

Political Science 240/440
University of Chicago
Winter 2004

Professor Patchen Markell
Pick Hall 519 (office hours Tuesdays 3–5)
2-8057, p-markell@uchicago.edu

Hegel and Marx

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-2:50 pm

This is a class on the political thought of Hegel and the young Marx. Its centerpiece is a study of Hegel's *Philosophy of Right*, in full, over the course of nearly four weeks. We also read selections from Hegel's early political and cultural writings, as well as more extensive selections from his *Phenomenology of Spirit*. We conclude by examining Marx's critical engagement with Hegel in his very early writings, including some familiar ones (e.g., "On the Jewish Question") and some that are less often read (e.g., the full text of the "Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right"). The course is meant for advanced undergraduates and graduate students (particularly those with limited prior study of these authors). Undergraduates should have completed their Social Sciences Core sequence, and some other prior coursework in political theory is recommended.

ASSIGNMENTS: *Undergraduates* must write a 5–7 page midterm paper (due February 6) and an 8–10 page final paper (due March 15). Graduate students may either fulfill the same requirements as undergraduates or write one 15–20 page term paper (due March 15) instead. Graduate students who choose the single term paper option must submit a brief topic proposal by February 20.

LATE PAPERS: Except in documented cases of serious illness or other emergency, late papers will be penalized 1/3 of a grade per day of lateness; e.g., an A- paper two days late becomes a B. (This rule applies to all students fulfilling the two-paper requirement, though not to graduate students writing a single term paper.) However, students operating under this rule are allowed one no-questions-asked 24-hour extension without penalty.

GRADING: For the two-paper option, the first paper counts for 40% of your grade, the second paper for 60%.

READINGS: The following books contain required reading and are available for purchase at the Seminary Co-op. All other reading (selections from Kant and Feuerbach) will be on e-reserve at Regenstein. All the books will also be placed on regular reserve at Regenstein.

Hegel, *Early Theological Writings*, trans. Knox (Cambridge, 1971)
Hegel, *Political Writings*, ed. Dickey and Nisbet (Cambridge, 1999)
Hegel, *Phenomenology of Spirit*, trans. Miller (Oxford, 1977)
Hegel, *Elements of the Philosophy of Right*, ed. Wood (Cambridge, 1991)
Marx, *Early Writings*, trans. Livingstone and Benton (Penguin, 1992)

SCHEDULE OF READING ASSIGNMENTS

Jan. 6: Introduction (no assigned reading).

Jan. 8: Background to Hegel: Enlightenment and Revolution

Kant, "What is Enlightenment?" in *Political Writings* (e-reserve).

Kant, "The Contest of Faculties," in *Political Writings* (e-reserve).

Jan. 13: The Critique of "Positivity"

"Positivity of the Christian Religion," *Early Theological Writings*, 67–74,
142–51.

"The Spirit of Christianity and its Fate," *Early Theological Writings*, 182–253.

Jan. 15: Hegel's Early Political Writings

"The German Constitution," in *Political Writings*, 6–26, 98–101.

"On the Scientific Ways of Treating Natural Law," in *Political Writings*,
102–163.

Jan. 20: *Phenomenology of Spirit*, I: The Labor of the Negative

Phenomenology of Spirit, pars. 1–110.

Jan. 22: *Phenomenology of Spirit*, II: Recognition and Self-Consciousness

Phenomenology of Spirit, pars. 178–230.

Jan. 27: *Phenomenology of Spirit*, III: Ethical Life

Phenomenology of Spirit, pars. 438–76.

Jan. 29: From the *Phenomenology* to the *Philosophy of Right*

Phenomenology of Spirit, pars. 582–95.

Philosophy of Right, Preface.

Feb. 3: *Philosophy of Right*, II: The Concept of Will

Philosophy of Right, Introduction

Feb. 5: *Philosophy of Right*, III: Abstract Right

Philosophy of Right, sections 34–104.

Feb. 10: *Philosophy of Right*, IV: Morality

Philosophy of Right, sections 105–141.

Feb. 12: *Philosophy of Right*, V: Ethical Life and Family

Philosophy of Right, sections 142–181.

Feb. 17: *Philosophy of Right*, VI: Civil Society

Philosophy of Right, sections 182–256.

Feb. 19: *Philosophy of Right*, VII: The State

Philosophy of Right, sections 257–360.

Feb. 24: From Hegel to Marx

Feuerbach, selections from *The Fiery Brook* (e-reserve)

Feb. 26: Marx's *Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right*

"Critique of Hegel's Doctrine of the State," in *Early Writings*, 57–198

March 2: Marx's "On the Jewish Question."

"On the Jewish Question," *Early Writings*, 212–41.

March 4: (no class today, tentatively)

March 9: Marx's Turn to Political Economy

"Excerpts from James Mill," *Early Writings*, 259–78

Marx, "Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts," *Early Writings*, 279–400.