

**Department of Philosophy**  
**Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century German Idealism/107-366B 2022**  
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**Tuesdays and Thursdays 16:05 17:25**  
**EDUC 211**

**Office Hours: Tuesdays from 18:00 19:30 by zoom**

### **§1. Programme for the Course**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to German idealism of the eighteenth and nineteenth century. To that end, we will carefully read and discuss selections from works of different philosophers who might be characterized as German idealists, notably Kant, Schelling and Hegel. We will try to learn from our readings and discussions what the philosophical goals of German idealism might or might not have been and what strategies were available to achieve these goals.

It is important to bear in mind that

**Unit Three:** In this unit we will read selections from Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit*. Our aim will be to see how Hegel tries to elaborate and defend the idealistic claim I stated and briefly elaborated in the first two paragraphs of this syllabus by adapting elements of Kant's strategy in the *Critique of Pure Reason* and Schelling's idealistic appropriation of ideas from Herder and Spinoza.

## **§2. The Delivery of This Course:**

Our current plan must be in conformity with provincial public health guidelines. That means our course must go online until 23.01.2022. We all hope that, by then, our course can meet in person in EDUC 211 at the announced times. Until we return to the class room, the plan is this.

I will record a lecture for you on Tuesdays about the assigned readings for the week. That lecture will be viewable by you, on our Mycourses platform, by Tuesday evening. **(The first such lecture will be available there on Tuesday, 11 January 2022.)** We will then meet synchronously from 16:05 to 17:25 to discuss your questions and observations about the reading. **(Our first zoom**

*"McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures."* - Senate resolution, January 29, 2003

Plagiarism is not compatible with academic integrity. It is your responsibility to inform yourself about what counts as plagiarism and what the consequences of it are. To this end, read up on the McGill policy on this important topic. Follow this link: <https://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/students>

### **§8. Language Policy at McGill:**

Les étudiantes/étudiants à McGill ont le droit de soumettre leurs travaux en français s'ils le veulent; s'ils le veulent, je les invite chaleureusement à le faire. A noter:

Charter of Students' Rights, Article 15:

15. Every student has the right to submit in English or in French written work that is to be graded. This does not apply to courses in which acquiring proficiency in a language is one of the objectives.

15. Chaque étudiante/étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l'un des objectifs est la maîtrise d'une langue).

### **§9. Keep in Mind:**

The current state of the pandemic is uncertain. McGill University will do everything it can to make it possible for our course to take place as planned. But it cannot control every circumstance. That means both that we must adapt to the circumstances as they unfold and that it is possible that the course cannot be delivered in precisely the way I have laid out here.