

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Department of Philosophy

Course Code: PHIL 4323
Course Title: Philosophy of History
Chinese Title: 歷史哲學
Course Outline 課程大綱

2021-22 Term 1

Time : M 10:30-13:15 **Location :**

Contact details for teacher(s)

Teacher	
Name:	王耀航 (WONG, Yiu-hong)
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Course overview :

This course introduces philosophical reflections on history. It investigates on the one hand problems around the mode of constitution and the specificity of historical knowledge, such as the objectivity of historical knowledge, the concept of causation in history, the nature of historical explanation, historical time and historical memory. On the other hand it treats the problem of the meaning of human history and the related issue of cultural-centrism. Views from the philosopher and the professional historian will both be considered.

Advisory to Majors : to be taken in year 2 or above.

Learning outcomes

1. Understand the historical and cultural conditions of the emergence of various schools of philosophy of history.
2. Access the contribution of philosophical reflections of history to the understanding of the human condition.
3. Acquire a critical view on theories proposed by various philosophers of history.
4. Access the contribution of philosophies of history to reflections on intercultural understanding.
5. Enhanced ability to research independently on the issues taught.

Topics : tentative

1. 思想背景 – 啟蒙思想, 浪漫主義, 歷史主義(historicism), 文化, 歷史意義, 歷史知識
2. 德羅森(Droysen) : 歷史、歷史意識、理解(understanding)、力量(power/ effect)、倫理團體 / 社會國家
3. 狄爾泰(Dilthey) : 歷史理性的批判、文化/心靈學科的方法、說明(explanation)與解釋(interpretation)、生命經驗(lived experience)、表達(expression)、詮釋、生命範疇
4. 海德格(Heidegger) : 此在(Dasein), 時間性(temporality), 歷史, 歷史性(historicity)
5. 伽達瑪(Gadamer) : 傳統與歷史性、效應歷史意識(historically effected consciousness)、歷史距離、界域融合(fusion of horizon)、“理解”、處境與先見(Vorurteil)、“理解-解釋-應用”

Learning activities

In this course, you are expected to

- read and think about the assigned readings;
- develop the skills mentioned in the course outcomes through philosophical discussion and writing (short essays, final essays, and presentation, comment report of tutorial readings);
- attend *all* lectures, and participate in class discussion.

Activities and workload :

In-class (mandatory) :

1. Lecture: 2-3 hours for every week.
2. Interactive discussion.

Out-of-class (average workload per week) :

1. Reading: 2–3 hours on the basic and suggested readings in different topics.
2. Essays: an average of 2–3 hours each week on reading the texts and preparing the essay throughout the semester.
3. Reading Report: an average of 2–3 hours each week on reading the texts, **Required reading**, and preparing the report throughout the semester.

Assessment scheme : tentative

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Weight</i>
閱讀報告 (書寫形式)	同學必須清楚理解閱讀材料*, 然後寫成一篇論述報告; 報告字數不少於 3000 字 *閱讀材料必須從 “ Required reading ”, 各組選定文章中作選擇	45%

學期論文 (書寫形式)	不少於 3000 字，題目不得與閱讀報告選題重複	45%
課堂討論參與	課堂提問 和 討論 – 相關的，具啟發的反省	10%

* **Backup plan for assessment in case face-to-face teaching and assessment is not possible due to the pandemic :**

<i>Task nature</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Weight</i>
閱讀報告 (書寫形式)	同學必須清楚理解閱讀材料*，然後寫成一篇論述報告；報告字數不少於 3000 字 *閱讀材料必須從 “ Required reading ”，各組選定文章中作選擇	45%
學期論文 (書寫形式)	不少於 3000 字，題目不得與閱讀報告選題重複	45%
網上 課堂討論參與	網上 課堂提問 和 討論	10%

Grade Descriptor, please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Remarks on Assessment Scheme (if any)

撰寫閱讀報告及論文的有關指引將會在課堂中適當時間公佈

Course schedule – tentative:

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Required reading</i>	<i>Suggest</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1-2	1	Kant, “Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan aim” Windelband, “History and Natural Science” (Rectorial Address)	Georg Iggers, “Historicism” [in <i>Dictionary of the History of Ideas</i>] Bambach, <i>Heidegger, Dilthey, and the crisis of historicism, chapter 1 & 2</i>	
3-4	2	Droysen, <i>Outline</i> [selected sections]	Iggers, <i>The German Conception of History</i> , chapter V	
5-8	3	Dilthey, <i>Introduction to the human sciences</i> . <i>The formation of the historical world in the human science</i> . [selected sections]	Bulhof, <i>Wilhelm Dilthey, a hermeneutic approach to the study of history and culture</i>	
9-10	4	Heidegger, <i>Being and Time</i> : section - §72- §81, { Temporality and Historicity }	David Hoy, “History, Historicity, and Historiography in <i>Being and Time</i> ”	

		§61- §71, { temporality as the ontological meaning of care } Heidegger, “The Concept of Time in the Science of History”, & “Comments on Karl Jaspers’ Psychology of Worldviews”	Bambach, <i>Heidegger, Dilthey, and the crisis of historicism, chapter 5</i>	
11-13	5	Gadamer, <i>Truth and Method</i> , Part II : Section I, Section II		

Recommended learning resources :

原典資料 –

Wilhelm Dilthey, *Introduction to the human sciences*. Edited, with an introduction, by Rudolf A. Makkreel and Frithjof Rodi. Princeton, N.J. : Princeton University Press, 1989.

_____, *Hermeneutics and the study of history*. Edited, with an introduction, by Rudolf A. Makkreel and Frithjof Rodi. Princeton, N.J. : Princeton University Press, 1996.

_____, *The formation of the historical world in the human sciences*. Edited, with an introduction, by Rudolf A. Makkreel and Frithjof Rodi. Princeton, N.J. : Princeton University Press, 2002.

Johann Gustav Droysen, *Outline of the Principles of History*. Trans. by E.B. Andrews. Boston : GINN & Company, 1897.

Hans-Georg Gadamer, *Truth and Method*. Trans. & Revised by J.Weinsheimer/ D.G.Marshall. New York: Continuum Pub.Company,1994.

_____, *Philosophical Hermeneutics*. Trans. & Ed. by David E. Linge. California: Univ. of California Press, 1977.

Martin Heidegger, *Being and Time*. Trans. by John Macquarrie & Edward Robinson. London : SCM Press, 1962.

_____, *Supplements: from the earliest essays to Being and Time and beyond*. Trans. & Ed. by John van Buren. Albany : State Univ. of New York Press, 2002.

思想背景介紹 –

Geoffrey Barraclough, *Main Trends of Research in the Social and Human Sciences : History*. London: Mouton Publishers, 1978.

Charles Bambach, *Heidegger, Dilthey, and the crisis of historicism*. Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press, 1995.

Georg G. Iggers, *The German Conception of History*. Connecticut : Wesleyan University Press, 1968.

Richard Kearney, *Modern Movements in European Philosophy*. 2nd edition. New York : Manchester University Press, 1994.

Carlo Antoni, *From History to Sociology : the transition in German Historical Thinking*. Trans. by Hayden White. Detroit : Wayne State University, 1959.

Raymond Aron, *Introduction to the Philosophy of History*. Trans. by George J. Irwin. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1961.

Jeffrey Barash, *Collective Memory and the Historical Past*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016.

Richard J. Bernstein, *Beyond objectivism and relativism : science, hermeneutics, and praxis*. Philadelphia : University of Pennsylvania Press, 1988.

Ilse N. Bulhof, *Wilhelm Dilthey, a hermeneutic approach to the study of history and culture*. The Hague : M. Nijhoff Publishers, 1980.

David Carr, *Time, Narrative, and History*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1991.

David Carr, *Experience and History*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

R. G. Collingwood, *The Idea of History*. London: Oxford University Press, 1966.

William H. Dray (ed.), *Philosophical Analysis and History*. New York: Harper & Row, 1966.

Jean Grondin, *The philosophy of Gadamer*. Translated by Kathryn Plant. Montreal : McGill-Queen's University Press, 2003

Leonard Krieger, *Ranke: the meaning of history*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1977.

Karl Lowith, *The Meaning in History*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1949.

Karl Lowith, *Nature, History, and Existentialism*. Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 1966.

Maurice Mandelbaum, *The anatomy of historical knowledge*. Baltimore: John Hopkins Univ. Press, 1977.

Friedrich Meinecke, *Historicism: the rise of a new historical outlook*. Trans. by J. E. Anderson. London: Routledge, 1972.

Arnaldo Momigliano, *Studies in historiography*. London : Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1969.

Arnaldo Momigliano, *Essays in ancient and modern historiography*. Middletown, Conn. : Wesleyan Univ. Press, 1977.

Jos de Mul, *The tragedy of finitude : Dilthey's hermeneutics of life*. Translated by Tony Burrett. New Haven : Yale University Press, 2004.

Michael Murray, *Modern Philosophy of History*. The Hague : Martinus Nijhoff, 1970.

Guy Oakes, *Weber and Rickert: concept formation in the cultural sciences*. Cambridge, Mass. : MIT Press, 1988.

Michael Oakeshott, *On History and other essays*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1983.

Heinrich Rickert, *The limits of concept formation in natural science*. Trans. & Ed. by Guy Oakes. Cambridge : Cambridge Univ. Press, 1986.

Amelie Rorty, James Schmidt (ed.), *Kant's Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Aim*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Hans Ruin, *Enigmatic Origins: tracing the theme of historicity through Heidegger's works*. Stockholm: Stockholm University, 1994.

Jörn Rüsen, *History, Narration-Interpretation-Orientation*. Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2008.

Jörn Rüsen, *Experience and Meaning : a theory of historical studies*. Trans. by Diane Kerns & Katie Digan. Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2017.

Leo Strauss, *Natural Right and History*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1953.

Hayden White, *Metahistory : the historical imagination in nineteenth-century Europe*. Baltimore: John Hopkins Univ. Press, 1973.

Details of course website

We use Blackboard for this course. Relevant announcements and course documents (e.g., lecture notes) will be posted regularly on the website.

Feedback for evaluation

1. Students are welcome to give feedback on the course at any time. They can do so by communication to teacher or tutor in class, by email, posting comments and questions to the eLearning platform, or during tutorials.
2. As with all courses in Philosophy Department, students evaluate the course through a survey and written comments at the end of the term.

Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academic_honesty/

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed **declaration** that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.