Syllabus
PHIL 453/553, Schelling
Winter 2014
MW 1800-1950, 121 MCK
CRN: 16445/16446
Professor: Warnek (warnek@uoregon.edu)
Office hours (246 SCH): Th 1:30-3:30 and by appointment

Course Description
This course is an introduction to the work and thought of the remarkable and revolutionary nineteenth century thinker, F. W. J. Schelling. The course begins with seminal texts from Schelling’s early period, including excerpts from his philosophy of nature (1797, 1803) and his writings on the artwork from the System of Transcendental Idealism (1800). We will then consider the emergence of what Schelling came to call “Identity Philosophy,” and in particular how this project emerges over and against Fichte’s idealism, as Schelling understands it. We then will read two important texts from Schelling’s “middle period,” “Philosophy and Religion” (1804) and the celebrated essay on Human Freedom (1809). The latter marks the last significant publication during Schelling’s lifetime. We will also consider important interpretations of this essay, including those of Heidegger and Žižek. Schelling continued to lecture and write for the next 45 years after the publication of the Freedom Essay. Texts we will read from this period include the “Deities of Samothrace,” which will give us the opportunity to ask about the role of myth in philosophical inquiry, and also the third version of Schelling’s great unfinished work, Ages of the World (1815). Throughout, special attention will be paid to the themes of nature, art, freedom and myth. The course will conclude with Schelling’s lectures On the History of Modern Philosophy. Here we will consider Schelling as he both gives rise to German Idealism (as a critical appropriation of Kantian philosophy) and as he first pushes philosophy past the boundaries of this idealist project, especially as those come to be defined by Hegel. In this way, Schelling emerges as a thinker in dialogue with the concerns of contemporary philosophy.

Course Requirements
1) Attendance and participation in seminar
2) Mid-term paper, due Nov. 3.
3) Final paper, due Dec. 12.

Required Texts
Some readings will be available as pdf’s on Blackboard. This is noted on the schedule. You can purchase the required books at Black Sun Books ~ 2467 Hilyard, (541) 484-3777.

1) The Philosophical Rupture Between Fichte and Schelling (SUNY)
2) Philosophy and Religion (SUNY)
3) Philosophical Investigations into the Essence of Human Freedom (SUNY)
4) Ages of the World (SUNY)
5) On the History of Modern Philosophy (SUNY)

Course Schedule
Please note: the progress that we will make on this material will be determined in large part by the how the discussion goes in class. This means that we may at times not work through the entirety of the assigned reading, or we may end up spending more or less time on any given text. As we proceed, I will announce in class what the reading expectations are for the next meeting, what we will focus on, and how best to prepare for class. The following schedule, however, should give you a fairly good idea of how we are going to work through the material this term.
10.1 Main Propositions of a Philosophy of Art and other excerpts from *System of Transcendental Idealism* (Blackboard)
10.6 Discussion of Nature and Art continued
10.8 The Philosophical Rupture Between Fichte and Schelling
10.13 The Philosophical Rupture Between Fichte and Schelling
10.15 Philosophy and Religion
1.20 Philosophy and Religion
1.22 No Class (SPEP conference)
10.27 Philosophical Investigation into the Essence of Human Freedom
10.29 Freedom Essay continued
11.3 Freedom Essay continued (Mid-term due for undergraduates)
11.5 Freedom Essay continued
11.10 Deities of Samothrace (Blackboard)
11.12 Ages of the World
11.17 Ages of the World continued
11.19 Ages of the World continued
11.24 Ages of the World continued
11.26 Lectures on the History of Modern Philosophy
12.1 Lectures on the History of Modern Philosophy
12.3 Conclusions
12.10 Final Paper Due

**Schelling’s works translated into English (in order of composition)**
*The Unconditional in Human Knowledge: Four Early Essays* (1794-96) ~ Bucknell
*Treatise Explicatory of the Idealism in the Science of Knowledge* (1797)*
*First Outline of a System of the Philosophy of Nature* (1799) ~ SUNY
*System of Transcendental Idealism* (1800) ~ Virginia
*Presentation of My System of Philosophy* (1801)**
*Further Presentations from the System of Philosophy* (1802)**
*The Philosophy of Art* (1801, 1804) ~ Minnesota
*Bruno; or, On the Natural and the Divine Principles of Things* (1802) ~ SUNY
*System of Philosophy in General and of the Philosophy of Nature in Particular* (1804)*
*On University Studies* (1803) ~ Ohio
*Philosophy and Religion* (1804) ~ SUNY
*Philosophical Investigations into the Essence of Human Freedom* (1809) (SUNY)***
*Stuttgart Seminars* (1810)*
*Clara or, On Nature’s Connection to the Spirit World* (1810) ~ SUNY
*Ages of the World* (1813, 1815) ~ SUNY ****
*Schelling’s Treatise on the “Deities of Samothrace”* (1815) ~ Scholars Press
*On the Nature of Philosophy as Science, a.k.a. “Erlanger Lectures”* (1821) *****
*On the History of Modern Philosophy* (1827) ~ Cambridge
*The Grounding of Positive Philosophy* (1842) ~ SUNY
*Historical-Critical Introduction to the Philosophy of Mythology* (1842) ~ SUNY
*On the Source of the Eternal Truths* (1850) ~ Owl of Minerva, Fall 1990
**In *The Philosophical Rupture Between Fichte and Schelling* (SUNY)
Important Interpretations and Scholarship

Beach, Edward. *The Potencies of God(s). Schelling’s Philosophy of Mythology.*

Beiser, Frederick. *German Idealism: The Struggle against Subjectivism.*

Bowie, Andrew. *Schelling and Modern European Philosophy.*


Esposito. *Schelling’s Idealism and the Philosophy of Nature.*


Frank, Manfred. *Der unendliche Mangel an Sein.*


Gabriel and Žižek. *Mythology, Madness and Laughter: Subjectivity in German Idealism.*


Hegel. *The Difference Between Fichte’s and Schelling’s System of Philosophy.*


Hogrebe, Prädikation und Genesis.


Jaspers. *Größe und Verhängnis.*

Kierkegaard, S. *The Concept of Irony. Schelling Lecture Notes.*

Kosch, Michelle. *Freedom and Reason in Kant, Schelling and Kierkegaard.*

Krell. *Contagion: Sexuality, Disease, and Death in German Idealism and Romanticism.*

Krauerc. *Tragic Absolute.*


Lauer, Christopher. *The Suspension of Reason in Hegel and Schelling.*

Marcel, Gabriel. *Coleridge et Schelling.*


Matthews, Bruce. *Schelling’s Organic Form of Philosophy: Life as the Schema of Freedom.*

McGrath, S. *The Dark Ground of Spirit: Schelling and Unconscious.*

Ostigard, Laura. *Interpreting Schelling: Critical Essays.*

Rajan and Plotnitsky. *Idealism without Absolutes: Philosophy and Romantic Culture.*


Sedgwick, Sally. *The Reception of Kant’s Critical Philosophy: Fichte, Schelling and Hegel.*


Snow. *Schelling and the End of Idealism.*


Vigus and Robinson. *Essays on Kant, Schelling and German Aesthetics.*

------  *Conspiracies of Life.*
------  ed. *Schelling Now.*
Žižek, Slavoj. *The Indivisible Remainder.*

**Some Important Dates in Schelling’s Life**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1775</td>
<td>born at Leonberg, Württemberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>1790</td>
<td>admitted as a student to the Tübingen Theological Seminary, makes friends with Hegel and Hölderlin.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1793</td>
<td>first published work, essay <em>On Myths</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1794</td>
<td>writes “On the Possibility of Form in Philosophy,” published 1795</td>
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<tr>
<td>1795</td>
<td>“On the I as Principle of Philosophy,” and “Philosophical Letters on Dogmatism and Criticism.”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Graduates from Tübingen. For next three years tutors two sons of Baron Riedesel.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1797</td>
<td><em>Ideas for a Philosophy of Nature</em></td>
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<td>1798</td>
<td><em>On the World Soul.</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Meets Goethe.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Appointed professor at Jena.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Friendships with Schlegel brothers.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Meets August Schlegel’s wife, Caroline.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1799</td>
<td><em>First Outline of a System of Philosophy of Nature. And Introduction to the Outline, or On the Concept of Speculative Physics</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td><em>System of Transcendental Idealism</em></td>
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<td>1801</td>
<td><em>Exposition of my System of Philosophy. Hegel’s On the Difference Between Fichte’s and Schelling’s Systems</em></td>
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<td>1802</td>
<td><em>Bruno, or On the Divine and Natural Principle of Things</em></td>
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<td>1803</td>
<td>Lectures on <em>University Studies.</em> Marries Caroline Schlegel who is recently divorced.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Professor at Würzburg</td>
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<td>1804</td>
<td><em>Philosophy and Religion</em></td>
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<td>1806</td>
<td>Moves to Munich</td>
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<td>1807</td>
<td>Publication of Hegel’s <em>Phenomenology of Spirit: night with black cows</em></td>
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<td>1809</td>
<td>Caroline dies. <em>Philosophical Investigations into the Essence of Human Freedom</em></td>
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<td>1810</td>
<td>Holds <em>Stuttgart Seminars</em></td>
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<td>1811</td>
<td>Begins the <em>Ages of the World</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1812</td>
<td>Marries Pauline Gotter</td>
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<td>1815</td>
<td><em>On the Deities of Samothrace</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>Moves to Erlangen</td>
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<td>1827</td>
<td>Recalled to Munich</td>
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<tr>
<td>1841</td>
<td>Moves to Berlin; begins Lectures</td>
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<td>1842-3</td>
<td>Lectures on <em>The Grounding of Positive Philosophy</em></td>
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<td>1843</td>
<td>Attacks on Schelling by Engels and Feuerbach</td>
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<td>1854</td>
<td>Gives his last lecture</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dies at Bad Ragaz, Switzerland</td>
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