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Philosophy 4282
Spring Semester 2012
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PHIL 4282 Hermeneutics

W07-09 SCE E106

I. Course Description

Hermeneutics is one of the most important philosophical movements in the tradition of the 20th century Continental Philosophies. The aim of the course is to help students in understanding better the main ideas of those major thinkers in Hermeneutics and their developments in the 20th century European philosophies. The main themes and the major thinkers discussed in this course will be

- 1) Introduction: Hermeneutics as a theory of interpretation and a theory of human existence.
- 2) Schleiermacher : The Art of understanding and the hermeneutical circle
- 3) Dilthey: Hermeneutics of life-expression (*Erlebnis-Ausdruck*)
- 4) Heidegger: Understanding and interpretation as existentials of *Dasein*.
- 5) Gadamer: Tradition, language and dialogical fusion of horizons.
- 6) Ricoeur: Text and a theory of interpretation.
- 7) Habermas: Hermeneutic claim for the universality and the critical Hermeneutics.
- 8) Derrida: Differance and the deconstruction of the philosophical power.

II. Requirements and Grading

Students are required to do all the readings and to participate in all class discussions (5%). The final grade of a student will be based mainly on his/her performance on at least one presentation + paper (45%) , and on the final exam (50%).

III. Texts and Readings

1) The main texts used in the class will be selected from the original writings of hermeneutic thinkers from Schleiermacher to Ricoeur. Students will get a list of the selected texts in the following course schedule.

2) Recommended readings

a) Martin Heidegger, *Being and Time*, trans. by John Macquarrie & Edward Robinson, (London: SCM Press, 1962)

b) Martin Heidegger, *Basic Writings*, ed. By David Farrell Krell, HaperSanFrancisco, 1993.

c) Hans Georg Gadamer, *Truth and Method*, Trans., by Joel Weinsheimer & Donald G. Marshall, Second Revised Edition (New York: Continuum,2003)

d) Richard E Palmer, *Hermeneutics – Interpretation Theory in Schleiermacher, Dilthey, Heidegger, and Gadamer*, Northwestern Univ. Press. 1969

e) John D. Caputo, *Radical Hermeneutics – Repetition, Deconstruction, and the Hermeneutic Project*, SUNY Press, 1987

f) *The Hermeneutic Tradition: From Ast to Ricoeur*, ed. By Gayle Ormiston & Alan Schrift, SUNY, 1990.

g) Josef Bleicher, *Contemporary Hermeneutics -- Hermeneutics as Method, Philosophy and Critique*, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1980

h) 《詮釋學經典文選》，洪漢鼎等譯，臺北：桂冠圖書股份有限公司, 2005

i) 陈嘉映，《海德格尔哲学概论》，北京：生活·讀書·新知三联书店, 1995.

g) 王慶節，《解釋學、海德格爾與儒道今釋》，北京：中國人民大學出版社, 2004