Welcome to the Website of
Philosophy 820
Topics in the History of Philosophy: Husserl and Heidegger, Spring Semester 2004, University of Kansas
Dr. Christian Lotz

Tentative Schedule (last UPDATE: 03/28/2004)

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**Intentionality**

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Heidegger - Husserl

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**Being and Time**

- **10 29** Heidegger, Basic Problems, §15
  - **Additional Session**
  - **April 2** Hermeneutic Phenomenology
    - Heidegger, Being and Time, §§1-8
  - **April 5** World
    - Heidegger, History of the Concept of Time, §§21-23
  - **April 12** Understanding
    - Heidegger, Being and Time, §§28-34
  - **April 19** Language, Truth
    - Heidegger, Being and Time, 41-44; Lafont, Heidegger, Language and World-Disclosure, 1-29
  - **April 26** Language
    - Lafont, Heidegger, Language and World-Disclosure, 1-85
  - **May 3** Death, Certainty
    - Heidegger, Being and Time, §§45-53
  - **May 10** Wrap Up
    - Wrap Up

**Class Meetings:**

Days: M
Time: 7:00 PM - 8:50 PM
Place: Wescoe 3097

**Office:**
Phone: 864.2322
Place: 3050
Hours: MWF (7:45am-8:15am; 9:30am-10:00am), M (6:00pm-7:00pm) by appointment and by phone (see home phone)

**Exceptions:**

**Other Contact:**
E-mail: lotz@ku.edu
Home Phone: 785.832.1674 (please do not hesitate to call me, if you do not have time to stop by my office)

**Webpage:**
URL: [http://www.people.ku.edu/~lotz/](http://www.people.ku.edu/~lotz/)
(Please check the webpage regularly for the current schedule)

**Additional Material Online:**

**Box:**
You will find my box in Wescoe Hall, 3090 (and in front of my office, Wescoe Hall, 3050)
Course Description:

The focus of this graduate course will involve a consideration of the movement between transcendental and hermeneutical phenomenology, that is to say, of the shift that took place between Husserl and Heidegger. In particular, we will study key ideas in phenomenology, such as intentionality, perception, consciousness, and world from each thinker's perspective. We will also pay special attention to Husserl's and Heidegger's basic methodological assumptions and general conceptions. In the first part of the class, we will cover introductory themes that are of central importance for both Husserl and Heidegger, while in the second part of the class, we will focus on the differences between a transcendental and a hermeneutical approach to philosophy. Due to the fact that Husserl's and Heidegger's oeuvre is far too complex to cover adequately within one semester-long course, we will mainly pay attention to Husserl's transcendental works (leaving aside his Logical Investigations and his Crisis) and to Heidegger's early works, which were written during his Marburg period. More specifically, we will study and discuss selections from Husserl's Ideas I and his Cartesian Meditations, as well as from Heidegger's The History of the Concept of Time and Being and Time.

Requirements

Protocol, essay, final oral examination, daily slow reading (10 pages)

Required Texts

We will read selections from the following texts that are far too complex to be all closely studied in one seminar, or even five seminars. You should purchase these texts, although we will only discuss portions in class; a fragment can only be understood in its relation to the whole.


Selected Introductory Literature

Phenomenology


Husserl

- Zahavi, Dan, Husserl's Phenomenology, Stanford UP 2003

Heidegger

- Kisiel, Theodore J., The Genesis of Heidegger's Being and Time, Berkeley: University of
California Press, 1993

- Safranski, Rüdiger, Martin Heidegger: Between Good and Evil; translated by Ewald Osers, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1998

Course Format

The course will be organized such that, ideally, each class period will include [i] "interactive" lecture, [ii] protocol discussion and/or [iii] discussion time. Students will be asked to [a] study a certain text or part of a text for the next class period.

Protocol

The class protocol must in principle be about the readings for class and should cover our discussion in class. Protocols should have a length of around 2-3 pages, and they will in and outside of the classroom force us to have an ongoing reflection on our texts that we study for class. They can also include problems or questions that the writers had either with our class discussion or with the texts itself. Protocols have to be sent out to other students in class by email on every Friday. In addition, a paper copy must be placed in the box in front of my office. It is your responsibility to make sure that you received a protocol. I'll radically mark down late turn ins. The protocol team will go over their own protocol one week later, it will address questions during the first 20 minutes of the next class meeting, and it will lead the class discussion.

General Remark

Given that this is a graduate seminar I expect self-motivation as well as self-responsibility.

Class Paper

The final essay topics must be [1] connected to one of the texts in class as well as [2] to one of our topics. You should talk with me about the topic of your paper. I do not expect long research papers; rather I expect interpretation papers, which show evidence that you are able to read closely sections from one of the texts that we discussed in class.

Final Oral Examination

There will be one final oral examination (20-30 minutes). You can choose selections from either Ideas I, Cartesian Meditations or Being and Time, about which I will raise questions. Note: This is a pass/fail exam! Either you earn 10 points (=excellent performance) or you loose 10 points.

Course Evaluation

You will be evaluated on the basis of:

1 protocol 10 points (pass/fail)
1 final oral exam 10 points (pass/fail)
1 class paper (around 10-15 pages) 80 points
= 100 points

Grading:

A (superior performance): 100 – 90
B (good performance): 89 – 80
C (adequate performance): 79 – 70
D (poor performance): 69 – 60
F: below 60

Plagiarism

In any essay or exam answer submitted for assessment, all passages taken from other people's work must be placed within quotation marks, with specific reference to author, title and page. No excuse can be accepted for any failure to do so, nor will inclusion of the source in a bibliography be considered inadequate acknowledgement. If the marker decides that plagiarism has occurred, the student may be judged to have failed the class.

Guest Speaker

Prof. Cristina Lafont (web page) will give a public lecture entitled "Heidegger and Putnam on the Synthetic Apriori" on Tuesday, April 27 at 4:30pm. She is Associate Professor in the Philosophy Department at Northwestern University and earned her Ph.D. as well as her Habilitation from the University of Frankfurt (Germany). She specializes in German philosophy, particularly hermeneutics and critical theory. She has also published in philosophy of language and contemporary ethics. She published two books: 1. Heidegger, Language and World-Disclosure (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 2. The Linguistic Turn in Hermeneutic Philosophy (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1999). Prof. Lafont will attend our seminar on Monday, April 26 for a discussion of a selected chapter of her book on Heidegger. Please make a copy of this text that you'll find in the box in front of my office. I expect that you are well prepared for this meeting. Finally, I expect that everyone will be attending both the seminar and the lecture.

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