



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS**

**POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME
INTP 370 SPECIAL TOPIC: AFTER MODERNITY: CRITICAL THEORISTS AND
EMANCIPATORY POLITICS
20 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 14 July to 16 November 2014

Teaching dates: 14 July to 17 October 2014

Mid-trimester break: 25 August to 7 September 2014

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Friday 11am-12.50pm

Venue: AMLT105

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Kate Schick
Room No: MY542
Phone: 4636547
Email: kate.schick@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Mondays 4pm

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course introduces students to key critical theorists, both within and outside the formal IR discipline, and examines selected texts to explore different emancipatory approaches to world politics. It focuses in particular on thinkers from the Frankfurt School of critical theory and its interlocutors.

Course content

LECTURE PLAN

18 July	Introduction: Key themes
25 July	Kant
1 August	Hegel
8 August	Freud
15 August	Benjamin
22 August	Adorno

MID-TRIMESTER BREAK

12 September	Habermas
19 September	Rose
26 September	Butler
3 October	Žižek
10 October	Conclusion and revision
17 October	Final test

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Recognise the central ideas of selected critical thinkers in contemporary political theory
2. Describe the different emancipatory approaches employed by critical thinkers in response to the 'disasters of modernity'
3. Illustrate the ways in which these critical theorists speak to contemporary debates in global politics
4. Critically engage with key texts by critical theorists
5. Write well-structured, theoretically informed, and critically aware essays about debates in contemporary political theory

Teaching format

The course has one seminar per week. The seminar is scheduled for two hours and will involve a lecture and seminar-style class discussions. Students are expected to attend classes regularly, take active part in class discussion, and keep up with the reading.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work), and sit the final test.

Workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at seminars, completion of all set weekly readings and research and writing for set assessment tasks.

The 200 hours can be divided approximately as follows:

24 hours seminar attendance and participation

48 hours seminar preparation (set and recommended readings)

26 hours essay plan

68 hours essay writing

34 hours test preparation

Things to consider when planning your time:

- Seminar preparation involves careful reading of set texts for meaning and argument, as well as note-taking and preparation of responses to discussion questions. As you become more skilled throughout the trimester, this may take fewer hours each week but in the first instance 4 hours per group of readings is worth 'budgeting' for.
- Essays and other written assignments may require enough time for location, retrieval and reading of a range of sources. Note-taking, planning, drafting and editing the draft will all be necessary before writing up a final version.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item – INTP 370		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Essay plan (3-4 pages)	20	1, 2, 3	12 noon, 15 August
2	Essay (3000 words)	50	3, 4, 5	12 noon, 26 September
3	Test (in-class test, 1 hour 50 minutes)	25	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	11am, 17 October
4	Seminar participation	5	3, 4	Throughout trimester

The essay plan is due on Friday 15 August at 12 noon, and requires you to formulate an essay question, argument, and structure based on the selection of ONE of the thinkers we cover on the course and ONE theme (modernity, progress, critique, suffering, mourning, and utopia). The plan will be 3-4 pages in length and has three parts. Part One (1 page) requires you to formulate your question and justify your choice with reference to primary and secondary academic literature. Part Two (1 page) requires you to write a general outline of your essay plan, indicating both your argument and the structure of the essay. Part Three (1-2 pages) requires you to compile a list of key bibliographical sources. This should include both primary sources (i.e., things written by the thinker you'll be focusing on) and secondary sources (academic journal articles, book chapters, etc. written about the thinker/theme you'll be focusing on).

The essay is due Friday 26 September at 12 noon, and is a maximum of 3 000 words in length. You should use your essay plan as the foundation for your essay, although you are free to make changes. Please note that the essay should draw on both primary and secondary academic sources (as above) and that you should cite *at least 10 scholarly sources* in your text.

The test is an in-class test held on Friday 17 October at 9am. The test will have two parts: the first will consist of short answers and examine breadth of knowledge, and the second will consist of two short essays.

Both the essay and the test assess student ability to critically engage with the key themes of the course. These themes are explored in depth and in relation to one particular theorist in the essay, whereas they are explored much more broadly in the test. By the end of the course students are expected to be familiar with key debates about modernity and emancipation in world politics, as outlined in the learning objectives above.

Students will be assigned to small groups in the first week of class and are expected both to attend seminar discussions and to come prepared to participate fully in small group discussions.

Please note that extensions to course work will only be given in exceptional circumstances, such as illness verified by a medical certificate. I will not give extensions for time management related problems (see below under 'extensions and penalties').

Submission and return of work

Essays and essay plans should be submitted in hard copy through the School office essay drop-off point, Murphy Room 518, and electronically through Blackboard by 12 noon, together with completed cover sheet which is available from the office.

When marked, assignments will be returned to you in class in the first instance. After that, they will be available from the Office, MY 518, between 2.00-3.00 pm.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

The course expects students to submit their assignments on time. Requests for extensions should be made with the lecturer in person with proper documentation before the due date. Extensions are normally given only to those with a medical certificate, or of other evidence of forces beyond your control.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days.** Work that is more than 10

weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

Set texts

Jenny Edkins and Nick Vaughan-Williams (eds.), *Critical Theorists and International Relations* (Oxford: Routledge, 2009).

The second essential resource for this course is your Book of Readings, which contains compulsory readings and is available from VicBooks.

Recommended reading

Other books that you might find useful are:

Steven C Roach, *Critical Theory and International Relations: A Reader*, Routledge, 2007.

Nicholas Rengger and Ben Thirkell-White (eds.), *Critical International Relations Theory After 25 Years* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007).

Richard Wyn Jones (ed.), *Critical Theory and World Politics* (Boulder: Lynne Reiner, 2001).

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications

- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz