SYLLABUS

PURPOSE: This course seeks to introduce the student to the major issues and thinkers which define the 20th century tradition of phenomenology. Foremost among the thinkers under scrutiny will be Edmund Husserl, the father of phenomenology, his student, Martin Heidegger, along with Max Scheler, Maurice Merleau-Ponty and Jean-Paul Sartre.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES: The student will gain an understanding of an important philosophical tradition, but will also learn to employ a special methodology for doing philosophy.

REQUIREMENTS: The student is expected to attend all lectures and read all Assignments.

GRADING: The student’s grade will be determined as the average and two tests and a paper.

PAPER: The paper must be 12 pages, double-spaced. The paper must emphasize original texts, and any references to outside sources—other than the texts used in class—must be properly footnoted within the paper.

ATTENDANCE. Poor attendance can adversely influence the student’s final grade.

STATEMENT OF DISABILITY: In accord with University policy, students with disabilities will be accommodated. It is university policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. If you have any questions, contact the Office of Disability Services at UC 260, (504) 280-6222 (voice).

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluation of academic performance. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty.

TEXT: Pathmarks, by Martin Heidegger (ed. William McNeill)
Schedule (Subject to Change):

Aug.  18 Intro.
    20 Husserl and the roots of Phenomenology
    22 “The challenge of phenomenological reduction”
    25 Scheler’s value-philosophy
    27 Heidegger’s phenomenological roots
    29 Pathmarks, pp. 1-28

Sept.  5 The problem of everydayness
    7 Care and religious life
    10 Pathmarks, pp. 29-42.
    12 Review
    14 Test #1
    17 Being-toward-death
    19 “
    21 The call of conscience
    26 “cont.”
    28

Oct.  1 The Kantian Turn
    3  Kant the Problem of Temporality
    5 Consultation Day
    8 Pathmarks, “What is Metaphysics?”
    10 Pathmarks, “On the Essence of Truth”
    15 cont.
17   Paper Day
19   Review
22 Test #2
24 The Problem of History
26 “
31 The question of Art

Nov.   2  *Pathmarks,* “Letter on ‘Humanism,’””

5  *Pathmarks,* Aristotle’s “Physics,”

7 *Pathmarks,* “Kant’s thesis about Being”

9  Merleau-Ponty and the Problem of the body

12 Paper Day
14 Sexuality
16 The “Flesh” and the Earth
19 Sartre and Existentialism
21 Consultation Day

26 The Problem of Freedom

28 The Problem of the Other

30 Review

Dec. 4 (Tues)  Final exam/paper Due, 10:00-12:00