

Rhetoric 98/198
Spring 2009

229 Dwinelle
Tuesdays 6-8 pm

An Introduction to the Philosophy of Søren Kierkegaard

Overview

This course seeks to provide a basic understanding of the philosophical works by the Danish thinker Søren Kierkegaard. In particular, emphasis will be given to the concept of existence.

Course Expectations

Attendance - Students are expected to have no more than two unexcused absences.

Participation - Students are expected to engage in the discussions.

Writing - Students are expected to write one five-page final paper on a selected topic discussed in the course.

Course Materials

Course materials will be provided throughout the semester. These materials will include handouts of assigned reading for the following week, as well as other resources which are helpful toward a better understanding of the thoughts of Kierkegaard. These assigned readings will consist in short passages from selected works by Kierkegaard, as indicated for each week. However, students are encouraged to venture beyond assigned course material, especially the works in the following list which will be covered throughout the semester:

Recommended Reading:

1. Kierkegaard, Søren. Fear and Trembling; Repetition. trans. Howard Hong and Edna Hong. Princeton: Princeton Press, 1983