

Proseminar in History of Ideas

Common Reading List

1. Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera*
2. K.A. Appiah, *In My Father's House*
3. Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition*
4. James Baldwin, "History as Nightmare" and "The American Dream and the American Negro"
5. Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*
6. Boudrieu, *Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*
7. Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble*
8. Chakrabarty, *Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference* or Spivak, *A Critique of Postcolonial Reason* or *Can the Subaltern Speak?*
9. Patricia Hill Collins, *Intersectionality as Critical Social Theory* or Kimberlé Crenshaw: "Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory, and Antiracist Politics"
10. Dewey, "The Influence of Darwin on Philosophy" or "Philosophy and Democracy"
11. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk* or "The Conservation of Races"
12. Fanon, *Black Skin, White Masks*
13. Barbara Fields, "Ideology and Race in American History"
14. Foucault, *The History of Sexuality vol. I* or *The Order of Things* or *Discipline & Punish*
15. Friere, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*
16. Geertz, *The Interpretation of Cultures*
17. Thomas Haskell, *Objectivity is Not Neutrality*
18. Hegel, *The Philosophy of World History* or *Introduction to the History of Philosophy*
19. Richard Hofstadter, *The Age of Reform*
20. bell hooks, *Ain't I a Woman?*
21. William James, "Philosophical Conceptions and Practical Results" or "The Meaning of Pragmatism"
22. Kant, "Idea for a Universal History With a Cosmopolitan Aim"
23. Joan Kelly, "Did Women have a Renaissance"
24. Thomas Kuhn, *Structure of Scientific Revolutions*
25. Arthur Lovejoy, *The Great Chain of Being*
26. Marx, *Capital vol I* or *The German Ideology*
27. Chandra Mohanty, *Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*
28. Nietzsche, *The Genealogy of Morals* or "On the Use and Abuse of History for Life"
29. Michael Omi and Howard Winant, *Racial Formation in the United States*
30. Plato, *Symposium* or *The Republic*
31. Aníbal Quijano: "Coloniality of Power, Eurocentrism, and Latin America,"
32. W.V.O. Quine, "Two Dogmas of Empiricism"
33. John Herman Randall, Jr., *The Making of the Modern Mind* or *Nature and Historical Experience*
34. Richard Rorty, "The Historiography of Philosophy: Four Genres"
35. Edward Said, *Orientalism*
36. James C. Scott, *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*
37. Joan Scott, "Gender: A Useful Category of Analysis"
38. Quentin Skinner, "Meaning and Understanding in the History of Ideas"
39. Hayden White, *The Tropics of Discourse* or *Metahistory: The Historical Imagination in Nineteenth-Century Europe*
40. Raymond Williams, *Culture and Society*
41. Iris Marion Young, "Five Faces of Oppression"

Proseminar Course Learning Objectives

1. Students will demonstrate close reading skills that allow them to understand the argument and deep structure of a text.
2. Students will demonstrate written communication skills at a level appropriate to pursue further graduate-level work in History of Ideas.
3. Students will be introduced to a range of methods and approaches to the History of Ideas
4. Students will critically analyze texts on the concepts of race, gender, class, sexuality, intersectionality, postcoloniality, social and cultural theory, knowledge and interpretation.