**Course Title: Social and Political Philosophy (ΑΕΠ 12)**

**Instructor:** Vassilios Romanos

**Course Outline:**

The seminar aims at presenting central discussions of the 20th century social and political thought, as these were shaped both by the need to overcome the inherent antinomies of late modern societies, and a series of philosophical, epistemological and political problems. The following discussions are only indicative:

1. The aesthetic turn of the late 20th century thought: the M. Heidegger / T. Adorno debate.

2. The constitution and the grounding of the 'political' in phenomenology, hermeneutics and post-structuralism: H. Arendt, J. Habermas, K. Castoriadis, C. Taylor, E. Laclau.

3. The controversy around the Enlightenment project: J. Habermas, J-F. Lyotard, M. Foucault, J. Derrida.

4. Liberalism and Communitarianism: The controversy of J. Rawls with M. Sandel and C. Taylor.

5. The new Marxisms: L. Althusser, E. Balibar, E. Laclau, K. Castoriadis, M. Foucault.

6. Psychoanalysis and Social Science: S. Freud, J. Lacan, T. Parsons, H. Marcuse.

7. Critical Theory: T. Adorno, J. Habermas, A. Honneth, A. Wellmer.

8. The Linguistic Turn and Deconstruction: L. Wittgenstein, F. Saussure, C. Lévi-Strauss, M. Heidegger, C. Taylor, J. Habermas, J. Derrida.

9. The Subject and the Body: M. Heidegger, M. Merleau-Ponty, P. Bourdieu.

**Indicative Bibliography:**

-Habermas, J. (1993), *The Philosophical Discourse of Modernity: Twelve Lectures*, transl. F.G. Lawrence, Cambridge & Oxford: Polity Press.

-Bernstein, R.J. (1991), *The New Constellation: The Ethical-Political Horizons of Modernity/ Postmodernity*, Cambridge & Oxford: Polity Press.

-Kearney, R. (1989), *Modern Movements in European Philosophy*, Manchester & N.Y.: Manchester University Press.

**Method of Examination:**

The seminar is examined on the basis of a 5,000 word written essay (70%) and a 20-minute presentation on a topic selected from the above mentioned debates (30%).