PHIL 3821 - ENLIGHTENMENT AND ITS DISCONTENTS
Course Outline

Course Co-ordinator: Chris Falzon
Room: MC111
Ph: 4921 5184
Fax: 4921 6933
E-mail: Chris.Falzon@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation hours: Wednesday 3-4 pm

Unit Weighting 20
Teaching Methods Lecture

Brief Course Description
This course introduces students to the 18th century Enlightenment and some of the important contemporary debates regarding modernity sparked by 20th century criticisms of the Enlightenment and its legacy.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 3 Hours per Week for the Full Term

Course Objectives
(1) Develop student's familiarity with, and knowledge of, 18th century Enlightenment thinking and its antecedents, as well as contemporary debates over modernity.
(2) Develop student's skills in reading philosophical texts and critically analysing issues in their historical forms.
(3) Develop student's critical skills to appreciate and engage in contemporary debates over modernity and postmodernity.
(4) Develop high level written and oral skills in understanding and presenting philosophical issues in their historical context and also as they emerge in contemporary debates.
Course Content
(1) Presentation of the historical background to 18th century Enlightenment thinking (the rise of 17th century science, Descartes, Locke).
(2) Presentation of 18th century thinking in the areas of epistemology, ethics, social and political thinking, and philosophy of history (eg, the philosophers, Hume, Bentham, Kant).
(3) Presentation of Nietzsche, as a pivotal figure in the critique of modernity.
(4) Presentation of recent critical assessments of and debates concerning the Enlightenment and modernity (eg, Toulmin, the Frankfurt School, Foucault, Habermas, Lyotard).

Assessment Items

| Other: (please specify) | (1) Take-home exam (2,500 words, worth 30%). (2) A presentation (30 minutes, worth 15%). (3) An essay of 4,000 words (worth 55%). |

Assumed Knowledge
At least 10 credit points of PHIL courses at 1000 level or 40 credit points of any other courses at any level.

Callaghan Campus Timetable
PHIL 3821
ENLIGHTENMENT AND ITS DISCONTENTS
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 1 - 2006
Lecture Wednesday 12:00 - 15:00 [MCLG44]

Plagiarism
University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one's own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:
- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another's ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.
Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs.
Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link - http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/general/academic_integrity_policy_new.html

The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -
- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

Written Assessment Items
Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.
Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:
1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or
2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment;
must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer on the prescribed form.

Please go to the Policy and the on-line form for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you, at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/adm_prog/adverse_circumstances.html

Changing your Enrolment

The last dates to withdraw without financial or academic penalty (called the HECS Census Dates) are:

For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2006
For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2006
For Trimester 1 courses: 18 February 2006
For Trimester 2 courses: 10 June 2006

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester and prior to the commencement of the formal exam period. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with the School Office.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/change-enrol.html

Contact Details

Faculty Student Service Offices
The Faculty of Education and Arts
Room: GP1-22 (General Purpose Building)
Phone: 0249 215 314

The Dean of Students
Dr Jennifer Archer
Phone: 492 15806
Fax: 492 17151
resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au
Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness. If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 49 21 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester.

For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

Online Tutorial Registration:
Students are required to enrol in the Lecture for this course via the Online Registration system:
Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/
This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

TEXTS

There is no set text for this course. The reading for each week is listed below and is available through the Auchmuty Library Short Loans service, either in pdf file format or in print format.

In addition, supplementary reading has been placed on Short Loans. The list of supplementary reading is available on Blackboard.
LECTURES AND READINGS

Week 1  22 February
Introduction; 17th century background

Week 2  1 March
Enlightened Critique and Empiricism
Reading: Locke, J., An Essay Concerning Human Understanding: Bk 1
[electronic copy in SL]; Bk 2, Chs 1 and 2 at
http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/phl302/texts/locke/locke1/Essay_contents.html

Week 3  8 March
The Science of Man, and Ethics
Reading: Hume, Introduction, Treatise of Human Nature [electronic copy in SL];
D’Holbach, excerpts, Universal Morality and System of Nature [electronic copy in
SL];
Bentham, J. An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation, Chs 1, 2,
15 at http://www.la.utexas.edu/research/poltheory/bentham/ipml/ipml.toc.html

Week 4  15 March
History and Progress; Internal tensions in the Enlightenment
Reading: Condorcet, Sketch for a Historical Picture of the Progress of the Human Mind:
Introduction; Ch 9 [electronic copy in SL]; ch. 10 at
http://www.faculty.fairfield.edu/faculty/hodgson/Courses/progress/CondorcetChapt10.html

Week 5  22 March
Hume and the renewal of skepticism; Kant
Reading: Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding, sections II, III, IV, V pt 1,
http://www.etext.leeds.ac.uk/hume/ehu/ehupbsb.htm#index-div3-N-840785922
Kant, Preface and Introduction to the Critique of Pure Reason [electronic copy in SL]

Week 6  29 March
Kant, Morality and Freedom
Reading: Kant, Groundwork ch 1: [electronic copy in SL]; ch. 2 at
http://www.swan.ac.uk/poli/texts/kant/kantcon.htm

Week 7  5 April
Kant on Enlightenment
Reading: ‘What is Enlightenment?’ [electronic copy in SL]

Week 8  12 April
Marx and Marxism
Reading: Marx, excerpts from The German Ideology, Critique of Political
Economy, The Communist Manifesto [electronic copy in SL]

BREAK

Week 9  3 May
The Frankfurt School
Reading: Horkheimer, Eclipse of Reason ch 1 [electronic copy in SL]
Horkheimer, and Adorno, The Dialectic of Enlightenment ch 1 [electronic copy in
SL]
Week 10 10 May
Nietzsche; Foucault
Nietzsche, excerpts from Twilight of the Idols [electronic copy in SL];
Foucault, 'Nietzsche, Genealogy, History' [electronic copy in SL];
excerpts from Discipline and Punish [electronic copy in SL].

Week 11 17 May
What is Enlightenment?: Foucault on Kant
Reading: Foucault 'The Subject and Power' [electronic copy in SL];
'What is Enlightenment? [electronic copy in SL]

Week 12 24 May
Modernity and Beyond 1: Habermas
Reading: Habermas, Knowledge and Human Interests ch 12 [electronic copy in SL];
'Modernity: An unfinished project?' [electronic copy in SL]

Week 13 31 May
Modernity and beyond 2: Lyotard
Reading: Lyotard, J.-F., excerpts from The Postmodern Condition [electronic copy in SL];
chs 1-5 at http://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/philosophy/works/fr/lyotard.htm;
'What is Postmodernism? [electronic copy in SL]

Week 14 No lecture

ASSESSMENT

This course contains compulsory components or assessment items that must be satisfactorily completed in order for a student to receive a pass mark or better for the course. These essential elements are described in the CTS. They are:

(1) A presentation (30 minutes, worth 15%). Due by arrangement
(2) An essay of 4,000 words (worth 55%). Due 1 May
(3) Take-home exam (2,500 words, worth 30%). Due 22 May

Presentation
The presentation will be on the weekly reading. After giving your presentation you will have a week to write it up and hand it in. Presentations will be organized in the first lecture.

Take-home Exam
There will be a take-home exam (three questions), covering material in the lectures and readings, designed to evaluate your overall understanding of the central course material.
Essay
Essays should be typed, one-and-half or double-spaced, with a wide left-hand margin.

Restating points made in lectures and the texts, organized and in your own terms, will show that you have understood the material; you will do better if you do further research and offer your own critique, backed up by sound argument.

Suggested essay topics
1. Locke criticises and rejects innatism. What are his objections? Could innatism be defended against his critique?
2. What is the 'science of man'? Critically discuss in connection with one or more of the Enlightenment thinkers we've looked at.
3. Critically discuss the utilitarian position in ethics and/or politics.
4. What is the connection between reason and progress in the Enlightenment view of history? Discuss with reference to Condorcet.
5. What are the essential features of Hume's account of causality? Discuss one or more problems arising from the account.
6. Why does Kant exclude desire and inclination from the realm of morality? How does this exclusion affect his moral theory? His conception of freedom?
7. What, according to Kant, is Enlightenment?
8. Explain Marx's view of history. What criticisms could be made of his account?
9. 'The fully enlightened earth radiates disaster triumphant' (Horkheimer and Adorno, The Dialectic of Enlightenment). Discuss.
10. Foucault claims that the 18th century Enlightenment 'invented the disciplines'. What does he mean by 'discipline', and what are the implications of this claim for our understanding of the Enlightenment?
11. Compare Habermas's and Foucault's views on the contemporary relevance of the Enlightenment project.
12. What are the implications of the demise of 'grand narratives' for theories of historical progress (you might consider Lyotard in relation to Condorcet, for example).
13. Make up your own question — but please discuss it with me first.

Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date. Late assignments will be subject to the penalties described below.

Hard copy submission:
- **Type your assignments**: All work must be typewritten in 11 or 12 point black font. Leave a wide margin for marker’s comments, use 1.5 or double spacing, and include page numbers.
Word length: The word limit of all assessment items should be strictly followed – 10% above or below is acceptable, otherwise penalties may apply.

Proof read your work because spelling, grammatical and referencing mistakes will be penalised.

Staple the pages of your assignment together (do not use pins or paper clips).

University coversheet: All assignments must be submitted with the University coversheet: www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/general/assess_coversheet.pdf

Assignments are to be deposited in the relevant discipline assignment box:
- Callaghan students: School of Humanities and Social Science Office, Level 1, McMullin Building, MC127

Do not fax or email assignments: Only hard copies of assignments will be considered for assessment. Inability to physically submit a hard copy of an assignment by the deadline due to other commitments or distance from campus is an unacceptable excuse. Assignments mailed to Schools are accepted from the date posted.

Keep a copy of all assignments: All assignments are date-stamped upon receipt. However, it is the student’s responsibility to produce a copy of their work if the assignment goes astray after submission. Students are advised to keep updated back-ups in hard copy and on disk.

Online copy submission to Turnitin
In addition to hard copy submission, students are required to submit an electronic version of the following assignments to Turnitin via the course Blackboard website:
- 4,000 word essay

Prior to final submission, all students have the opportunity to submit one draft of their assignment to Turnitin to self-check their referencing.

Assignments will not be marked until both hard copy and online versions have been submitted. Marks may be deducted for late submission of either version.

Penalties for Late Assignments
Assignments submitted after the due date, without an approved extension of time will be penalised by the reduction of 5% of the possible maximum mark for the assessment item for each day or part day that the item is late. Weekends count as one day in determining the penalty. Assessment items submitted more than ten days after the due date will be awarded zero marks.

Special Consideration/Extension of Time Applications
Students wishing to apply for Special Consideration or Extension of Time should obtain the appropriate form from the Student HUBS.

No Assignment Re-submission
Students who have failed an assignment are not permitted to revise and resubmit it in this course. However, students are always welcome to contact their Lecturer to make a consultation time to receive individual feedback on their assignments.

Remarks
Students can request to have their work re-marked by the Discipline Convenor (or their delegate); three outcomes are possible: the same grade, a lower grade, or a higher grade being awarded. Students may also appeal against their final result for a course. Please consult the University policy at:
Return of Assignments
Where possible, assignments will be marked within 3 weeks and returned to students in class. At the end of semester, students can collect assignments from the Student HUBS during office hours.

Preferred Referencing Style
There is no preferred referencing style, as long as the same style is used throughout the assignment. Inadequate or incorrect reference to the work of others may be viewed as plagiarism and result in reduced marks or failure. Information on referencing and general study skills can be obtained from Infoskills: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/library/tutorials/infoskills/index.html

OTHER

Student Representatives
We are very interested in your feedback and suggestions for improvement. Student Representatives are the channel of communication between students and the School Board. Contact details of Student Representatives can be found on the School website.

Student Communication
Students should discuss any course related matters with their Lecturer in the first instance and then the relevant Discipline or Program Convenor. If this proves unsatisfactory, they should then contact the Head of School if required. Contact details can be found on the School website.

Essential Online Information for Students
Information on Class and Exam Timetables, Tutorial Online Registration, Learning Support, Campus Maps, Careers information, Counselling, the Health Service and a range of free Student Support Services can be found at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/currentstudents/index.html