

HPS 2537

HISTORIOGRAPHY AND CONCEPTIONS OF HISTORY

Thursday, 5:00-7:30

CL G28

Office hours by appointment. <jemcg@pitt.edu>

January

- 9 Introduction: historiography and the writing of the History of science
- 16 The units of historical analysis and approaches to history: Whewell, Lovejoy, Cassirer, Crombie:*et al* and the intellectual History of Science
- 23 The social History of Science: Merton, Butterfield, Webster Shapin, Schaffer, Ringer, Bourdieu
- 30 The postulates of Continuity vs Discontinuity in the History of Science: Whewell, Duhem, Koyre, Dijksterhuis, Meyerson, Metzger, Bachelard, Alhusser.

February

- 6 Towards a conception of historicity: the nature of historical time and historical narration.
- 13 Marx: Utopia and the resolution of history
- 20 Berlin:: Pluralism and Contingency: the non-teleological conception of history

- 27 Nietzsche: genealogy, the attack on origins and the rejection of rejection of historical necessity

March

- 13 Braudel and the *Annales* school of history: patterns of historical change and the *longue duree*:
- 20 Foucault: Historical ontology and *Archaeology*
- 27 Foucault: Historical ontology of ourselves and *Genealogy*

April

- 3 Gadamer: Historical understanding as dialogue and the identification of *Wirklichkeit* with *Wirkungsgeschichte*
- 10 Gadamer: Fore-conception, tradition, prejudice and the history of the effect
- 17 Gadamer: historicity, historical consciousness and historical objectivity

General reading pertinent to historiography and conceptions of history.

These are in HPS in the course box.

(1) H.Floris Cohen, *The Scientific Revolution: A Historiographical Inquiry* (Chicago, 1994)

Part 1, 2: The Great Tradition, pp. 21-150; 5:pp.308-374

(2) *Companion to the History of Modern Science*, eds R.C.Olby,G.N.Cantor, J.R.R. Christie, and J.S.Hodge

Part 1, Section 1A and part of 1B: pp.5-85

(3)J.E. McGuire (that's me): MS on historiographies of science in course box to be photocopied

(4) J.E. McGuire, "Newton and the Demonic Furies: Some current problems and Approaches in the History of Science" *History of Science* X1, (1973) pp. 21-48

(5) J.E. McGuire, "Minds, Ideas and Texts: Between Images of Knowledge and the Construction of Significance" in *Storia Delle Idee: Probleme E Prospettive* (Edizione dell'Ateneo, Roma) 1989 pp.117-134 A copy in the course box.

Some Useful Background Reading

(6) E. H.Carr, *What is History?* (MacMillan, 1986)

(7) W.H.Walsh, *Philosophy of History: An Introduction* (Harper Torchbooks, 1960)

(8) G.R. Elton, *The Practice of History* (Blackwell, 2002) 2nd edition

(9) Martin Bunzl, *Real History: Reflections on Historical Practice*