



- Propaganda and ideology in modern life*
- Week 5 Feb. 8 Geuss, *The Idea of a Critical Theory: Habermas and the Frankfurt School*, Ch. 1  
 Feb. 10 Herman and Chomsky, *Manufacturing Consent: The Political Economy of the Mass Media*, Ch. 1
- Sociological perspectives on modern institutions and power relations*
- Week 6 Feb. 15 Weber, *Economy and Society: An Outline of Interpretive Sociology* (excerpts)  
 Feb. 17 Foucault, *The Subject and Power*
- Contemporary views of race and gender*
- Week 7 Feb. 22 Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*, Part VII  
 Feb. 24 Coates, *Between the World and Me* (excerpt)  
 (optional) Said, *Orientalism*, Introduction
- Some key ideas and methods in economics*
- Week 8 Feb. 29 Marx, *Value, Price, and Profit*, Ch. VI to the end  
 Mar. 2 Binmore, *Game Theory: A Very Short Introduction*, Chs. 1 and 4
- Understanding modern art and modern art criticism*
- Week 9 Mar. 14 Wimsatt and Beardsley, *The Intentional Fallacy*  
 Mar. 16 Caputo, *Deconstruction in a Nutshell: A Conversation with Jacques Derrida*, Ch. II.3 (after p. 12 is optional) (MIDTERM DISTRIBUTED)

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**Part III: Modern views of the world around us**

- Probabilistic reasoning*
- Week 10 Mar. 21 Hacking, *An Introduction to Probability and Inductive Logic*, Chs. 3-6  
 Mar. 23 Stone, *Bayes' Rule: A Tutorial Introduction to Bayesian Analysis*, Ch. 1  
 (MIDTERM DUE)
- Modern physics: relativity and quantum theory*
- Week 11 Mar. 28 Russell, *ABC of Relativity*, Chs. 1-5  
 Mar. 30 Polkinghorne, *Quantum Theory: A Very Short Introduction* (excerpt)
- Some important notions regarding computers and computation*
- Week 12 Apr. 4 Cutland, *Computability: An Introduction to Recursive Function Theory*, Ch. 1.1-3  
 Apr. 6 Handout on cryptography and the RSA algorithm
- Modern views on mathematics and infinity*
- Week 13 Apr. 11 Boolos, Burgess, and Jeffrey, *Computability and Logic*, Ch. 1  
 Apr. 13 Hardy, *A Mathematician's Apology*, §§11 – 17

*Contemporary views about history and historical inquiry*

Week 14 Apr. 18 Kuhn, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, Chs. I, IV, and IX  
Apr. 20 Kosso, *Philosophy of Historiography* (FINAL PAPER DUE)

**Assignments:**

Weekly Homeworks	50%		Due at the beginning of class
Midterm Exam	15%	Take home exam	Due Mar. 23
Final Paper	20%	Medium-length evaluative paper	Due Apr. 20
Participation	15%	Discussion is essential in a course like this	

**Accommodations:** Any student with a documented disability who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact me and the appropriate Disability Services office at the beginning of the semester. The two disability service offices on campus are: Disabled Student Resources and Services (269) 387-2116 and the Office of Services for Students with Learning Disabilities (269) 387-4411.

**Academic Honesty:** You are responsible for making yourself aware of and understanding the university's [policies and procedures](#) that pertain to Academic Honesty. If there is reason to believe you have been involved in academic dishonesty, you will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. You will be given the opportunity to review the charge(s). If you believe you are not responsible, you will have the opportunity for a hearing. You should consult with me if you are uncertain about an issue of academic honesty prior to the submission of an assignment.