy of Morals* to *Ecce Homo*. We will delight in the enigmatic force of his language and endeavor to comprehend him on his own terms, as profoundly as possible.

Readings will undoubtedly be difficult and class attendance necessary. As with all great adventures, what you take away will depend on what you put in. Graded work will include one in-class midterm, one short exegetical paper, and a final paper.

**TEXTS:** In the Bookstore: *Basic Writings of Nietzsche*, trans. Kaufmann, Modern Library, 2000  
[Includes: *Birth of Tragedy*, *Genealogy of Morals*, *Beyond Good and Evil* & *Ecce Homo*.]

*Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, trans. Graham Parkes, Oxford Univ. Press, 2008.

Additional Material will be posted on the Moodle course site and available on Reserve in the Library.

## Assignments

Class Participation:	10%
In-Class Midterm Exam:	25%
Short Paper	25%
Final Term paper:	<u>40%</u>
	100%

Percentages will convert to a letter grade according to the following scheme:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 65-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 60-64	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72		

## Description of Assignments

### Class Participation:

Attendance is a *mandatory* course requirement. Please be aware of the academic regulations cited on page 31 of the University Calendar:

*“Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled... /.../Students may be assigned a final grade of N or debarred from writing final examinations if they have failed to satisfy a minimum attendance requirement set by an instructor for lectures... set out in the course outline.*

**Students missing more than 8 classes in this course may be debarred from writing the final examination.** Students may ask for an academic concession regarding missed classes or late work upon providing proper documentation of a personal or medical affliction.

I expect you not only to attend class, but to come prepared to discuss the readings. This is necessary for the sake of a high-quality course experience.

### In-Class Midterm

There will be an in-class, open-book midterm consisting of short answer and essay questions. These will be evaluated on your knowledge of the reading material and class discussion.

### Exegetical paper (700-1000 Words):

Explaining/Exploring your choice of topic from a list provided by me. These will be evaluated on your understanding of the material, and the clarity and presentation of your argument. *The first of these will be written in class.*

### Final Paper:

There will be a more substantial (2500 words) paper due at the end of the semester, deepening your understanding and synthesis of a topic from Sartre's writings. I will provide a list of topics, but you are free to choose one of your own, as long as you speak with me *in advance*. This work should draw from at least three of Nietzsche's works, and include at least two secondary sources.

### **Late Assignments**

Papers will be accepted without penalty *up to one class period* after the deadline. Papers submitted after the date may be returned with a grade only (no comments). *No papers will be accepted more than 7 days after the deadline.* Exceptions will be made only in cases of illness and personal crisis, a request for which must be received by me in writing before the deadline.

**Academic Misconduct:** Academic integrity requires commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any action that contravenes these values, including but not limited to plagiarism, falsification, multiple submissions, or cheating *of any kind* undermines the purpose of scholarly work and violates the fundamental academic rights of members of our community. **Please read the University Calendar's "Policy on Academic Integrity."**

### **Diversity**

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

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## Schedule of Classes

### Week One – Introductions

January	4	Introductions, Explanations, Hesitations
	6	Contemporary Sightings

### Week Two - Roots and Inspiration

10	German Romanticism/Romantic Pessimism Read: Shopenhauer, "The World as Will" (Moodle)
11	German Romanticism/Romantic Pessimism (Cont.)
13	Inspiration Read: Emerson, "History" (Moodle)

### Week Three – *Beginnings: The Birth of a Philosophy*

17	Apollo/Dionysus Read: Homer's Contest (Moodle) And <i>Birth of Tragedy</i> , 1-4
18	Dionysian Artist Read: <i>Birth of Tragedy</i> , 5, 7
20	Philosophy and the Death of Tragedy Read: <i>Birth of Tragedy</i> , 12,13-15, 19

### Week Four – *Untimely Meditations*

24	A New Voice Read: Nietzsche, "On Truth and Lies In the Extramoral Sense" (Moodle)
25	Language as Metaphors Read: Truth and Lies, (Cont.)
27	The Goal Read: "Shopenhauer as Educator" (Excerpt, Moodle)

### Weeks Five - *A Book for Everyone and Nobody*

	31	Camel, Lion, Child Read: <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> , Part I (through Speech 1)
February	1	A New Gospel Read: <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> , Select Speeches
	3	Last Man/Overman Read: <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> , TBA



**Week Six    *A Philosophy of the Future***

- 7            A New Perspective  
                    Read: *Gay Science* (Excerpts, Moodle)
- 8            The Death of God  
                    Read: *Gay Science* (Excerpts, Moodle)
- 10           **\*\*Midterm\*\***

**Week Seven        *READING BREAK***

February 14-17

**Week Eight- *Beyond Good & Evil***

- 21           Philosophers  
                    Read: *Beyond Good & Evil*, Preface, Part One
- 22           Free Spirits  
                    Read: *BG&E*, Part Two
- 24           “Natural” History  
                    Read: *BG&E*, Part Five

**Week Nine - *Natural History & Noble Virtues***

- 28           Scholars and Philosophers  
                    Read: *BG&E*, Part 6
- March 1       Virtues  
                    Read: *BG&E*, Part Seven (thru Sect. 231)
- 3            Noble Virtues  
                    Read: *BG&E*, Part Nine

**Week Ten- *Genealogy and Polemic***

- 7            The Good, the Bad, and the Evil  
                    Read: *Genealogy of Morals*, Preface and First Essay
- 8            Noble Beasts  
                    Read: *Genealogy of Morals*, First Essay
- 10           Crimes and Punishments  
                    Read: *Genealogy of Morals*, Second Essay

**Week Eleven-**

- 14           Aesthetic Ideals  
                    Read: *Genealogy of Morals*, Third Essay
- 15           Questions and Answers  
                    Read: (TBA)
- 17           Questions and Answers  
                    **\*\*Short Paper Due\*\***

**Week Twelve – *How One Becomes What One Is***

- 21 Why I am so Wise  
Read: *Ecce Homo*, Part I
- 22 Why I am so Clever  
Read: *Ecce Homo*, Part II
- 24 Why I Write Such Good Books  
Read: *Ecce Homo*, Parts III & IV

**Week Thirteen – The Nietzsche Legacy**

- 28 Foucault's Genealogy  
Readings TBA
- 29 Foucault & Nietzsche  
Readings TBA
- 31 Feminist Nietzsche  
Readings TBA

**Week Fourteen – *Dionysian Revelries***

- April 1 No Class (*Easter Monday*)
- 4 Last Class

**\*\*April 17<sup>th</sup> FINAL PAPERS DUE\*\***