

The Humanities and Philosophy

Humanities 320

Section: D100

Term: 1999 Fall

Instructor: Ian Angus,

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Discussion Topics: This seminar course will consider the role of philosophy in articulating the values that underlie the humanities and humanistic culture. It will engage the "end of philosophy" debate by considering Nietzsche's critique of Socrates as a representative of the decadent phase of Greek culture. Three important post-Nietzschean arguments (Lowith, Patocka, Derrida) concerning the relation between history, philosophy and religion will be considered in detail in order to evaluate the contemporary role of philosophy in the humanities.

Grading: First essay, due week 7, approximately 10 pages 30%

Second essay, due in exam period, approx. 15 pages 50%

General class participation 20%

The course requires active participation in seminar discussions and two essays. The essays should be written in acceptable humanities style. Essay requirements will be discussed in class. A style booklet is available from the English Department main office. It is advised to consult the course director on your topic and argument.

Required Texts: Karl Löwith, *Meaning in History*. University of Chicago Press.

Friedrich Nietzsche, *Twilight of the Idols/The Anti-Christ*, trans. R.J. Hollingdale, Penguin.

Jan Patocka, *Heretical Essays in the Philosophy of History*, Trans.

Recommended Texts: N/A

Materials/Supplies: N/A

Prerequisite/Corequisite: 45 credit hours.

Notes: HUM 320-4 may be applied towards the Certificate in Liberal Arts.

Visit our Humanities website

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For inquiries contact wendy_sjolin@sfu.ca

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