

IDSVA SYLLABUS
Seminar II, Part 1
Kant, Hegel, Marx & Freud

Course Number:	702.1
Course Name:	Seminar II, Part 1: Kant, Hegel, Marx, & Freud
Dates:	Reading Period: July 19 – 31, 2010: Course: August 2 – 28, 2010
Format:	Online & Teleconference
Instructor:	Professor Denise Carvalho
Credits:	2

Course Description:

The purpose of Seminar I, Part 2 is to look closely at the foundational texts that informed most if not all of the essays we read and discussed in *Art in Theory* at Spannocchia. As such, Seminar I, Part 2 will lay the groundwork for the follow-up Directed Reading of *Art in Theory* in the fall. Indeed, Seminar I, Part 2 will lay the groundwork for all future readings. More specifically, we might say that while Kant lays the groundwork for the critique of art as form, Hegel lays the groundwork for the critique of art as history; and that while Marx and Engels extend the Hegelian project to the possibility of a social criticism of art as ideological discourse, Freud presents the possibility of a psychoanalytic critique of art as an aesthetic representation of individual human subjectivity. Each in its own way, all of these critical approaches to art come down to the question of freedom.

Learning Objectives:

The four philosophers studied in this seminar have been chosen to establish distinct methodologies in the practice of cultural analysis. Here, students begin understanding the ground philosophical work shaping the relationship between subject and object, time and space, establishing links between aesthetics, history, the individual and society, and the relationship between empirical situations and ideological ones.

Course Requirements:

On the day the reading of a given text is to be completed, I will post a question on First Class, in IDSVA Seminars Cohort '10. You will be working on the question in study groups,* but each of you should submit your own answer. Answers should be written in essay form, of roughly three to five double-spaced pages, to be delivered to IDSVA Submission Storage by the due dates listed above. With the completion of each writing assignment I will call you to give you feedback on your essay and a grade, and to discuss the reading more generally.

All materials should be delivered to Professor Carvalho via First Class and to IDSVA Submission Storage. Submitted documents must be titled with both the document name and email subject line according to the following format:

familyname, givenname_702.1_assignmentname_yymmdd
(e.g., “Jones, Sally_702.1_Kant_100223”).

Late submissions will be accepted but not given credit unless prior arrangements have been made. Extensions are granted on a case-by-case basis in response to special circumstances.

Assessment:

The grade for Seminar II, Part 1 will be calculated as an average of the grade you receive on each of the four assignments. Seminar II, Part 1 counts for 2 credits, and Seminar II, Part 2 counts for 3 credits.

Required Texts:

Kant, *The Critique of Judgement*. Trans., James Creed Meredith. (pp. 3-227)
Hegel, *Introductory Lectures on Aesthetics*. (Penguin Classics)
Marx & Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*. Ed., Jones. (Penguin Classics)
Gay, *The Freud Reader*. (Norton) YOU MAY SKIP PART ONE. IN PART THREE, YOU MAY SKIP SECTIONS 387 AND 394. IN PART FOUR, YOU MAY SKIP SECTION 514. IN PART FIVE, YOU MAY SKIP SECTIONS 545, 562, AND 584. AND IN PART SIX, YOU MAY SKIP SECTIONS 666, 678, 685, 772, 773, AND 783.

These texts are available in paperback new and used on Amazon.

Reading and Writing Schedule:

July 19-July 28	Kant	Essay Due Date: 8/4
July 30-Aug 8	Hegel	Essay Due Date: 8/11
Aug 11-Aug 18	Marx & Engels	Essay Due Date: 8/20
Aug 19-Aug 26	Freud	Essay Due Date: 8/30**

**Study Groups TBA. Amy will provide technical and instructional support for study group communications.

*Please note that reading and writing schedules overlap. Also note that while the course officially ends on August 28, I have granted an automatic extension on the final essay due date, for those who wish to enjoy the Labor Day holiday weekend.

Suggestion:

A word about the readings: With the exception of *The Communist Manifesto*, you may find them hard going. This is especially the case with Kant. DO NOT DESPAIR! If you read the texts and trust the process, which includes regular telephone discussions with me, you will prevail.

Conference Call Schedule: TBA