

Great Thinkers: Levinas

Winter Quarter, 2018

Wednesdays, 4-7:50pm

PHIL/JUST 3146

with Prof. Sarah Pessin

Emmanuel Levinas (1906-1995), famous for his arresting and original idea of “ethics as first philosophy,” is an important figure in the histories of phenomenology, metaphysics, and theology. In this course, we set out to explore Levinas’ insights on ethics, alterity, and infinity, including the connection of his ideas to Plato, Descartes, Kant, and Husserl, as well as his critical responses to Heidegger and his positive contributions to Derrida. Themes to be covered include: Being, Goodness, Risk, Ethics, Alterity, Transcendence, Law, Judaism, Gift, Forgiveness, Politics, Theology, and Justice.

Questions? Contact Prof. Pessin at spessin@du.edu.



“Homage à Apollinaire,” Marc Chagall



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