Spring Semester 2008
Tues / Thurs  9-9:50 a.m.
Cushing 001

Prof. Stephen Schloesser, S.J.: schloess@bc.edu

Teaching Assistants:
Casey Beaumier: beaumier@bc.edu, Mimi Cowan: cowanmb@bc.edu

http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/cas/his/schloesser/HS041-042/spring/hs042.html

This course continues the story of subjective individualism after its creation in the early-modern period on into late modernity.

**IN THEORY**, liberalism believed that the individual was a simple unit: liberated-from communal demands and inherited blood privileges, liberated-for competition on the basis of merit alone in an open public sphere.

**IN PRACTICE**, the development of individual rights in liberal bourgeois society turned out to be uneven, privileging some communal members while leaving others disadvantaged along fragmented lines of race, class, and gender.

In the 19th century the liberal individual fragmented along lines of race, gender and class. In the 20th century, the individual ended up in “schizophrenic liberalism”: living within structures based on the presupposition that we are fundamentally rational; yet having lost faith in that basic Enlightenment story.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

WEEK 1

T – 01/15 Introduction: Modern Prometheus
W – No section
R – 01/17

WEEK 2

M – MLK Jr. Day
T – 01/22 Heroic Individual
W – Section readings: Napoleon: Symbol for an Age
R – 01/24 Romanticism

WEEK 3

T – 01/29 Social Democracy
W – Section readings: Mind and the Market
R – 01/31 Marx

WEEK 4

T – 02/05 Liberalism: Gendered Spheres
W – Section readings: Mill, On Liberty; Marriage
R – 02/07 Liberalism as Ideology

WEEK 5

T – 02/12 TBA
W – Section readings: none
R – 02/14 — Exam #1
WEEK 6

T – 02/19
W – Section readings: American Jesus
R – 02/21
Mission to Civilize
Nation-Statism

WEEK 7

T – 02/26
W – Section readings: Nietzsche and the Death of God
R – 02/28
1870-1871
Impressionism

03/03 TO 03/07: SPRING VACATION

WEEK 8

T – 03/11
W – Section readings: The Freud Reader
R – 03/13
Diving Below the Surface
Rites of Spring

WEEK 9

T – 03/18
W – 03/19 Easter Weekend
R – 03/20 Easter Weekend
The Crazy Years

WEEK 10

M – Easter Monday
T – 03/25
W – Section readings: Paris 1919
R – 03/27
Rites of Purification
Fascism

WEEK 11

T – 04/01
W – Section readings: none
R – 04/03 — Exam #2
1919-1939
WEEK 12

T – 04/08 1936-1945
W – Section readings: All the Shah’s Men
R – 04/11 Atomic Cafe

WEEK 13

T – 04/15 1950s Cold War Domesticity
W – Section readings: Movements of the New Left, 1950-1975
R – 04/17 Decolonization/Vietnam

WEEK 14

M = Patriot’s Day
T – 04/22 Decolonization
W – Section readings: Jimmy Carter /Energy Crisis of the 1970s
R – 04/24 1968

WEEK 15

T – 04/29 1989
W – No Section
R – 05/01

EXAM #3: 09 T TH 9 Tuesday, May 6 12:30 p.m.
http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/current/exams/#spring
Required texts (available in bookstore)

1) AUTHOR: BLAUFARB, Rafe
   TITLE: Napoleon: A Symbol for an Age: A Brief History with Documents
   Publisher: Bedford/St. Martin's (September 6, 2007)
   ISBN-10: 0312431104

2) AUTHOR: MILL, John Stuart
   TITLE: On Liberty
   ISBN: 0-312-45049-4

3) AUTHOR: PROTHERO, Stephen
   TITLE: American Jesus: How the Son of God Became a National Icon
   Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (August 26, 2004)
   ISBN-10: 0374529566

4) AUTHOR: FRITZSCHE, Peter
   TITLE: Nietzsche and the Death of God

5) AUTHOR: FREUD, Sigmund
   TITLE: The Freud Reader
   Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company (September 1995)
   ISBN-10: 0393314030

6) AUTHOR: MACMILLAN, Margaret
   TITLE: Paris 1919
   Publisher: Random House Trade Paperbacks (September 9, 2003)
   ISBN-10: 0375760520

7) AUTHOR: KINZER, Stephen
   TITLE: All the Shah's Men
   Publisher: Random House Trade Paperbacks (September 9, 2003)
   ISBN-10: 0375760520

8) AUTHOR: GOSSE, Van
   TITLE: The Movements of the New Left, 1950-1975
   ISBN: 0-312-13397-9
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1) TEN Wednesday quizzes on the assigned readings for that section.
   Quizzes are held at the beginning of the period; latecomers cannot make up a quiz.
   Those who miss a section cannot make up a quiz.
   PLEASE NOTE: THREE MISSED SECTIONS RESULT IN A FAILING GRADE FOR THE SEMESTER.

2) THREE exams

3) ONE sketch of a work done at the Museum of Fine Arts accompanied by dated entrance stub.
   This assignment may be done at any time during the semester.
   The last day to turn it in is at the third exam (held during the final exam period).

Grades weighted as follows:
Section grade (quizzes and discussion participation): 35%
Exam #1: 20%
Exam #2: 25%
Exam #3: 20%

Notice that although the exams are of equal length and time,
— the first exam is weighted less because the method (of images and music) might throw
  some students off at first;
— the third exam is weighted less because I don’t feel that students are performing at their
  peak at the end of the semester
— the second exam is thus weighted more heavily than the other two