PHIL704
Research Topics in Modern European Philosophy
S2 Day 2013
Philosophy

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General Information

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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
The unit will examine contemporary research in the field of Modern European Philosophy. Examples of areas to be explored include recent developments in the Frankfurt School tradition of Critical Theory (especially the ‘recognition’ paradigm’), theories of subjectivity and intersubjectivity, and recent developments in French Philosophy (especially aesthetics). The unit will revolve around a current ‘hot’ topic of research in this area. Students will be brought up to speed on this topic so that they are in a position to begin to pursue their own research project.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes

1. Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the Recognition paradigm of Critical
Theory.

2. Synthesise and analyse the key concepts and arguments of Recognition theory.

3. Articulate clearly and coherently philosophical arguments of Recognition theory in written and oral form.

4. Analyse and critically evaluate philosophical arguments and their application to contemporary social issues.

5. Apply acquired knowledge and skills in the context of philosophical scholarship.

6. Work in cooperation with others and reflect on individual and group performance to identify opportunities for improvement.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Text analysis</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>27/3, 8/5, 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research essay</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>13/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>throughout semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar attendance</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>throughout semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Text analysis

Due: 27/3, 8/5, 5/6
Weighting: 15%

3 x 500 words analyses of readings

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the Recognition paradigm of Critical Theory.
- Articulate clearly and coherently philosophical arguments of Recognition theory in written and oral form.
- Analyse and critically evaluate philosophical arguments and their application to contemporary social issues.

Research essay

Due: 13/6
Weighting: 60%

1 x 3000-4000 word research essay
This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the Recognition paradigm of Critical Theory.
- Synthesise and analyse the key concepts and arguments of Recognition theory.
- Articulate clearly and coherently philosophical arguments of Recognition theory in written and oral form.
- Analyse and critically evaluate philosophical arguments and their application to contemporary social issues.
- Apply acquired knowledge and skills in the context of philosophical scholarship.

**Class presentation**

**Due:** throughout semester  
**Weighting:** 10%  
Oral presentation on a given topic

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Articulate clearly and coherently philosophical arguments of Recognition theory in written and oral form.
- Apply acquired knowledge and skills in the context of philosophical scholarship.
- Work in cooperation with others and reflect on individual and group performance to identify opportunities for improvement.

**Seminar attendance**

**Due:** throughout semester  
**Weighting:** 15%  
weekly attendance and participation in seminar discussion

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the Recognition paradigm of Critical Theory.
- Articulate clearly and coherently philosophical arguments of Recognition theory in written and oral form.
- Work in cooperation with others and reflect on individual and group performance to identify opportunities for improvement.
## Delivery and Resources

The unit will be delivered by way of weekly seminars.


Further references and sources will be provided during the semester.

### Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Aims of the unit; unit structure and content; assignments; allocation of seminar presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Hegelian Roots of Recognition Theory</td>
<td>Hegel, <em>Phenomenology of Spirit</em>, Part I, section 4 (‘Lordship and Bondage’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Honneth’s Appropriation of Hegel</td>
<td>Honneth, <em>The Struggle for Recognition</em>, chs 4-6; Honneth, <em>The Fragmented World of the Social</em>, ch 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hegelian Criticisms of Honneth: I</td>
<td>Pippin, <em>Hegel’s Practical Philosophy</em>, ch 7; Pippin, ‘What is the Question for which Hegel’s Theory of Recognition is the Answer?’, <em>European Journal of Philosophy</em>, 8:2, 155-172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Hegelian Criticisms of Honneth: II</td>
<td>Pinkard, ‘Is Recognition a Basis for Social or Political Thought?’, in Recognition Theory as Social Research, ch2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Recognition and Marriage</td>
<td>Zum, ‘Misrecognition, Marriage, and Derecognition’, in Recognition Theory as Social Research, ch4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mid-semester Break**
**Week 9**
07/10  
**Recognition and Work**  
*Reading*: Smith, ‘Work as a Sphere of Norms, Paradoxes and Ideologies of Recognition’, in *Recognition Theory as Social Research*, ch5

**Week 10**
14/10  
**Recognition and Crime**  
*Reading*: Yar, ‘Recognition Theory as the Grounds of a General Theory of Crime as Social Harm?’, in *Recognition Theory as Social Research*, ch6

**Week 11**
21/10  
**Recognition and Religion**  

**Week 12**
28/10  
**Recognition and Migration**  

**Week 13**
04/11  
**Review**

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**Policies and Procedures**

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- **Special Consideration Policy** [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html)

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy) of Policy Central.

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of Academic Student Support Services. Details of these services can be accessed at: [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**UniWISE provides:**

- Online learning resources and academic skills workshops [http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/](http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/)
- Personal assistance with your learning & study related questions.
• The Learning Help Desk is located in the Library foyer (level 2).
• Online and on-campus orientation events run by Mentors@Macquarie.

Student Enquiry Service
Details of these services can be accessed at http://www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/.

Equity Support
Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help
If you wish to receive IT help, we would be glad to assist you at http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/.

When using the university’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students and it outlines what can be done.

Changes since First Published

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19/07/2013</td>
<td>The Description was updated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/07/2013</td>
<td>The Description was updated.</td>
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</table>