HPS 2537

HISTORIOGRAPHY AND CONCEPIONS 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 durée*:

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.


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


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


Some Useful Background Reading


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