

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF HEGEL AND MARX

Spring 2010

Michael Forster and Brian Leiter
Room D, Law School

Office: 203 Stuart (Forster); 425 Law School (Leiter).
Phone: 702-0953 (Leiter)
E-mail: mnforste@uchicago.edu; bleiter@uchicago.edu
Office Hrs: F 11:30 am-1:30 pm (Forster); M, T 2:45-3:45 or by appt. (Leiter)
Secretary: Ms. Wehrs (ragland@uchicago.edu) (Leiter)

Required Texts:

Hegel, *Phenomenology of Spirit*, trans. Miller (OUP, 1977)
Hegel, *Philosophy of Right*, trans. Knox (OUP, 1967)
Hegel, *Reason in History*, trans. Hartman (Bobbs-Merrill, 1953)
Hegel, *Early Theological Writings*, trans. Knox (Pennsylvania, 1971)
Tucker (ed.), *The Marx-Engels Reader*, 2nd ed. (Norton, 1978)
The instructors will also hand out photocopies of some supplemental readings.

Requirements:

- (1) Attendance at *all* classes.
- (2) Either two roughly six-page papers, or one 12-15 page paper on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor(s).
- (3) Please note we may schedule one additional session, at a mutually agreeable time, for a visiting speaker from elsewhere. Details to be announced.

Tentative list of reading assignments:

- 1. March 31:** Read the Preface and the Introduction to the *Phenomenology*.
- 2. April 7:** Read “Self-Consciousness” chapter of the *Phenomenology* and “The Positivity of the Christian Religion” in *Early Theological Writings*. Also read Marx, 1844 Manuscripts, in Tucker, pp. 106-125.
- 3. April 14:** Read selections from *Philosophy of Right* (to be announced) and Marx, “Contribution to the Critique of Hegel’s *Philosophy of Right*,” in Tucker, pp. 16-25 and pp. 53-65. Also read Hegel, *Reason in History*.
- 4. April 21:** Read Marx, “On the Jewish Question,” in Tucker, pp. 26-52. Marx, 1844 Manuscripts, in Tucker, pp. 66-105. Also recommended: Elster, “Alienation,” from *An Introduction to Karl Marx* [handout].
- 5. April 28:** Read Marx, Preface to *A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*, in Tucker, pp. 3-6 and Marx, *The German Ideology: Part I*, in Tucker, pp.

146-200. Also read Elster, “Historical Materialism,” from *An Introduction to Karl Marx* [handout].

6. May 5: Read Marx, *The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte*, in Tucker, pp. 594-617; Peter Railton, “Explanatory Asymmetry in Historical Materialism,” *Ethics* (1986) [handout]; Joshua Cohen, Review of G.A. Cohen, *Journal of Philosophy* 79 (1982):253-273 [handout].

7. May 12: Marx, “Theses on Feuerbach,” in Tucker, pp. 143-145; (2) Marx & Engels, *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, in Tucker, pp. 469-500; (3) Engels, “On Morality,” in Tucker, pp. 725-727. Also read an excerpt from Geuss, *The Idea of a Critical Theory* [handout].

8. May 19: unscheduled at present. We may use this in part to catch-up and/or for more on Marx’s theory of ideology.