

Friedrich Nietzsche's *Beyond Good and Evil*
Arts & Sciences 1138, Freshman Seminar
Spring Semester 2013, 1 Credit Hour
Day/Time (flexible), Room (flexible)

Instructor
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Office Hours
TBD

Course Description

There is no better introduction to the mature philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche than *Beyond Good and Evil*, which appeared in 1886. Consisting of nine parts, this work provides insight into all major theses in his late philosophy. It begins with reflection on epistemology and a skeptical look at the role of the philosopher, moves to a consideration of what the a “free spirit” will offer as an alternative, and then turns to detailed considerations about religion, psychology, morality, and art. We will be reading and discussing this seminal work of Nietzschean philosophy in one-hour sessions at approximately the pace of one section per session.

Texts

Friedrich Nietzsche. *Beyond Good and Evil: Prelude to a Philosophy of the Future*. Trans. Marion Faber. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Course Policies

Students will be expected to attend class regularly, contribute to discussions, and to make an occasion short presentations on individual aphorisms. Since there are only 14 meetings of the seminar, students are expected to attend unless they are ill or have an emergency; students should notify me by email if they are going to be absent from class. A grade of pass or satisfactory will be given to all students who participate regularly in the course and who demonstrate adequate preparation and grasp of the material. That grasp of the material will be demonstrated in class discussions and by a final assignment, which will consist of either a three-page explication of any aphorism or series of related aphorisms, *or* a series of aphorisms written in Nietzschean style on any topic Nietzsche covers, or on a topic that is contemporary and that updates a Nietzschean critique.

Grading

Grading will be S/U. The grade will be based equally on class participation and assignments (50%) and the final written assignment (50%).

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee

(Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (http://studentlife.osu.edu/pdfs/csc_12-31-07.pdf).

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

Weekly Schedule

Week One	Introduction: Who was Nietzsche? and How Nietzsche wanted his aphorisms read.
Week Two	Preface and first ten aphorisms in Part One: "On the Prejudices of Philosophers"
Week Three	Complete Part One: "On the Prejudices of Philosophers"
Week Four	Part Two: "The Free Spirit" (Aphorisms 24-33)
Week Five	Part Two: "The Free Spirit" (Aphorisms 34-44)
Week Six	Part Three: "What is Religious"
Week Seven	Part Four: "Epigrams and Interludes"
Week Eight	Part Five: "Natural History of Morals"
Week Nine	Part Six: "We Scholars"
Week Ten	Part Seven: "Our Virtues" (aphorisms 214-230)
Week Eleven	Part Seven: "Our Virtues" (aphorisms 231-239)
Week Twelve	Part Eight: "Peoples and Fatherlands"
Week Thirteen	Part Nine: "What is Noble"
Week Fourteen	Review of <i>Beyond Good and Evil</i>

Biographical Paragraph

Robert Holub taught in the German Department at the University of California, Berkeley, for 27 years from 1979-2006. He joined the Department of German Languages and Literature at OSU after a series of positions in academic administration: first as Dean of the Undergraduate Division at Berkeley (2003-06), then Provost at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville (2006-08), and finally as Chancellor of the Amherst campus at the University of Massachusetts (2008-12). He was a distinguished visiting professor at Ohio State in 1997. His scholarly work and coursework deal a great variety of topics in nineteenth and twentieth-century literary, cultural, and intellectual history. His current project involves situating Friedrich Nietzsche in the social and scientific discourses of nineteenth-century Europe.