

**HEIDEGGER PHH4930
NATHAN ROTHSCHILD
SPRING 2023 SYLLABUS**

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This is a course on the 20th Century German philosopher Martin Heidegger. We will read a large portion of *Being and Time*, Heidegger's most well known work, as well as some of his shorter writings such as: "The Origin of the Work of Art," "Plato's Doctrine of Truth," and "The Question Concerning Technology." There will also be a small selection of secondary material. However, for the most part, we will keep to Heidegger's work, turning to other texts by Heidegger in order to understand Heidegger. Over the course of the semester, we will touch upon a range of topics, among them: the thought that our conception of knowledge—and of things in general—is distorted by a misguidedly theoretical ontology, an account of the subject, of animal life, of the holism of our ways of making sense, and a distinctive attempt to understand human possibilities as historical, and therefore the kind of thing for which we are responsible.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION AND OFFICE HOURS

Prof. Nathan Rothschild

Email: njrothschild@ufl.edu

Office: Griffin Floyd 311

Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00am-10am, Tuesday 3:00-4:00pm and by appointment

Office Hours Zoom Address: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/4225788584>

COURSE TIME AND LOCATION

Time: T/R periods 7/7-8

Location: MAT 0051

REQUIRED TEXTS

Being and Time, Martin Heidegger, ISBN: 0061575593

All other texts will be available through Canvas

HELPFUL GUIDES TO READING HEIDEGGER

How to Read Heidegger, Mark Wrathall, ISBN: 0393328805

Heidegger's 'Being and Time': A Reader's Guide, William Blattner, ISBN: 0826486096

Heidegger: An Introduction, Richard Polt, ISBN: 0801485649

REQUIREMENTS

Final paper	35%
Final paper presentation	10%
Draft of the final paper	10%
Three response papers	15%
Class Summary	5%
Discussion Board	10%
Class preparation, attendance and participation	15%

The following grade scale will be used to assign final letter grades for the course. See UF grading policies for assigning grade points at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Grade Scale	Grade Value
100-93=A	A=4.0
92-90=A-	A-=3.67
89-86=B+	B+=3.33
85-82=B	B=3.00
81-79=B-	B-=2.67
78-75=C+	C+=2.33
75-72=C	C=2.00
71-69=C-	C-=1.67
68-66=D+	D+=1.33
65-62=D	D=1.00
61-60=D-	D-=0.67
59-0=E	E=0.00

PAPERS: Papers are due by noon on their respective due dates. Please submit an electronic copy to Canvas.

- You must ask for an extension at least three days in advance (barring an emergency). Late papers will be penalized one third of a letter grade for each day beyond the due date.
- Papers should be in 12pt font, double spaced, with 1 inch margins and stapled. They also must include a word count. Papers which do not conform to these specifications will lose one third of a grade.
- There will be two types of papers in the course, shorter response papers and a longer (roughly 12-14 page) final paper.

FINAL PAPER: Students are also required to write a longer, final paper on a topic of their choosing.

- Students are required to submit a draft of their final paper. This draft will be graded.

RESPONSE PAPERS: These 2-3 page papers will identify a short section of text, articulate the central claim of that text and ask one question about that claim.

- Students must write 3 response papers over the course of the semester. Each Monday, starting in Week 3 of the term, students will have an opportunity to submit a response paper about the previous week's material.
- Once this opportunity has passed, students may no longer write a response paper on that week.
- Response papers are primarily intended as a way to start you thinking seriously about a given topic. It is recommended that you write response papers on material you might engage with in your final paper.

PAPER PRESENTATION: Students will present the thesis of their final paper and the core of its argument. Afterwards, they will have the opportunity to get feedback from their classmates about their presentation.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY: Students are responsible for writing up one summary of the week's in-class conversation.

- Each week, two students will work together to write up a summary of that week's conversation.
- Students will have some freedom to select the week they would like to fulfill this requirement.
- The two students assigned to the week, will be responsible for working together and posting *one* summary to Canvas by 4pm Friday of that week.

DISCUSSION POSTS: Students are responsible for submitting two discussion posts a week. These posts should focus on that week's reading.

- Posts are due by Wednesday at 6pm and Wednesday at 9pm respectively.
- Unless it is a response to another student's post, the earlier (6pm) post should either ask *one* question about the current reading or offer an interpretation of *one* of the reading's key claims or concepts. I strongly encourage asking straightforward questions such as, "Heidegger says X. What does he mean?" There are other kinds of good posts, but this is the place to start.
- Each post should reflect a thoughtful and serious engagement with the text. As a general rule of thumb, a post should be roughly 1-2 paragraphs long. Discussion posts that do not reflect a serious engagement with the material will not receive credit.
- The second post, due later that evening (by 9pm), must flag the question of one other student. The flagged question should be one that you too find interesting and would like to see addressed.
- Every discussion post beyond the first that is missed (or does not receive credit), will cost the student 10% of their grade for the discussion posts. For example, if a student misses 2 posts they will receive a 90% for the discussion posts, 3 and they will receive an 80%, and so on.
- On the other hand, if a student takes part in the online discussion over and above their one required post, it will be factored into their participation grade for the course.

POLICIES

TEXTS: For the required text, students *must purchase a hard copy of the edition listed on the syllabus*. We will examine passages from the text in class. As a result, it is imperative that students do not use a different translation or edition of *Being and Time*.

- Students may use tablets and laptops to access the Canvas readings in class. These electronic devices may only be used in class for this purpose.

CLASS DEMEANOR AND PARTICIPATION: Students are expected to arrive to class on time, stay the full class period, and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Students must also come to class prepared. This means keeping current on the reading assignments and being aware of the course schedule and activities, as presented in this syllabus, discussed in class,

and announced on the course website. It also means bringing the day's reading to class.

- For an absence to be excused you must provide the relevant written proof (e.g., a note from the Dean of Students).

RECORDING LECTURES: I will not be recording anything.

OUTSIDE SOURCES: Do not use texts or internet sources outside of those listed on the syllabus. If you would like to use an outside source when writing your paper, please clear the text with me first.

OFFICE HOURS: I strongly encourage you to take advantage of office hours. Come by to talk over the paper you are considering writing, or to simply think through questions about the course material.

- I prefer to schedule my office hours by appointment, but drop-ins are great too. If you know you want to come, put your name down on the sign-up sheet on my office (Griffing Floyd 311) door. If you cannot make those times, get in touch and we will arrange a time to meet.

EMAIL: Email is an essential mode of communication in the course. Students are expected to read all email they receive concerning the course and to do so in a timely fashion.

- *Be sure set your Canvas notifications to "Notify me right away."* I will proceed on the assumption that you have done so.
- If you want to reach me by email, please do so via UF email and not via Canvas. If you have substantive philosophical questions, email is not the best place for these; please come visit me in office hours.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Please make sure to turn off and put away all electronic devices before class period begins.

- For the one exception to this rule see "Texts" above.

MAKE UP EXAMS: Requirements for make-up exams are consistent with university policies specified at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel.

PLAGIARISM: You are encouraged to work and exchange ideas with your fellow classmates, and you are heartily encouraged to share drafts of written work. However, you must compose and submit your own papers. Doing otherwise is plagiarism.

Plagiarism is the presenting of another's work as one's own. Plagiarism on any assignment will result in a grade of "E" for the course. Plagiarism is defined in the University of Florida's Student Honor Code as follows: "A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to): a. Quoting oral or written materials, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution. b. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student." Students found guilty of academic misconduct will be prosecuted in accordance with the procedures specified in the UF honesty policy.

If you are not sure if something counts as plagiarism consult the Honor Code. If you are still unsure, please, do not hesitate to ask.

ONLINE MATERIALS

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION. Students are expected to provide constructive and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback is available at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results will be available to students at gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

CANVAS E-LEARNING ENVIRONMENT. This course is supplemented by online content in the e-Learning environment known as "Canvas." To login to the e-Learning site for this course, go to <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>, click the **e-Learning Login** button under, and on the next page enter your Gatorlink username and password. Logging in will take you to the "My Workspace" page, where you can access the course e-Learning environment by clicking on the course name in the banner toward the top of the page.

- Check "Readings" for all readings, which is under the "Pages" tab.
- Check the "Announcements" and "Calendar" tools in the e-Learning environment for new course content (such as recommended readings) and due dates for assignments.

The official recommended system requirements for e-learning in Canvas are a broadband Internet connection and a fully updated and compatible browser. For Windows based PCs: Firefox 3.x or Internet Explorer 7.x or 8.x. For Macs: Firefox 3.0 or Safari 4.x. (Other browsers such as Opera, Chrome, etc. are not recommended for use with Canvas) If you encounter any difficulties logging in or accessing any of the course content, contact the UF Computing Help Desk at (352) 392-4537. Do not contact the course instructor regarding computer issues.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

Week 1 The Being Question

- 1/10 Introduction
- 1/12 Heidegger, *Being and Time*, §1-§8
Recommended: Taylor Carman, "Introduction to *Being and Time*"

Week 2 The Being of Dasein

- 1/17 Heidegger, *Being and Time*, §9-§13
- 1/19 Discussion

Week 3 Equipment and World

- 1/23 **Response paper for weeks 1 and 2 due at noon**
- 1/24 Heidegger, *Being and Time*, §14-§18a
Heidegger, *Basic Problems of Phenomenology*, §15a-c
Recommended: Blattner, *Heidegger's Being and Time*, pp. 33-48
- 1/26 Ruspoli, *Being in the World* (film), **available on Youtube**
Discussion

Week 4 The Who of Everyday Dasein

- 1/30 **Response paper for week 3 due at noon**
- 1/31 Heidegger, *Being and Time*, Division I, Chapter 4
Recommended: Hubert Dreyfus, *Being-in-the-World*, Chapter 8 "The 'Who' of Everyday Dasein"
- 2/2 Discussion

Week 5 State of Mind and Understanding

- 2/6 **Response paper for week 4 due at noon**
- 2/7 Heidegger, *Being and Time*, §28-§32
- 2/9 Haugeland: "Truth and Finitude" (pp.187-205)
Discussion

Week 6 Falling, Anxiety and Care

- 2/13 **Response paper for week 5 due at noon**
- 2/14 Heidegger, *Being and Time*, §35-§42 (focus §38-§42)
- 2/16 Discussion

Week 7 Death

- 2/20 **Response paper for week 6 due at noon**
- 2/21 Heidegger, *Being and Time*, §45-§53
Blattner: "The Concept of Death in Being and Time"
- 2/23 Discussion

Week 8 Resoluteness

2/27 Response paper for week 7 due at noon

2/28 Heidegger: *Being and Time*, §54-58, §60, §62 and §64 (focus on §60 and §62)

Heidegger, *Being and Time*, §43

Haugeland, "Truth and Finitude," pp. 205-end

3/2 Discussion

Week 9 Truth

3/6 Response paper for week 8 due at noon

3/7 Heidegger, *Being and Time* §44

Heidegger, "Plato's Doctrine of Truth"

3/9 Discussion

Week 10

Spring break, no classes

Week 11 Being an Animal

3/20 Response paper for week 4 due at noon

3/21 Heidegger, *The Fundamental Concepts of Metaphysics*, §42-63 (excerpts)

3/23 Discussion

Week 12 Temporality

3/27 Response paper for week 11 due at noon

3/28 Heidegger, *The Basic Problems of Phenomenology*, Part Two, Chapter One (excerpts)

3/30 Discussion

Week 13 Art

4/3 Response paper for week 12 due at noon

4/4 Heidegger, "The Origin of the Work of Art"

4/6 Discussion

Week 14 Technology

4/10 Response paper for week 13 due at noon

4/11 Heidegger, "The Question Concerning Technology"

4/13 Discussion

Week 15 Final Papers

4/17 Response paper for week 14 due at noon

4/18 Paper presentations

4/20 Paper presentations

4/21 Paper draft due

Week 16 Conclusion

4/25 Wrap up, final paper review

4/27 No class, reading days

Exam Week

5/2 Final paper due