

Michel Foucault & Gilles Deleuze:

Philosophy as Cultural Critique



[Gilles Deleuze, Jean-Paul Sartre, & Michel Foucault at a GIP Demonstration on 17 Jan., 1972]

Course Number: PHIL 463/563, Fall 2012, University of Oregon

Course Instructor: Dr. Colin Koopman (koopman@uoregon.edu)

Office Hours: Wednesdays 9am-10am & Thursdays 9am-10am (in 333 PLC)

Course Meetings (563): Tuesdays 6p (121 McK) & Thursdays 6p (314 PLC)

Course Meetings (463): Tuesdays 6p (121 McK) & Wednesdays 2p (314 PLC)

Course Website (via Lore): <<http://lore.com/Michel-Foucault-&-Gilles-Deleuze.1>>

Course Website Access Link: <<http://join.lore.com/QHSNT3>>

Course Description

This course will focus on how two of the most influential French philosophers of their generation, Michel Foucault (1926-1984) and Gilles Deleuze (1925-1995), sought to transform the work and practice of philosophy. We will begin the course with an important published dialogue between Foucault and Deleuze from 1972. We will conclude the course with a handful of writings by Foucault and Deleuze on one another. These will bookend our readings of a multiplicity of texts by Foucault and Deleuze, focusing primarily on their critical interventions into our contemporary concepts of sexuality, desire, pleasure, and all the concomitant concepts of power, resistance, politics, and ethics involved therein. A key point of concern will be with the methodological, analytical, and diagnostic tools that Foucault and Deleuze developed for the purposes of rigorous critical inquiry into these (and other) conceptual constellations. Our two focal texts will be Foucault's major work *The History of Sexuality, Volume 1: The Will to Know* and Deleuze's obscure text *Coldness and Cruelty* (prepared as an introduction to Sacher-Masoch's *Venus in Furs*). We will also read Foucault's somewhat lesser-known introduction to archival material published in the volume titled *Herculine Barbin* and just the first section of Deleuze and Guattari's major work *Anti-Oedipus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia*.

Course Format

This will be a *reading-intensive* course. If you do not like to immerse yourself in a heavy dose of dense reading material, then this course is not for you. If you are a lover of books, then you will find yourself at home here.

This will be, for the most part, a *graduate-level* course. If you are signed up for 463 but are looking for something easy, then this course is not for you. If you are signed up for 563 in hopes of an easy class, then this also is not for you. We like a challenge!

The format of our meetings will consist of a first meeting each week on Tuesday (463 & 563) that will be *lecture-and-discussion* followed by a second class meeting each week divided into two sections (one undergraduate and one graduate) that will consist of more discussion-driven *seminar-style* meetings on Wednesday (463) and Thursday (563). Our Tuesday sessions will be addressed to a particular *focal text* chosen for that week. Our Wednesday and Thursday sessions will complicate and inflect our readings of our focal text with chosen *supplementary texts*. All focal texts and supplementary texts listed on the schedule below are required reading. You should *always* read the assigned material before showing up to every class meetings.

For our seminars on Wednesday (463) and Thursday (563) you should come to class with questions prepared about the text, also having posted these to our course website (this is a formal requirement for your grade). You should be fully ready to participate in all of our discussions throughout each week. Students who sit back all quarter and do not participate will be graded accordingly and will likely find this a difficult course. Students who actively engage in our discussions will flourish in our collaborative venue of philosophical practice.

Required Course Readings

• Focal Texts:

- Foucault, *The History of Sexuality, Volume 1: The Will to Know*, aka *HSv1: An Introduction*, (New York: Vintage Books, 1980 [orig. pub. 1976])
 - You must bring a copy of this book to all class sessions during Weeks 2 thru 5
- Deleuze, *Coldness and Cruelty*, aka *Masochism with Venus and Furs*, (New York: Zone Books, 2006 [orig. pub. 1967])
 - You must bring a copy of this book to all class sessions during Weeks 6 thru 9
- Foucault, "Introduction" to *Herculine Barbin: Being the Recently Discovered Memoirs of a Nineteenth-century French Hermaphrodite* (New York: Vintage Books, 1980)
- Deleuze and Guattari, *Anti-Oedipus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1983 [orig. pub. 1972])

• Supplementary Texts:

- Deleuze and Foucault, required readings as per Course Schedule (using abbreviations below), all available as PDFs on our course website.
 - Foucault, EW1 – *Essential Works*, vol. 1 (*Ethics*) (ed. Rabinow)
 - Foucault, EW2 – *Essential Works*, vol. 2 (*Aesthetics, Method, & Epistemology*) (ed. Rabinow/Faubion)
 - Foucault, EW3 – *Essential Works*, vol. 3 (*Power*) (ed. Rabinow/Faubion)
 - Foucault, GS – "The Gay Science" (trans. Morar and Smith)
 - Foucault, GSO/CdF – *The Government of Self and Others*, CdF course lectures of 1983 (ed. Davidson)
 - Foucault, HSv2 – *The History of Sexuality, volume 2: The Use of Pleasure*
 - Foucault, PPC – *Politics, Philosophy, and Culture, 1977-1984* (ed. Kritzman)
 - Deleuze, B – *Bergsonism* (1966)
 - Deleuze, DI – *Desert Islands and Other Texts, 1953-1974*
 - Deleuze, DR – *Difference and Repetition* (1968)
 - Deleuze, EC&C – *Essays Critical and Clinical*
 - Deleuze, LS – *The Logic of Sense* (1969)
 - Deleuze, Neg – *Negotiations, 1972-1990*
 - Deleuze, Ntz – *Nietzsche and Philosophy* (1962)
 - Deleuze, TR – *Two Regimes of Madness, Texts and Interviews, 1975-1995*

Course Meeting & Reading Schedule

(This schedule may be revised as we go – always check the website if you miss a session.)

Topic	Required Focal Reading (Tue)	Required Supplementary Reading (Wed/Thur)
Introduction	9/25 – Foucault and Deleuze, “Intellectuals and Power” in <i>DI</i> (you can watch an edited version here, but please read the whole thing: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdbrRdjZUTEI)	9/26 & 27 – Problematization 1) Foucault, “Polemics, Politics, and Problematization” (pp. 111-119) in <i>EW1</i> 2) Foucault, “Introduction: Modifications” (pp. 1-13) to <i>HSv2</i> 3) Foucault, “The Concern for Truth” (pp. 255-259) in Kritzman (ed.), <i>PPC</i> 4) Deleuze, <i>B</i> , pp. 13-21 5) Deleuze, <i>DR</i> , pp. 157-164 6) Deleuze, <i>LS</i> , 9 th and 17 th series, pp. 52-7, 120-3
Foucault – Concept	10/2 – <i>History of Sexuality, Vol. 1</i> , Pts I & II (pp. 1-51)	10/3 & 10/4 – The Concepts of Pleasure and Desire 1) “Sex, Power, and the Politics of Identity” in <i>EW1</i> 2) GS, in <i>Critical Inquiry</i> , vol 37, no. 3, 2012 3) Deleuze, “Desire and Pleasure” in <i>TR</i> (pp. 122-134) [Guest discussant Nicolae Morar in 563 on 10/4]
Foucault – Method	10/9 – <i>History of Sexuality, Vol. 1</i> , Pts III & IV (pp. 51-133)	10/10 & 10/11 – The Method of Genealogy 1) “Nietzsche, Genealogy, History” in <i>EW2</i> (pp. 369-392)
Foucault – Philosophy	10/16 – <i>History of Sexuality, Vol. 1</i> , Pt V (pp. 133-160)	10/17 & 10/18 – The Role of Philosophy 1) “Structuralism and Post-Structuralism” in <i>EW2</i> (pp. 433-458) 2) “What is Enlightenment?” in <i>EW1</i> (pp. 303-319)
Foucault – Critique	10/23 – “Introduction” to <i>Herculine Barbin</i> (pp. 7-17)	10/24 & 10/25 – The Practice of Critique w/o Judgment 1) “Confinement, Psychiatry, Prison” dialogue in <i>PPC</i> (pp. 178-210) 2) “The Masked Philosopher” in <i>EW1</i> (pp. 321-328) 3) <i>GSO/CdF</i> , Feb. 23 1983 lectures (pp. 274-276)
Deleuze – Method	10/30 – <i>Coldness and Cruelty</i> , Foreword, I-III (pp. 9-46)	10/31 & 11/1 – The Method of Symptomatology 1) “On Nietzsche and the Image of Thought” in <i>DI</i> (pp. 135-142) 2) <i>Ntz</i> , Ch. 1, §§1-3 (pp. 1-8) 3) “Mysticism and Masochism” in <i>DI</i> (pp. 131-134) 4) “Re-Presentation of Masoch in <i>EC&C</i> (pp. 53-55) 5) “Literature and Life” in <i>EC&C</i> (pp. 1-6)
Deleuze – Philosophy	11/6 – <i>Coldness and Cruelty</i> , IV-VIII (pp. 47-102)	11/7 & 11/8 – The Role of Philosophy 1) “On Philosophy” in <i>Neg</i> (pp. 135-155) 2) “Nomadic Thought” in <i>DI</i> (pp. 252-261)
Deleuze – Critique	11/13 – <i>Coldness and Cruelty</i> , VIII-XI (pp. 103-134)	11/14 & 11/15 – The Practice of Critique w/o Judgment 1) “To Have Done with Judgment” in <i>EC&C</i> (126-135) 2) <i>Ntz</i> , Ch. 2, §§4-5, 8 (pp. 8-12, 17-19), Ch. 5, §§4-6 (pp. 156-164), Conclusion (pp. 195-198) [Required talk by Dan Smith on Thur 11/15 at 4p in tbd] [Guest discussant Dan Smith in 563 on date/time tbd]
Deleuze – Concept	11/20 – <i>Anti-Oedipus</i> , Pt I (pp. 1-50), Pt II, §7 (pp. 113-122)	11/21 & 11/22 – [No Class for Thanksgiving Break (though we can do a makeup session if people like)]
Deleuze on Foucault + Foucault on Deleuze	11/27 – Foucault on Deleuze & Deleuze on Foucault 1) Foucault, “Theatrum Philosophicum” in <i>EW2</i> (pp. 343-368) 2) Foucault, “Preface” to the English translation of <i>Anti-Oedipus</i> (pp. xi-xiv) 3) Deleuze, “Foucault and Prison” interview in <i>TR</i> (pp. 277-286) 4) Deleuze, Part III (three short essays under the heading “Michel Foucault”) of <i>Neg</i> (pp. 81-118)	11/28 & 11/29 – [No Class due to instructor conference (‘Between Foucault and Deleuze’ at Purdue)]

Recommended Secondary Readings

The following is a list of some recommended (but not required) secondary literature, to help you get oriented amidst the truly gigantic literatures on Foucault and on Deleuze (both of which are of *very* uneven quality). I encourage you to track these down on your own (as tracking work down is a skill in itself, and you best get used to it now).

On Foucault & Deleuze

On the North American Reception of Foucault, Deleuze, & Others – François **Cusset**, *French Theory*

On the French Context – François **Dosse**, Ch. 17, “Deleuze & Foucault” of *Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari: Intersecting Lives*

On the Methodological Functions of Critical Problematization – Colin **Koopman**, *Genealogy as Critique*, Chapter 4

On Foucault

On Philosophical Practice – Paul **Rabinow**, “A Philosopher’s Morality” in Rabinow, *The Accompaniment*

On Philosophical Practice – Arnold **Davidson**, “Ethics as Ascetics:…” in Gutting (ed.), *Cambridge Companion to Foucault*

On Critique beyond Judgment – Judith **Butler**, “What is Critique? An Essay on Foucault’s Virtue”

On Critique beyond Judgment – Judith **Butler**, passages on Foucault’s *Herculín Barbin* introduction in *Gender Trouble* (pp. 93-106)

On Critique beyond Judgment – David **Hoy**, “Foucault: ‘Essays in Refusal’” in *Critical Resistance*

On Critique beyond Judgment – Amy **Allen**, “Foucault, Subjectivity, and the Enlightenment” in Allen, *The Politics of Our Selves*

On Genealogical Method – Paul **Veyne**, “Foucault Revolutionizes History” in Davidson, *Foucault and His Interlocutors*

On Genealogical Method – Colin **Koopman**, *Genealogy as Critique*, Chapter 3

On Concepts of Pleasure & Desire – Jana **Sawicki**, “Foucault, Queer Theory, & the Discourse of Desire: … An Ethics of Pleasure”

On Concepts of Pleasure & Desire – Wendy **Grace**, “*Faux Amis*: Foucault and Deleuze on Sexuality and Desire” in *Critical Inquiry*

On Deleuze

On Philosophical Practice – John **Rajchman**, *The Deleuze Connections* (esp. the final chapter on “Sensation”)

On Philosophical Practice – Rosi **Bradiotti**, “Affirmation versus Vulnerability” in Boundas (ed.), “Deleuze” issue of *Symposium*

On Critique beyond Judgment – Dan **Smith**, “Deleuze, Kant, and the Theory of Immanent Ideas”

On Critique beyond Judgment – Paul **Patton**, *Deleuze and the Political* (esp. the introductory chapter)

On Symptomatology Method – Dan **Smith**, “Critical, clinical” in Stivale (ed.), *Gilles Deleuze, Key Concepts*

On Symptomatology Method – Dan **Smith**, “‘A Life of Pure Immanence’: Deleuze’s ‘Critique et clinique’ Project”

On Symptomatology Method – Aidan **Tynan**, *Deleuze’s Literary Clinic* (esp. the introductory chapter)

On Concepts of Pleasure & Desire – Eugene **Holland**, “Desire” in Stivale (ed.), *Gilles Deleuze, Key Concepts*

On Concepts of Pleasure & Desire – Dan **Smith**, “Deleuze and the Question of Desire: Toward an Immanent Theory of Ethics”

Deleuze on Foucault (additional) – *Foucault* (1986), “Michel Foucault’s Main Concepts” (1985) in *Two Regimes of Madness*, “What is a Dispositif?” (1988) in *Two Regimes of Madness*, and especially Deleuze’s 1986 Foucault Seminar (made available by Dan Smith, Nicolae Morar, et. al.) at [<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/research/deleuze/Course%20Transcriptions.html>]

Course Requirements (463)

1. Participation (15%): Attendance and Discussion.

You are expected to attend class and contribute to discussions. All our meetings will provide ample time for discussion—our Wednesday sessions will be especially discussion focused.

2. Reading Questions and Website Discussion (15%). You must come to every class session with evidence of preparation for our meeting. By Wednesday at 10am (this is a firm deadline) you should post a question or comment to our course website pertaining to that week’s primary reading by our primary author. Your posts should be short (one paragraph maximum), though you may post multiple times. Feel free to start new discussion threads if you see fit. It is your responsibility to come to our Wednesday seminar meetings prepared. If you will not remember your course website post from the night before, you may want to print it off.

3. Research Essay Proposal (17.5%) plus Extended Annotated Bibliography (17.5%) You will develop a short two-page essay proposal with an accompanying annotated bibliography mapping out a program of further research, due to me in my office (or another location to be announced in class) on Wednesday of Week 9, November 21st by 4pm.

- You are expected to develop your own essay topic, with the sole constraint being that the essay must address the subject matter of the course, namely Foucault *and* Deleuze. Though your essay can focus on a theme, problem, or interpretation arising more in one of these figures than the other, the essay needs to address itself to both of our authors, and consider some relay (or lack thereof) between the two.

- The proposal should take the form of an introductory paragraph or paragraphs, one and a half pages maximum. In these draft intro paragraphs you should address the topic of your essay (in the form of the problem to which your essay is written), clearly state the main thesis of your essay, and give your reader a sense of how you will develop an argument on behalf of your main thesis. (See my handout for “Writing an Introductory Paragraph” for guidance—ask me if you need a copy.)
- The annotated bibliography should take the form of a list (in some standard citation format) of at least three secondary sources (one article or one book chapter counts as one source) relevant to your chosen essay topic as well as a short abstract of your selection in which you summarize each piece in your own words. (For a sample of an abstract see the abstract at the head of my article, “Richard Rorty’s Linguistic Turn”, posted to the course website. Your abstract should summarize the article in your own words. Note that an abstract summarizes the piece in an objective fashion, and it does not describe how you (the student) will use the piece in your final paper.) Secondary sources for our purposes include writings about the primary literature we are reading in the class, not additional writings by our primary author, and not the secondary literature we are reading together in class. You can easily find relevant secondary literature through *The Philosopher’s Index* (available through the UO library website or ask a reference librarian).

4. *Final Research Essay* (35%). You will write a final research essay that will develop the proposal you outlined earlier in the term as well as engaging with both assigned primary literature and relevant secondary literature you researched for your bibliography. This should be about 8-9 pages in length. This will be due Tuesday of exam week (either in my office or via email, to be announced).

Course Requirements (563)

1. *Participation* (15%): *Attendance and Discussion*.

You are expected to attend class and contribute to discussions. All our meetings will provide ample time for discussion—our Thursday sessions will be especially discussion focused.

2. *Reading Questions and Website Discussion* (15%). You must come to every class session with evidence of preparation for our meeting. By Thursday at 10am (this is a firm deadline) you should post a question or comment to our course website pertaining to that week’s primary reading by our primary author. Your posts should be short (one paragraph maximum), though you may post multiple times. Feel free to start new discussion threads if you see fit. It is your responsibility to come to our Thursday seminar meetings prepared. If you will not remember your course website post from the night before, you may want to print it off.

3. *First Version Research Essay* (25%) *plus Extended Annotated Bibliography* (10%). You will write a short argumentative essay, due to me in my office (or another location to be announced in class) on Wednesday of Week 9, November 21st by 4pm.

- You are expected to develop your own essay topic, with the sole constraint being that the essay must address the subject matter of the course, namely Foucault *and* Deleuze. Though your essay can focus on a theme, problem, or interpretation arising more in one of these figures than the other, the essay needs to address itself to both of our authors, and consider some relay (or lack thereof) between the two.
- The first shorter version should be about 8-10 pages (or about 2500 words exclusive of notes and references). Your essay should include assigned primary and secondary readings, as well as indicate research making use of additional secondary literature. You will revise this essay and expand it into a longer final research essay due at the end of the term.
- The annotated bibliography should take the form of a list (in some standard citation format) of at least three secondary sources (one article or one book chapter counts as one source) relevant to your chosen essay topic as well as a short abstract of your selection in which you summarize each piece in your own words. (An abstract summarizes the piece in an objective fashion, and it does not describe how you (the student) will use the piece in your final paper.) Secondary sources for our purposes include writings about the primary literature we are reading in the class, not additional writings by our primary author, and not the secondary literature we are reading together in class. You can easily find relevant secondary literature through *The Philosopher’s Index* (available through the UO library website or ask a reference librarian).

5. *Final Version Research Essay* (35%). You will write a final research essay, which will be a revision of, improvement upon, and expansion upon your shorter argumentative essay from earlier in the term. This essay should engage with one both the assigned primary literature and relevant secondary literature. This should be about 12 pages in length (aim for 3000-3500 words exclusive of notes and references, i.e. a conference-length paper). This is due Tuesday of exam week (either in my office or via email, to be announced).