

**“The Language of Marx, Nietzsche, Freud”**  
Language Engagement Module taught in English  
Course number: 01:556:291:L2 (1 credit)  
Term: Spring 2019

**Instructor / Professor:** Thomas Wallerberger, Nicholas Rennie  
**Class Hours & Location:** To be arranged in the first week of classes  
**Office Hours:** tba  
**Email:** [tw434@greell.rutgers.edu](mailto:tw434@greell.rutgers.edu)

### MODULE DESCRIPTION

This module focuses on the original German-language concepts and formulations in select passages relevant to the principal themes of the main course “Marx, Nietzsche, Freud.” Attention will be given to issues of translation as these influence — and historically have influenced — the understanding of these writers and their thought. The course will be taught in English with readings in English and German.

**PREREQUISITE:** Elementary German 470:102, equivalent placement, or approval of the Undergraduate Director of German. The classes themselves are taught in English, but students must have elementary ability to navigate texts in German -- with help, of course, from their dictionary and their instructor! **CO-REQUISITE:** in order to enroll in the module, students must either be enrolled in “Marx, Nietzsche, Freud” or have already successfully completed the course. Please contact Prof. Rennie to register and to ask any questions about registration.

### I. MODULE OBJECTIVES

This module aims to help students learn about the cultural dimension and relevance of language in general, and of German in particular. More specifically, over the course of the semester, students will become attuned to linguistic issues both as they affect the formulation and understanding of philosophical writing, as they have specifically influenced understanding of Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud, and as linguistic issues are themselves foregrounded thematically and through formal means in the texts of these writers.

### II. REQUIREMENTS

**READINGS:** The required literature is covered by the titles needed for the lecture taught by Prof. Rennie. Additional readings (including translation exercises) will be available online at the course canvas page under “The Language of MNF”.

Class will meet 9 times over the course of the semester, for 80 minutes each time, beginning in the first week of classes. Each hour of class time requires approximately two hours of preparation. The ninth class, which includes a final discussion, will be two hours rather than 80 minutes long.

### III. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADE DISTRIBUTION

- 10% **Class participation** (see rubric)
- 35% **Translation exercises**, due at sessions **2-9 of the 10 sessions**. Translate a given passage (5-10 sentences) from the assigned German text in your own words. Due the day before class ([email to tw434@greell.rutgers.edu](mailto:tw434@greell.rutgers.edu)) and in hard copy at the start of each class. *Note: use of any translation-software for these exercises will be considered a breach of academic integrity.*

- 35% **Analyses**, due at sessions 1-9 of the 10 sessions. Briefly summarize and critically examine theoretical concepts and aesthetic aspects of the assigned readings (see under "reflection" in IV). Due the day before class ([email to tw434@greell.rutgers.edu](mailto:tw434@greell.rutgers.edu)) and in hard copy at the start of each class.
- 10% **Moderation** of 20 minutes of one class discussion. The student(s) moderating the day's class discussion will prepare a set of questions about the assigned text and help lead the other students through a discussion of these questions.
- 10% **Concluding 3-pg. essay**, for which one of the reflections can serve as basis. Due in hard copy at the beginning of the final class session.

#### IV. CALENDAR

Class	Topic	Task and Assessment Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE</b></li> <li>● Satirical &amp; polemical aspects of Marx' writing               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right Introduction</i></li> <li>- <i>On the Jewish Question</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>Homework: Translation exercise (1-2§§), Reflection (1p)</b> <b>In class: presentation, participation, discussion</b>  <u>Translation:</u> passage from <i>Zur Kritik der Hegelschen Rechtsphilosophie (in class)</i> <u>Reflection:</u> <i>On the Jewish Question</i>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Marx' capital as "a live monster" with a soul and appetite (Fetisch; das Kapital als Ungeheuer):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Capital</i> Vol. 1, ch. 1&amp;2</li> <li>- <i>Preface</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<u>Translation:</u> passage from <i>Das Kapital</i> <u>Reflection:</u> <i>Preface to A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy</i>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Marx and "The long shadow of usury" (Krämer, Schacher, Lumpen):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i></li> <li>- Jerry Z. Muller: <i>Capitalism and the Jews</i> (ch. 1)</li> <li>- <i>On the Jewish Question</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<u>Translation:</u> passage from <i>Manifest der komm. Partei</i> <u>Reflection:</u> <i>The long shadow of usury</i> (Jerry Z. Muller)
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nietzsche and the "power of tragedy":               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Geburt der Tragödie</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<u>Translation:</u> passage from <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i> (ch. 21) <u>Reflection:</u> <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nietzsche's "overman":               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Zarathustra</i>, 'Prologue,' sections 3-4; Part I, section 3.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<u>Translation:</u> passage from <i>Zarathustra</i> <u>Reflection:</u> <i>Zarathustra</i>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nietzsche: "debt" and "guilt":               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Genealogy of Morality</i>, Second Essay, section 4</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<u>Translation:</u> passage from <i>Genealogy of Morality</i> <u>Reflection:</u> <i>Genealogy of Morality</i>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The psychic apparatus and the interpretation of dreams:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>New Introductory Lectures On Psycho-Analysis</i></li> <li>- <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i></li> <li>- <i>Delusion and Dream in Jensen's Gradiva</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<u>Translation:</u> passage from <i>Neue Folge der Vorlesungen zur Einführung in die Psychoanalyse</i> <u>Reflection:</u> <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> (selected passage or <i>Gradiva</i> )
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● From Nietzsche's "Übermensch" to Freud's "Urvater":               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Totem and Taboo</i></li> <li>- <i>Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<u>Translation:</u> passage from <i>Totem und Tabu</i> <u>Reflection:</u> <i>Group Psychology and the Analysis of the Ego</i> (intr., ch. V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X)
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Freud in Exile:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Moses and Monotheism</i> and selected short writings of Freud's exile years</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<u>Translation:</u> Selected short exile writings of Freud <u>Reflection:</u> <i>Moses and Monotheism</i>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Final discussion</li> </ul>	<b>Last day of class</b> <b>Concluding essay (3pp) due</b>

#### V. STUDENT WELLNESS SERVICES & POLICIES

**ACCOMMODATIONS and ASSISTANCE:** Any student who feels that s/he may need an accommodation based on a disability should bring the proper documentation from the ODS Office (<http://ods.rutgers.edu>) and

discuss his or her specific needs privately with the instructor. Any student dealing with extraordinary personal situation should contact (<http://rhscaps.rutgers.edu/>).

**ATTENDANCE:** If you are going to miss a class or evaluation, within 24 hours of your absence you are **required** to use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. Please keep in mind that using the reporting system does not mean that your absence is automatically considered “excused,” nor that you will be offered a make-up. In some instances you may need to get further documentation excusing your absence. If you must miss a class or exam for religious reasons, please consult <http://www.state.nj.us/education/genfo/holidays1718.pdf>. It is your responsibility to inform your absence.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Students are not allowed to use computer-assisted translation software or seek outside help in any form. In other words, the writing is to be entirely your own work (words and ideas). If you are using material produced by another person under any circumstances, you must acknowledge it. Any outside help is considered unacceptable collaboration and will be dealt with accordingly. You are responsible for reviewing the University’s definitions and policies for plagiarism and academic dishonesty (<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers>).

- ***Plagiarism** is the representation of the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation and must be properly cited in the text or in a footnote. Acknowledgment is required when material from another source stored in print, electronic or other medium is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one's own words. To acknowledge a paraphrase properly, one might state: 'to paraphrase Plato's comment...' and conclude with a footnote identifying the exact reference. A footnote acknowledging only a directly quoted statement does not suffice to notify the reader of any preceding or succeeding paraphrased material. Information which is common knowledge such as names of leaders of prominent nations, basic scientific laws, etc., need not be footnoted; however, all facts or information obtained in reading or research that are not common knowledge among students in the course must be acknowledged.*

A student who hands in work that is totally or partially plagiarized will be reported to the Office of Student Judicial affairs. Any questions about what constitutes plagiarism should be discussed with the faculty member.

## VI. RUBRIC FOR CLASS PARTICIPATION<sup>1</sup>

	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
<b>Level of Engagement and preparation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regularly contributes, of own initiative, ideas that are creative, relevant, and that demonstrate a high level of preparation in reading the assigned text(s).</li> <li>Regularly and constructively engages others in class discussions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Often contributes ideas that are creative, relevant, and that demonstrate solid preparation in reading the assigned text(s).</li> <li>Often engages others in class discussions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally contributes to class discussion by offering ideas and asking questions that demonstrate preparation in reading the assigned text(s).</li> <li>Sometimes engages others in class discussions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fails to contribute to class discussion</li> <li>Fails to engage others in class discussions.</li> </ul>

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from rubric published by Texas Education Agency, [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUKFwib6pqlloHWAhVGSiYKHRxxA80QFggmMAA&url=https%3A%2F%2Ffacultyinnovate.utexas.edu%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fclassroom\\_discussion\\_rubric.doc&usq=AFOjCNEJRqcSBKFD-I9ODklr-imIOU82s\\_w](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUKFwib6pqlloHWAhVGSiYKHRxxA80QFggmMAA&url=https%3A%2F%2Ffacultyinnovate.utexas.edu%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fclassroom_discussion_rubric.doc&usq=AFOjCNEJRqcSBKFD-I9ODklr-imIOU82s_w)