PHIL 416

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam) people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on in their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

Course Title, Time and Location	Course Code Number	Credit Value
Topics in 19th-Century Philosophy: Nietzsche Mon, Wed, Fri 10-11 am MATH 105	PHIL 416 001 W1	3 credits

Course Instructor	Contact Details	Office Location	Office Hours
Dr. Willow Verkerk	willow.verkerk@ubc.ca	BUCH E 158	Mon, Wed 3-4 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

At a time when many of the cultural changes that define our age were first starting to emerge, Nietzsche was critiquing modern European values and seeking alternatives to invigorate individual and cultural health. His philosophical questioning grew out of a strong dissatisfaction with the effects of industrialization on individual character, interpersonal relationships, and cultural intelligence. Disappointed with consumerism and concerned with the loss of values due to the death of God, Nietzsche spoke of the creation of new values and new forms of human relationships to replace those in disrepair. Together, we will question Nietzsche's diagnoses of western metaphysics and morality and analyze the remedies he suggests for the "last human."

This course studies *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, and selections from his other texts, in order to learn about Nietzsche's most discussed concepts, such as the free spirit, the overhuman, the will to power, eternal recurrence, and *amor fati*. We will also investigate what Nietzsche writes about truth, the self, the political community, and friendship.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Students are expected to read the materials before class and come prepared to take part in class discussion. The schedule includes all of the readings which can be found in the assigned book (which can be found in the bookstore):

The main text is available through the bookstore:
Nietzsche, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, trans. Graham Parkes, Oxford University Press ($14.95).

Additional reading can be found in the LOCR or under the Modules section of the Canvas course page.

ASSESSMENTS OF LEARNING

Midterm Exam 30% posted October 6; *Exams during classes October 11-13*
Final Essay (3000-3500 words) 60% posted November 3; *Due December 6*
Participation 10% (class attendance and participation in class discussion).
Written assignments are submitted on Canvas.

SCHEDULE: MON, WED, FRI 10– 11 AM

Week 1: On Reading Nietzsche and Nietzsche's *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*
September 6: On How to Read Nietzsche/On How to Read *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*

I: First Part, Thus Spoke Zarathustra

September 8: READ Zarathustra's Prologue (concentrate on: "God is dead," the overhuman, and the last human)

Week 2: On the Process of Overcoming and Camel Burdens
Sept 11-15: READ from s. I On the Three Transformations to s. 6 On the Pale Criminal

Week 3: Nietzsche's Critique of Culture and the Challenges of the Lion
Sept 18-22: READ from s. 7 On Reading and Writing to s. 13 On Chastity

Week 4: Friendship, Morality, and the Strength of the Solitary
Sept 25- 29: READ from s. 14 On the Friend to s. 22 On the Bestowing Virtue

October 2: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (no class)

II: Second Part, Thus Spoke Zarathustra

Week 5: On Wisdom, the Overhuman, and Virtue
October 4-6: READ from s. 1 The Child With the Mirror to 5. On the Virtuous
*Midterm exam questions posted on October 6

Holiday October 9- Thanksgiving Day

Week 6: Midterm Exam (no classes)
Oct 11-13: *Exams during class*

Week 7: Challenges of the Knowledge-Seeker and Self-Overcoming
Oct 16-20: Read from s. 6 On the Rabble to s. 12 On Self-overcoming

Week 8: Oct 23-27: **On the Will and Different Forms of Wisdom**
Read from s. 13 On Those Who Are Sublime to s. 22 The Stillest Hour

III: Third Part, Thus Spoke Zarathustra

Week 9: *Amor Fati* and Eternal Recurrence
Oct 30-November 3: Read from s. 1 The Wanderer to s. 4 Before the Sunrise
Essay topics posted November 3: selection during weeks 10-11

Week 10: **Zarathustra's Critiques**
Nov 6-10: Read from s. 5 On Virtue That Makes Smaller to s. 11 On the Spirit of Heaviness

Week 11: *Midterm break Nov 13-15*
Discussion Day Nov 17

Week 12: On the Re-evaluation of Values and Active Nihilism
Nov 20-24: Read s. 12 On Old and New Tablets

Week 13: On Negation, Affirmation, and Becoming What One Is
Nov 27-December 1: Read from s. 13 The Convalescent to s. 16 The Seven Seals

Week 14: Closing Discussion
Dec 4-6: Readings to be announced

Dec 6 Final Essay due

LEARNING OUTCOMES

During the course, students will learn about the key concepts of Nietzsche's philosophy. They will practice talking and thinking critically about his arguments and ideas. The midterm exam provides an opportunity to demonstrate understanding of the concepts studied to date. The final paper is an exercise in critical thinking to explore and deepen understanding of one or more of the ideas studied during the course. By the end of the semester, students will be familiar with Nietzsche's thinking and his legacies in French and Anglo-American philosophy.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND SUPPORT

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all their actions. Details of the policies and how to access support are available on **the UBC Senate website.**

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Plagiarism, which is intellectual theft, occurs where an individual submits or presents the oral or written work of another person as his or her own. Scholarship quite properly rests upon examining and referring to the thoughts and writings of others. However, when another person's words (i.e. phrases, sentences, or paragraphs), ideas, or entire works are used, the author must be acknowledged in the text, in footnotes, in endnotes, or in another accepted form of academic citation. Where direct quotations are made, they must be clearly delineated (for example, within quotation marks or separately indented). Failure to provide proper attribution is plagiarism because it represents someone else's work as one's own. Plagiarism should not occur in submitted drafts or final works. A student who seeks assistance from a tutor or other scholastic aids must ensure that the work submitted is the student's own. Students are responsible for ensuring that any work submitted does not constitute plagiarism. Students who are in any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism should consult their instructor before handing in any assignments. A link about Academic misconduct is below:
http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/Vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,959

The use of *Chat GPT* and similar online resources may fall under "cheating" in the UBC policy if students make unauthorized use of this tool in the creation of assignments or on exams ("use…of unauthorized means to complete an examination or coursework…including, but not limited to, …accessing websites or other online resources not specifically permitted by the instructor or examiner").

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