

**M-FIL/06, First Semester 2007/08: History of Concepts (6 credits) 40 ore (s)**  
hour 14:00-15:40, day Tuesday, Thursday, room Sala Dottorandi, Palazzo di Lettere  
Instructor: **Riccardo Pozzo, Professor of the History of Philosophy**-Tel: (045) 802-8143  
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### Course Description

The course offers a genuinely interdisciplinary program. Each major research emphasis is represented: (a) introductory remarks on the history of ideas, concepts, problems, traditions, institutions; (b) review of methods of the history of concepts and their applications; and (c) evaluation of the role played by a pragmatic history of philosophy. Students are expected to work towards a thorough preparation and training in interdisciplinary intellectual history that will be the basis of their placement in national and international frameworks dedicated to historic research, cultural administration, and information management. During a four-week program, visiting professors from the Erasmus Universiteit in Rotterdam will contribute to the course offering the perspective of intellectual historians. Introduction, application, and evaluation of case-studies pertaining to (1) the history of ideas, concepts, problems, traditions, institutions; (2) the methods of the history of concepts; and (3) the notion of a pragmatic history of philosophy. Seminal discussion. Active course participation, papers, quizzes, final exam consisting of an oral discussion of one of the texts indicated above.

### Course Requirements and Evaluation

The course requirements include the following: class discussion and participation, a 1.500 words paper due on Thursday, Dec. 6, 2007 on a topic of the student's choosing, and a final examination to be first held on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2008. For the calculation of the final grade, the following formula will be used:

Term Paper:	50%
Final Examination:	50%

### Notes and Cautions

The purpose of the papers is both for the student to demonstrate his/her comprehension of a philosophical topic as it is presented in a philosophical text and for the student to engage in thoughtful and critical reflection upon that same topic. In order to fulfill this purpose, the student, after selecting one of the available topics, will find it necessary to consult secondary sources recommended by the instructor in addition to the primary text(s) which are the object of study. But the student should bear in mind that the resulting paper is to embody his/her own ideas and research and should focus on the primary text(s). Furthermore, the student should employ the method of documentation described by Kate L. Turabian's *Student's Guide for Writing College Papers*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1976), p. 122-165 to indicate when he/she has borrowed (whether from a primary or a secondary source) from the research or ideas of others.

### Readings Schedule

1-Tu., Oct. 2	Introduction to the history of concepts.
2-Th., Oct. 4	Methodological issues.
3-Tu., Oct. 9	<i>Bildung</i> .
4-Th., Oct. 11	<i>Sensus communis</i> .
5-Tu., Oct. 16	Power of Judgment.
6-Th., Oct. 18	Taste.
7-Tu., Oct. 23	<b>Prof. Robert von Friedeburg:</b> Political Concepts in Early Modern Europe.
8-Th., Oct. 25	<b>Prof. Robert von Friedeburg:</b> Political Concepts in Early Modern Europe.
9-Tu., Oct. 30	<i>Erlebnis</i> .
10-Th., Nov. 1	Classic.
11-Tu., Nov. 6	<b>Prof. Han van Ruler:</b> Renaissance Moral Thought: Erasmus and Valla Compared.

12-Th., Nov. 8	<b>Prof. Han van Ruler:</b> Renaissance Moral Thought and its Relation to Modernity.
13-Tu., Nov. 13	<b>Prof. Han van Ruler:</b> The Scientific Revolution as a Crisis of Causal Explanation.
14-Th., Nov. 15	<b>Prof. Han van Ruler.</b> The Concept of Substance and our Metaphors of Change.
15-Tu., Nov. 20	<b>Prof. Wiep van Bunge:</b> Descartes and the Rise of Dutch Cartesianism.
16-Th., Nov. 22	<b>Prof. Wiep van Bunge:</b> Spinoza and the Radical Enlightenment.
17-Tu., Nov. 27	Subject-Object.
18-Th., Nov. 29	Horrorism.
19-Tu., Dec. 4	Hermeneutics and the History of Problems.
20-Th., Dec. 6	Integrated Hypertexts. <b>Term paper due on Thursday, Dec. 6.</b>
21-Tu., Jan. 8	<b>First Session of the Final Examination, Tuesday, Jan. 8, 8:30-10:30, 1.4 Polo Zanolto</b>

### Bibliography

- Hans Erich Bödeker, (ed.), *Begriffsgeschichte, Diskursgeschichte, Metapherngeschichte* (Göttingen: Wallstein Verlag, 2002).
- ,--, "Begriffsgeschichte als Theoriegeschichte – Theoriegeschichte als Begriffsgeschichte. Ein Versuch," Rita Casale, Daniel Tröhler and Jürgen Oelkers (eds.) *Methoden und Kontexte. Historiographische Problema der Bildungsforschung* (Göttingen:Wallstein Verlag, 2006), p. 91-119.
- Adriana Cavarero, *Orrorismo* (Milano: Feltrinelli, 2007).
- Sandro Chignola, "Storia concettuale e filosofia politica: Per una prima approssimazione," *Filosofia politica* 1 (1990), p. 5-35.
- ,--, "Storia dei concetti e storiografia del discorso politico," *Filosofia politica* 1 (1997), p. 99-122;
- Barbara Cassin (ed.), *Vocabulaire européen des Philosophies: Dictionnaire des intraduisibles* (Paris: Seuil-Robert, 2005).
- Giuseppe Duso, "Dalla storia concettuale alla filosofia politica," *Filosofia politica* 1 (2007), p. 69-70.
- Carsten Dutt, *Herausforderungen der Begriffsgeschichte* (Heidelberg: Winter, 2003).
- Roberto Esposito, "Storia dei concetti e ontologia dell'attualità," *Filosofia politica* 1 (2006), p. 7-9.
- Hans-Georg Gadamer, *Gesammelte Werke*. (Tübingen: Mohr, 1990-1999).
- ,--, "Bildung," "sensus communis," "power of judgment," "taste," "Erlebnis," "classic," "Logic of Question and Answer," in *Truth and Method* (New York: Continuum, 1989). **REQUIRED**
- Hans-Ulrich Gumbrecht, *Dimension und Grenzen der Begriffsgeschichte* (Munich: Fink, 2006).
- Hampsher-Monk, Iain and Frank van Vree, Karin Tilmans. *History of Concepts: Comparative Perspectives* (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 1998).
- Reinhardt Koselleck, Otto Brunner and Werner Conze (eds.), *Geschichtliche Grundbegriffe: Historisches Lexikon zur politisch-sozialen Sprache in Deutschland* (Stuttgart: Klett-Cotta, 1967-1996).
- Reinhardt Koselleck (ed.), *Historische Semantik und Begriffsgeschichte* (Stuttgart: Klett-Cotta, 1979);
- ,--, *The Practice of Conceptual History: Timing History, Spacing Concepts* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2002).
- ,--, *Begriffsgeschichten* (Frankfurt: Suhrkamp, 2006); Hartmut Lehmann and Melvin Richter (eds.), *The Meaning of Historical Terms and Concepts: New Studies on Begriffsgeschichte* (Washington: German Historical Institute, 1996).
- Ernst Müller (ed.), *Begriffsgeschichte im Umbruch?*, *Archiv für Begriffsgeschichte* Sonderheft (2004) (Hamburg: Meiner, 2005).
- Lorenzo Ornaghi, Lorenzo, "Sui concetti e le loro proprietà nel discorso politico moderno," *Filosofia politica* (1990), p. 57-73.
- Kari Palonen, *Die Entzauberung der Begriffe: Das Umschreiben der politischen Begriffe bei Quentin Skinner und Reinhart Koselleck* (Münster: Lit, 2004).
- Melvin Richter, *The History of Political and Social Concepts: A Critical Introduction* (New York-Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999).
- Gunter Scholtz (ed.), *Die Interdisziplinarität der Begriffsgeschichte, Archiv für Begriffsgeschichte* Sonderheft (2000) (Hamburg: Meiner, 2000).