



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Culture Capitalism and Politics in the 21st Century - Critical Thinking Following May 68 - 54253

Last update 16-01-2022

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Cultural Studies-Individual Graduate Prog.

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Ronit Peleg

Coordinator Email: ronitpe@bezeqint.net

Coordinator Office Hours: Monday 15.00-14.00

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Ronit Peleg

Course/Module description:

The events of May 68 were a turning point in the development of the critique of global capitalism in contemporary continental thought. Major Continental philosophers took part in the protests, beginning their philosophical path in the streets of May 68. The mass protests, in which millions of workers and students took part not only in France, were, in their view, a direct result of the exacerbated social and economic contradictions of late -capitalism, and of the disillusionments of millions of people (workers and bourgeois alike) in view of the deep social inequality and lack of freedom that prevailed not only in workplaces and universities, but also in the entirety of the daily lives of Western democratic societies. The "Fall of the Berlin Wall" (1989) and the collapse of Communism in the USSR, the Twin Towers attack (2001), and later, the 2008 global crisis, clarified the urgent need to develop a critical study of the political, cultural, and philosophical dimensions and implications of global capitalism.

In this course, we will seek to discuss the cultural, political, and social effects of life in the context of contemporary global capitalism, inspired by contemporary critical thinking. During the course we will become acquainted with key concepts and theoretical paradigms that have been developed in contemporary critical thought, in an attempt to understand also the latent cultural and political dimensions of contemporary neoliberal capitalism..

We will discuss these philosophical issues following Contemporary Continental thinkers, such as: Michel Foucault, Jean-François Lotard, Jacques Derrida, Alain Badiou, Jacques Rancière, Étienne Balibar, Nancy Fraser, Maurizio Lazarato, David Harvey, Thomas Pickati, and others.

Course/Module aims:

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Become acquainted with key concepts and theories in the critique of contemporary neoliberal capitalism, following major contemporary continental thinkers, and understand the impact of the events of May 68 on the development of this philosophical corpus

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

1. The events of May 68 and the critique of late capitalism - an introductory discussion
2. On the Barricades of May 68 - The Shattering of the Political Truth of the Intellectual Left
3. In the wake of events of May 68 - the philosophers resonates
4. University in the heart of the storm of May 68 -: A discussion inspired by Jean-François Lyotard and Jacques Derrida
5. From May 68 to Contemporary Neoliberalism: - Introductory philosophical discussion inspired by two central books that Ignited the contemporary controversy.
6. On the "Cultural Industry" of Late Capitalism - A Discussion Inspired by Jean-François Lyotard, Rosalind Krauss.
7. The Society of Simulations, Simulacra, and Hyper Reality - Philosophical Perspectives on Contemporary Time, Following the Philosopher Jean Baudrillard
8. Capitalism and Theology -A Discussion following Jacques
9. The birth of the "homo-economicus" of contemporary neoliberalism - a discussion following Michel Foucault
10. On the constitution of the "Homo Debtor " - A Philosophical Discussion Following Maurizio Lazarato
11. Capitalism and the Spirit of Terror - Discussions Following Jacques Derrida, Alain Badiou, and Jean Baudrillard,

Required Reading:

Kristin Ross: May 68 and its Afterdeath,

Jacques Rancière, Althusser's Lessons, ch.3, 5.

Michel Foucault, "What is Critique," in James Schmidt (ed.), What is Enlightenment? pp. 382-398.

Foucault The Masked Philosopher in: Michel Foucault, Politics, Philosophy, Culture , Interviews and other Writings 1977-1984, pp. 323-330

Deleuze "May 68 Did not Take Place", in: Two Regimes of Madness, pp. 233-237
Capitalism a very special Delirium Deleuze and Guattari -

Jacques Rancière, The Nights of Labour

Jacques Rancière , Politics, Identification, and Subjectivization

Jacques Rancière: Aesthetic Separation, Aesthetic Community: Scenes from the

Aesthetic Regime of Art[

Jean Francois Lyotard "Dead Letter", in: *Political Writings*

Thomas Piketty : *Capital in the Twenty First Century*

דיוויד הארווי: קיצור תולדות הנאו ליברליזם

Jean - Francois Lyotard: " Marie Goes to Japan", in: *Postmodern Fables*

Rosalin Krauss, *The Cultural Logic of the Museum of Late Capitalism*

ליוטר הדיפרנד

ז'אן בודריאר: סימולקרות וסימולציה, עמ' 7-47

Jacques Derrida, *Specters of Marx, The State of the Debt, The State of the Debt, the Work of Mourning and the New International* , ch.5

Jean Baudrillard, *For a Critique of the Political Economy of the Sign*, pp. 88-101

Michel Foucault, *The Birth of Biopolitics*, pp. 267-287

Maurizio Lazzarato, *The Making of the Indebted Man: An Essay on the Neoliberal Condition*, trans. J. D. Jordan (Los Angeles: Semiotext(e), 2012, pp.13-37.

ז'אן בודריאר: רוח הטרור, עמ' 31-61.

Alain Badiou : " On September 11, 2001: Philosophy and the War against Terrorism", in: *Polemics*, pp. 15-36.

" (online) Alain Badiou, "Our Wounds are not so Recent "

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 10 %

Project work 90 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: