

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**PHL 550: HEIDEGGER AND PHENOMENOLOGY**

Course/Section: PHL 550/201  
 Course Title: Heidegger and Phenomenology  
 Time/Place: Thurs. 1:00-4:10, Clifton 140  
 Instructor: Will McNeill  
 Office: 2352 N. Clifton, Suite 150.3  
 Office Hours: By appointment  
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**COURSE OUTLINE**

In this course we shall begin by looking briefly at Heidegger's critique of Husserl, primarily as articulated in his 1925 course *The History of the Concept of Time*, and then spend the greater part of the seminar studying Heidegger's own transformation of phenomenological seeing as reflected in *Being and Time* and in the 1927 lecture course *The Basic Problems of Phenomenology*. This course, which was meant to continue the project of *Being and Time*, displays the full force of the project announced there as the "destructuring" of the history of ontology by integrating into Heidegger's phenomenological method a series of critical encounters with Kant and modern ontology, medieval ontology, and ancient Greek ontology—encounters that all demonstrate the necessity of a radical posing of the question of being upon the horizon of time. We shall conclude by considering the fate of phenomenology in Heidegger's work in relation to the work of art.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

1. Heidegger, *History of the Concept of Time*, translated by Theodore Kisiel. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1985. (HCT)
2. Heidegger, *Being and Time*, translated by Joan Stambaugh. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2010. We'll use this as our primary text. Another translation is available, the original English translation by John Macquarrie and Edward Robinson, first published in 1962. This version has the advantage of some very helpful footnotes concerning issues of translation. Ideally, I recommend that you procure both versions and compare them as you read. If you have some knowledge of German, or are currently studying German, you should get hold of the German original, *Sein und Zeit*, published by Niemeyer. It is readily available in the USA. (BT)
3. Heidegger, *The Basic Problems of Phenomenology*, translated by Albert Hofstadter. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1988. (BPP)

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS & ASSIGNMENTS**

1. Full attendance is an expectation for this course.
2. Each student is required to write one class report. This report should have two components: a) a straightforward record of the most important points covered in the previous class; b) a critical reflection

identifying a philosophical issue that arose and providing your own perspective on it. Here you can raise additional questions, bring in other perspectives, or cite other relevant texts; or you may also raise questions concerning the readings for the current class. The report should be around 3 pages, single spaced, with approximately half devoted to each component; your critical reflection must be at least a page. The report is worth a substantial part of your final grade and should be a careful and polished piece of work.

You will sign up to present your report on a particular day, and are asked to post your report on D2L 24 hours before class. Everyone should print up a copy of the report, read it, and bring it to class. We will not read through the first part of the report in class, but will begin class with a reading and discussion of your critical reflection.

3. A final 12 page research paper is required, due Friday, March 22 by 12:00 noon. *Papers that exceed 12 pages will not be accepted.*

### **APPROXIMATE GRADE BREAKDOWN**

Class Report: 40%

Final Paper: 60%

### **APPROXIMATE SCHEDULE OF STUDY**

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|---------|---|
| WEEK 1  | Heidegger and Husserl: An Introduction. Reading: <i>Edmund Husserl: Psychological and Transcendental Phenomenology and the Confrontation with Heidegger (1927-1931)</i> , eds. Thomas Sheehan & Richard E. Palmer. General Introduction and Appendices 1-3. |
| WEEK 2  | Heidegger's 1925 critique of Husserl in the <i>History of the Concept of Time</i> lectures. Reading: HCT, §§5-9.  |
| WEEK 3  | HCT, §§10-13.   |
| WEEK 4  | The concept of phenomenology in <i>Being and Time</i> : BT, §7.   |
| WEEK 5  | The phenomenon of Dasein: BT, §§9-12.   |
| WEEK 6  | The phenomenon of world: BT, §§13-16.   |
| WEEK 7  | Phenomenology and <i>Destruktion</i> : BT, §6 and BPP, §5.  |
| WEEK 8  | The phenomenological deconstructing of modern ontology: BPP, §§13-14.   |
| WEEK 9  | BPP, §15.   |
| WEEK 10 | The work of art and the fate of phenomenology: Selections from "The Origin of the Work of Art."   |
| WEEK 11 | <b>Final paper due Friday, March 22, by 12:00 noon.</b>   |