

## Phil 107: 19th Century Philosophy

Fall, 2021

Tuesday and Thursday, 5:20–6:55pm, R. Carson Acad. 250

### Contact Information

Professor: Abe Stone ([abestone@ucsc.edu](mailto:abestone@ucsc.edu))

Push notification: Notify Abe (<http://notifyabe1.appspot.com>)

Website: <https://people.ucsc.edu/~abestone/courses>

Zoom office hours: Mon. 2:00–3:00pm; Tues. 12:00–1:00pm (or by appointment)

Zoom feed of lectures: [here](#)

### Course Description

The nineteenth century was a hundred years long, and during that time a lot of things happened in philosophy. In this course we will trace a particular strand that runs through Friedrich Wilhelm Joseph Schelling, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, and Friedrich Nietzsche.<sup>1</sup> Despite great differences in style and philosophical views, we will see certain themes that run throughout, including, among others: freedom of will as involving a self that can stand outside and above itself; nature as a symbol of spirit; poetry as a mediator between the self and nature; and questions about the value of morality in relation to something higher than morality. These themes are characteristically nineteenth-century (for example, versions of them can also be found in Hegel and Kierkegaard), although certainly not all nineteenth century philosophers thought along these lines.

**Modality:** The current plan is that I will lecture in person in our assigned classroom (with the exception of one make up lecture that will be delivered

---

<sup>1</sup>Coleridge was heavily influenced by (and in fact plagiarized extensively from!) Schelling; Coleridge and Schelling were both important influences on the New England Transcendentalist movement in which Emerson and Fuller were key participants; and Nietzsche was greatly impressed by Emerson, whose essays he read in German translation.

via Zoom only, see below). But I intend also to live-stream every lecture over Zoom and to make a recording of every lecture available on YouTube. Office hours will be via Zoom only.

### **Course Requirements**

Two short essays, 2–3 pages each, due Monday, October 18, and Monday, November 22 (each worth 20% of the grade). (For the first essay, there will be a choice of essay questions about Schelling; for the second essay, a choice of essay questions about Coleridge, Emerson and/or Fuller.) One final paper, 4–6 pages, due Wednesday, December 8 (worth 60% of the grade).

Papers are due as an attachment via the “Assignments” tool on Canvas. The assignments will be available online and there will be links to them from the online version of this syllabus as well as from my main course page.

Note that all assignments are due by 11:55pm on the due date.

You can find answers to some commonly asked questions about my assignments and grading in my FAQ (<https://people.ucsc.edu/~abestone/courses/faq.html>).

Attendance at lecture is *strongly* encouraged, but it is not a course requirement and I will not be taking attendance.

### **Texts**

Friedrich Nietzsche, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, tr. R.J. Hollingdale (Penguin Classics, 1961) (ISBN: 0140441182).

Friedrich Nietzsche, *Untimely Meditations*, ed. Daniel Breazdale (Cambridge University Press; 2nd ed., 1997) (ISBN: 978-0521585842).

F.W.J. Schelling, *System of Transcendental Idealism (1800)*, tr. Peter Heath (University of Virginia Press, 1978) (ISBN: 978-0813914589).

The above texts have been ordered at the Bay Tree Bookstore, and are also, along with some other relevant books, on reserve at McHenry. Readings from Coleridge, Emerson, and Fuller will be available online.

## Readings

Thursday, September 23: (no reading, first class). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, September 28: **No class due to Shemini Atzeret.**

Thursday, September 30: Schelling, *System*: Foreword, Introduction, and Part One (pp. 1–33). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Monday, October 4: Schelling, *System*: Part Two; Part Three, Introductory, I, and II, beginning of First Epoch (pp. 34–60) (at the usual class time, **via Zoom**). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, October 5: Schelling, *System*: Part Three, II, Third Epoch, §IV and General Note; Part Four, beginning, up until (but not including) “Additional Remarks” (pp. 148–171). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, October 7: Schelling *System*: Part Four, “Additional Remarks” and beginning of Problem E; Part Four, IIIF; Part Five; Part Six (pp. 171–7 and 212–236). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, October 12: Coleridge, *The Friend* (1818), Volume III, first part: Essays IV–VII (on the Principles of Method). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, October 14: Coleridge, *The Friend* (1818), Volume III, first part: Essay XI (on the Principles of Method); *Aids to Reflection* (1825): Advertisement; Preface; Introductory Aphorisms I–XI, XX–XXIV, XXX–XXXII; Prudential Aphorisms VI–VII; Reflections Respecting Morality, first part (through “lays claim to permanence only under the form of DUTY”); Moral and Religious Aphorisms, beginning of Aphorism VI (through “any positive Notion or Insight”), and Aphorisms XXXVI and XLIII (pp. iii–xii, 1–6, 13–18, 26–7, 35–7, 51–6, 66–74, 111–12, 118–19). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Monday, October 18: **First short essay due.**

Tuesday, October 19: Coleridge, *Aids to Reflection* (1825): Elements of Religious Philosophy; Aphorisms on That Which Is Indeed Spiritual Religion, Aphorisms VI and VIII, beginning of Comment to Aphorism X (through “yet it is the *condition*, the *sine quá non*” of a *Free-will*”), and Aphorisms XI and XV (pp. 129–40, 188–9, 200–228, 256–62, 287–8, 294–6). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, October 21: Emerson, “Self-Reliance.” (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, October 26: Emerson, “The Poet.” (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, October 28: Emerson, “Experience.” (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, November 2: Fuller, “The Great Lawsuit: Man vs. Men, Woman vs. Women.” (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, November 4: Fuller, “St. Valentine’s Day,” “American Literature” (beginning, through “on a great scale,” p. 126), “The Fourth of July,” “The Rich Man,” “The Poor Man,” “The Magnolia of Lake Pontchartrain.” (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, November 9: Fuller, “A Drive through the Country near Boston”; “Festus” (beginning through p. 237, “extracts,” and p. 254, “The quire is almost filled,” through end); “Sundry Glosses on Poetic Texts.” (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, November 11: **No class (Veterans Day)**

Tuesday, November 16: Nietzsche, “On the Uses and Disadvantages of History for Life,” Foreword and §§1–3, 5–6 (*Untimely Meditations*, pp. 59–77 and 83–95). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, November 18: Nietzsche, “Schopenhauer as Educator” §§1–2 (pp. 127–36); §§4–5 (pp. 146–161); from §6, the description of the scholar (p. 169,

beginning “Science is related to wisdom”—through p. 174, ending “cannot be found in him either.”); §8 (pp. 182–94). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Monday, November 22: **Second short essay due.**

Tuesday, November 23: Nietzsche, *Zarathustra*, Part One (pp. 39–106). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, November 25: **No class (Thanksgiving)**

Tuesday, November 30: Nietzsche, *Zarathustra*, Part Two (pp. 107–172). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, December 2: Nietzsche, *Zarathustra*, Part Three (pp. 173–244). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Wednesday, December 8: **Final paper due.**