

Program: B. Tech. (All)	Course Title: Western Critical Thought: Power and Subjectivity			Course Code:
Type of Course: Other Elective	Prerequisites: NA			Total Contact Hours: 40
Year/Semester: 3rd-4th/6th-7th -8th	Lecture Hrs/Week: 3	Tutorial Hrs/Week: 0	Practical Hrs/Week: 0	Credits: 3

Learning Objective:

Post-enlightenment Western critical thinking engaged itself with the issues of language, self, metaphysics and epistemology. These issues become significant given the history of identity-based violence, suppression and domination in the name of civilisation and progress, and subsequent resistance and fight against all kinds of human subversion. The course aspires to inculcate critical thinking and argumentation through the engagement with and close reading of the prominent Western thinkers of the Post-enlightenment era. Such critical thinking will be useful to students in honing their skills for analysis and problem-solving.

Course outcomes (COs):

On completion of this course, the students will have the ability to:		Bloom's Level
CO-1	Relate the background of the Enlightenment and Phenomenology on critical thinking of self	3
CO-2	Examine the operations of power on the formation of the self through Marxist thinking and psychoanalysis	4
CO-3	Analyse issues such as identity-into-becoming, discourse, representation etc. to understand the self-as-experienced and the undercurrents of ideology	4
CO-4	Evaluate the social-constructed-ness of the gender identity, role of performativity in its neutralisation and perpetuation and modes of resistance	5
CO-5	Demonstrate a critical understanding of ethnic conflict, cultural identity and nationalism in South Asia in team presentations of texts	3

Course Topics	Lecture Hours	CO Mapping
UNIT – I The Backdrop: Kant and Hegel		
1.1 Immanuel Kant: “What is Enlightenment?”	1 4	5 CO1
1.2 Hegel: Dialectic Method; Selections from <i>Phenomenology of Spirit</i>		

UNIT – II Capitalism, Psychoanalysis, and Subjectivity:			
2.1 Karl Marx: “On the Jewish Question”			
2.2 Louis Althusser: “Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses”	1		
2.3 Sigmund Freud: selections from <i>Civilisation and its Discontents</i>	1	7	CO2
2.4 Jacques Lacan: Register Theory; The Mirror Stage, The Ego and the Subject; Otherness, Oedipal Complex and Sexuation; The Libidinal Economy	3 2		
UNIT – III Phenomenology, Existentialism, and Consciousness			
3.1 Edmund Husserl: Empathy, Intersubjectivity and Lifeworld	2		
3.2 Jean-Paul Sartre: Selections from <i>Being and Nothingness</i>	3	7	CO1
3.3 Jean-Paul Sartre: Selections from <i>Existentialism and Humanism</i>	2		
UNIT – IV Poststructuralism, Postmodernism, and Subjectivity			
4.1 Jacques Derrida: Selections from <i>Speech (Voice) and Phenomena</i>	3		
4.2 Michel Foucault: “Docile Bodies”; “Panopticism”	4	7	CO3
UNIT – V Feminism and Subjectivity			
5.1 Julia Kristeva: selections from <i>Powers of Horror: An Essay on Abjection</i>	3		
5.2 Luce Irigaray: selections from <i>An Ethics of Sexual Difference</i>	3	8	CO4
5.3 Judith Butler: “Theorising the binary, the unitary and the beyond”; “Identity, sex and the metaphysics of substance”; “Freud and the Melancholia of Gender”; “Bodily inscriptions, performative subversions”	2		
UNIT – VI Group Seminar Presentation			
Seminar Presentations by Groups of Students on different texts/issues	6	6	CO5

Book References:

Textbook/Reference Books and Web Resources:

- Beyer, Christian. ‘Edmund Husserl’. *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Edward N. Zalta and Uri Nodelman, Winter 2022, Metaphysics Research Lab, Stanford University, 2022.
Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy,
<https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2022/entries/husserl/>.
- Butler, Judith. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. Routledge, 1990.
- Derrida, Jacques. *Speech and Phenomena, and Other Essays on Husserl’s Theory of Signs*. Northwestern University Press, 1973.
- Foucault, Michel. *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. 1st American ed, Pantheon Books, 1977.
- Freud, Sigmund, et al. *Civilisation and Its Discontents*. 1. publ, Penguin Books, 2004.
- Hegel, Georg Wilhelm Friedrich, et al. *Phenomenology of Spirit*. Clarendon Press, 1977.

Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses by Louis Althusser 1969-70.

<https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/althusser/1970/ideology.htm>. Accessed 28 July 2023.

Irigaray, Luce. *An Ethics of Sexual Difference*. Cornell University Press, 1993.

Johnston, Adrian. 'Jacques Lacan'. *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Edward N. Zalta and Uri Nodelman, Spring 2023, Metaphysics Research Lab, Stanford University, 2023.

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2023/entries/lacan/>.

Kant. *What Is Enlightenment*. <http://www.columbia.edu/acis/ets/CCREAD/etscc/kant.html>. Accessed 28 July 2023.

Kristeva, Julia. *Powers of Horror: An Essay on Abjection*. Columbia University Press, 1982.

Marx, Karl. *On the Jewish Question (1844)*. Aristeus Books, 2012.

Moran, Dermot. *Edmund Husserl: Founder of Phenomenology*. Polity Press, 2005.

Mulhall, Stephen, and Stephen Mulhall. *The Routledge Guidebook to Heidegger's Being and Time*. Routledge, 2013.

On The Jewish Question by Karl Marx.

<https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1844/jewish-question/>. Accessed 28 July 2023.

Sartre, Jean-Paul. *Being and Nothingness*. Washington Square Press : [Peter Smith], 1992.

---. *Existentialism and Humanism*. Translated by Philip Mairet, First English edition, Methuen and Co. Ltd., 1948.

Additional Resources:

1. Relevant Video Lectures will be announced in the class.
2. Web Resources and research articles will be provided through google group/ Google Classroom.

Evaluation Method*		
Item	Weightage (%)	
Mid-Term Examination	25	CO1; CO2
End Semester Examination	40	CO1; CO2; CO3;CO4
Quiz1	5	CO1
Quiz 2	5	CO2
Quiz 3	5	CO3
Quiz 4	5	CO4
Seminar Presentation	15	CO5
Total	100	

Note: The course content may require regular interaction with the instructor. Hence, it will follow a mandatory attendance policy. Students failing to attend a minimum of 75% of classes may face academic repercussions.

CO and PO Correlation Matrix for B.Tech/Integrated BTech-MTech

CO	PO 1	PO 2	PO 3	PO 4	PO 5	PO 6	PO 7	PO 8	PO 9	PO1 0	PO1 1	PO1 2	PSO 1	PSO 2	PSO 3
CO 1						1				1					
CO 2						1				1					
CO 3						1				1					
CO 4						1				1					
CO 5									3	3					

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Approved By: