UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
Summer 2020  

PHENOMENOLOGY  

PHIL 108  
Meeting Times: TuTh 1:00P.M.-4:30P.M.  
Mode of Instruction: Online (Zoom)  

Instructor: Thomas W. Rule  
Office Hrs.: Fridays at 3:00p.m. or by appt.  
E-mail: trule@ucsc.edu  

COURSE DESCRIPTION:  

Phenomenology, as a sub-field of philosophy, is the study of the nature of human consciousness – of processes and conditions of intelligibility-making - by way of methodical reflective examination of concrete experience. This initial description will be developed and complicated as the course progresses.  

This course will touch on questions, themes, and concepts animating the thought of major figures in the 20th century German and French phenomenological traditions. Included among the figures we will study are the following thinkers: Edmund Husserl, Martin Heidegger, and Emmanuel Levinas.  

Among the issues to be discussed will be the following questions:  

- “What philosophical concerns motivated these phenomenological thinkers?”  
- “What characterizes the proper methods of phenomenology, according to these thinkers?”  
- “What makes those methods philosophical, distinguishes them from (for instance) scientific methods?”  
- “At what insights regarding the nature of human consciousness did these phenomenological thinkers arrive?”  
- “What significance might phenomenological inquiry and its results still hold for philosophy, for how each of us thinks and lives today?”  

COURSE OBJECTIVES:  

- To introduce students to an influential philosophical movement and the thought of key figures associated with it.  
- To introduce students to an array of advanced philosophical questions which were raised by those figures.  
- To develop students’ skills in critical reading, writing, and reasoning via discussion, writing about those figures and questions.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance/Participation

Course meetings will be conducted electronically via Zoom at the scheduled times. Attendance is voluntary but is strongly recommended.

Students who attend and have made a significant contribution to a discussion during a particular meeting may sign their name at the end of that meeting in order to earn 1 extra credit point. Up to a total of 5 extra credit points (no more than 1 per meeting) may be earned in this fashion.

Alternatively, a student may instead earn some or all of these extra credit points by making a significant post (either initiating or continuing a conversation) relevant to that week’s assigned course material on the Canvas discussion board.

Assignments

There will be 4 short take-home essay-style writing assignments, including the final. Prompts will be made available on Canvas approximately one week prior to each due date. All assignments are to be submitted via Canvas in advance of the deadline.

The final will be worth 40% of each student’s total course grade, while the remaining 3 assignments will be worth 20% each. Of those 3 remaining assignments, each student’s lowest score among them will be dropped from that student’s final course grade calculation.

LATE/MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS:

Approximately one full letter grade will be deducted on a given assignment grade for each day late that that assignment is submitted. No make-up assignments will be offered. In cases of extenuating circumstances, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

READINGS:

All readings essential for the course will be available on Canvas in PDF form.

WRITING ASSISTANCE:

There is a free writing tutoring center hosted by UCSC. Follow this link for more information: https://lss.ucsc.edu/programs/writing-support/index.html

TECHNICAL SUPPORT:

For Canvas technical support, please contact the ITS Help Desk:
Online: http://itrequest.ucsc.edu/
Phone: (831) 459-HELP (4357)
Email: help@ucsc.edu
In-Person: Kerr Hall Rm. 54, M-F 8am to 5pm
IMPORTANT SUMMER SESSION REMOTE 2020 DEADLINES:

Session 1:
Drop: Monday, June 29
Request for “W”: Friday, July 10

Session 2:
Drop: Monday, August 3
Request for “W”: Friday, August 14

8-Week:
Drop: Monday, July 6
Request for “W”: Friday, July 24

10-Week:
Drop: Monday, July 6
Request for “W”: Friday, July 24

Summer is unique. You will not be dropped for non-attendance or non-payment. You must drop yourself. Dropping before the deadline results in a full-tuition reversal/refund. Withdraw posts a W for the grade and full tuition is charged (no refund).

For all dates and deadlines, including ‘change of grade option’ (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar: https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html

For questions about dropping, requesting a W grade for a course, or withdrawing from the summer quarter, email summer@ucsc.edu.

DRC REMOTE ACCOMMODATIONS:

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. Operations continue via remote appointments.

Should a student qualify for classroom accommodations due to a disability, they may request an Accommodation Authorization from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and should submit a (digital) copy to the instructor within the first two weeks of the quarter.

If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, email the DRC Schedulers at drc@ucsc.edu for an appointment.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.
In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student’s transcript.

For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the Academic Integrity page at the Division of Undergraduate Education. Each student is responsible for being familiar with UCSC’s policies on plagiarism and proper sourcing.

Some general tips on how to avoid plagiarism can be found here: http://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/how-not-to-plagiarize.pdf

**TITLE IX:**

The university has instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. Information about the Title IX Office, the online reporting link, applicable campus resources, reporting responsibilities, the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment, and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at titleix.ucsc.edu.

The Title IX Office is actively responding to reports and requests for consultation. If you are not currently working with someone in the office and want to make a report/request a consult, you can expect the fastest response by using their online reporting link.

For more information please visit the Title IX Operations under Covid-19 page.
READING AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

JUNE 23, 25:

- Jean-Paul Sartre’s “Intentionality: A Fundamental Idea of Husserl’s Phenomenology”
- Edmund Husserl’s “Phenomenology and Anthropology”
- Selections from Edmund Husserl’s *The Crisis of European Sciences and Transcendental Phenomenology* (Part III A. “The Way into Phenomenological Transcendental Philosophy by Inquiring back from the Pregiven Life-World”, Sections 28-9; 57-9; 62-6.)

JUNE 30, JULY 2:

- Selections from Edmund Husserl’s *Cartesian Meditations* (Fifth Meditation: “Uncovering of the Sphere of Transcendental Being as Monadological Intersubjectivity”, Sections 42-5, 49-51, 53-8, 62.)

**Assignment #1 Due by July 2 at 11:59p.m.**

JULY 7, 9

- Selections from Martin Heidegger’s *The Basic Problems of Phenomenology* (Introduction)
- Selections from Martin Heidegger’s *Being and Time*  
  - (Introduction, Part II, Section 7: “The Phenomenological Method of Investigation”)

**Assignment #2 Due by July 9 at 11:59p.m.**

JULY 14, 16

- Selections from Martin Heidegger’s *Being and Time*  
  - (Part 1, Division I, Chapter VI, Section 40: “The basic state-of-mind of anxiety as a distinctive way in which Dasein is disclosed”).  
  - (Part 1, Division II, Chapter I: “Dasein’s Possibility of Being-a-whole, and Being-towards-death”, Sections 49-53) 
- Selections from Martin Heidegger’s “The Question Concerning Technology”

**Assignment #3 Due by July 16 at 11:59p.m.**
JULY 21, 23

- Selections from Emmanuel Levinas’ *Totality and Infinity*
  - (Section I, Part A, Chapter 4 “Metaphysics Precedes Ontology”)
  - (Section III, Part B “Ethics and the Face”, Chapters 1-3)

- Emmanuel Levinas’ “Ethics as First Philosophy”

**Final Essay Due by Friday July 24 at 11:59p.m.**