

## PHIL 4262 Contemporary Western Philosophers: Existentialism

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M07-08 LHC G06

W06 UCA 103

This course is to introduce and analyse the backgrounds and the characteristics of Existentialism. It will first introduce the common issues the Existentialists are concerned about, and then analyse respectively the philosophical thinking of Kierkegaard, Heidegger, Jaspers and Sartre.

### Course Outline:

1. Introduction: The Problem of Human Existence
2. Kierkegaard: Human Subjectivity
3. Heidegger: Existential Analysis of Dasein
4. Jaspers: Existenzphilosophie
5. Sartre: Existentialism
6. The Chinese Interpretation of Existentialism: Tang and Mou

### Basic text:

1. Works by Kierkegaard:  
*The Concept of Anxiety*. Edited and translated with intord. and notes by Reidar Thomte, in collaboration with Albert B. Anderson. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1980.  
*Either/Or: Fragments of Life*. Edited and translated with introduction and notes By Howard V. Hong and Edna H. Hong. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1987.  
*Fear and trembling, and The sickness unto death*. translated with introductions and notes by Walter Lowrie. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1968.
2. Works by Heidegger:  
*Being and Time*. Trans. John Macquirrie and Edward Robinson. New York: Harper & Row, 1962.  
*The Concept of Time*. Trans. William McNeill. Oxford; Cambridge, Mass.: B. Blackwell, 1992.  
*Ontology: the Hermeneutics of Facticity*. Trans. John van Buren. Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1999.  
*Pathmarks*. Ed. William McNeill. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 1998.
3. Works by Jaspers:  
*Existentialism and humanism: three essays./* edited by Hanns E. Fischer; translated from the original German by E.B. Ashton. New York: R.F. Moore Co., 1952.

*Philosophy*. Translated by E.B. Ashton. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1969-71.

4. Works by Sartre:

*Being and Nothingness: an Essay in Phenomenological Ontology*. Translated and with an introduction by Hazel E. Barnes. New York: Citadel Press, 1968. *Existentialism and Humanism*. Translation and introduction by Philip Mairet. London: Methuen, 1948.

**Works on Existentialism**

1. Barrett, William. *Irrational Man: A Study in Existentialist Thinkers*. Garden City, N.Y. Doubleday, 1958.
2. Cooper, David E. *Existentialism: A Reconstruction*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Oxford: Blackwell, 1999.
3. Guignon, Charles ed. *The Existentialists* Oxford: Rowman & Littlefield, 2004.