PHI 7420 Philosophy and Cultural Criticism

Introduction: Philosophy and Criticism or the internal relationship between the true and the good

1. Socrates and the ancient critical model

   Reading: Plato: " Apology "

2. Kant and the modern critical paradigm

   Reading: Kant: "What is Enlightenment?"

3. Marx: critique of ideology and the illusion of historical progressivism

   Reading: Excerpts from the "Communist Manifesto" and "Introduction to critique of political economy"

4. Adorno & Horkheimer: critique of Enlightenment and Instrumental Reason

   Reading: Excerpts from "Dialectic of Enlightenment"

5. Foucault: a new understanding of the relationship between knowledge and power

   Reading: Preface to the "History of Madness at the Classical age" and "Discipline and Punish"

6. Postmodernism and cultural criticism: Lyotard and Jameson

   Reading: Excerpts from Lyotard: "The Postmodern condition", and Jameson: "Postmodernism as the cultural logic of late capitalism"

7. Lao Sze-kwang: the punishment of history and the critic of self-deception

   Reading: Excerpts from "The punishment of history"

Marking scheme:

Class presentation and discussion: 30 %,

Essay: 70%