

Study Programme: Philosophy
Course Unit Title: Introduction to Critical Theory
Course Unit Code: 21FL078
Name of Lecturer(s): Lazar Atanasković
Type and Level of Studies: BA
Course Status (compulsory/elective): compulsory
Semester (winter/summer): winter
Language of instruction: English
Mode of course unit delivery (face-to-face/distance learning): face-to-face
Number of ECTS Allocated: 3
Prerequisites: -
<p>Course Aims:</p> <p>Western Marxism and Frankfurt School social theory developed in the first half of the 20th century as main currents of contemporary philosophy. This complex and diverse thought was characterized by its interest in contemporary social and political affairs but with a strong footing in the modern philosophical traditions, most notably German classical philosophy and dialectical method. As such it was able to connect philosophical tradition with questions of contemporary social science and politics, and to posit critical questions relevant up to this day. This course aims to present to students development and contemporary significance of this branch of modern philosophical thought.</p>
<p>Learning Outcomes:</p> <p>Understanding of the development of the 20th century western Marxism. Acquaintance with the main works and thinkers of the Frankfurt school. Knowledge about diverse topics and problems characteristic for the 20th century critical theory – understanding of complex relationship between classical German philosophy and 20th century social critique.</p>
<p>Syllabus:</p> <p>Hegel's dialectical method, Marx on dialectics, critique of political economy and commodity fetishism, Lukács's concept of class consciousness, Bloch's utopian thinking, Horkheimer and Adorno on dialectics of enlightenment, Fromm's critical psychology, Marcuse on ideology and industrial society, Benjamin on dialectics of image, Habermas's understanding of modernity and public sphere.</p>
<p>Required Reading:</p> <p>Hegel, G. W. F. (2018). <i>Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel: The Phenomenology of Spirit</i>. (T. Pinkard & M. Baur, Eds.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Marx, K. (1992). <i>Capital</i>. (E. Mandel, trans.). London: Penguin Books.</p> <p>Lukács, G. (2023). <i>History and Class Consciousness</i>. (R. Livingstone, trans.). London: Verso.</p> <p>Bloch, E. (2000.). <i>The Spirit of Utopia</i>. (A. Nassar, trans). Stanford: Stanford University Press.</p> <p>Horkheimer, M; Adorno, T. (2002). <i>Dialectic of Enlightenment</i>, (G.S. Noerr, Ed; E. Jephcott, Trans.). Stanford: Stanford University Press.</p>

Fromm, E. (1994). *Escape from Freedom*, New York: Henry Holt and Company
 Marcuse, H. (1991). *One-dimensional man*, Boston: Beacon Press.
 Benjamin, W. (2002). *The Arcades Project*, (K. Eiland and K. Mclaughlin, trans.), Cambridge: The Belknap Press.
 Habermas, J. (1991). *The structural Transformation of the Public Sphere*, (F. Burger and T. Lawrence, trans.). Cambridge: The MIT Press.

Weekly Contact Hours: 3	Lectures: 2	Practical work: 1
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Teaching Methods:
 Lectures and students group work.

Knowledge Assessment (maximum of 100 points):

Pre-exam obligations	points	Final exam	points
Active class participation	10	written exam	
Practical work	10	oral exam	60
Preliminary exam(s)		
Seminar(s)	20		

The methods of knowledge assessment may differ; the table presents only some of the options: written exam, oral exam, project presentation, seminars, etc.