History 608: Approaches to Modern European Intellectual History
Prof. John McCole
Wednesdays 3-5:50

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to a wide variety of approaches to modern European intellectual history, not to “cover” the content of the field. In two of our sessions, we’ll have visits from guests: Prof. Vera Keller (history of science) and Prof. Ian McNeely (history of the production of knowledge).

The individual units, readings, and their order may still be revised.

1. Reading a classic: Carl Schorske’s *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna: Politics and Culture*

2. Getting our bearings: the history of intellectual history
   • Donald Kelley, “Horizons of Intellectual History”
   • Dominick LaCapra, “Rethinking Intellectual History and Reading Texts”
   • John Toews, “Intellectual History after the Linguistic Turn: The Autonomy of Meaning and the Irreducibility of Experience”
   • Jan-Werner Müller, “European Intellectual History as Contemporary History”

3. Intellectuals in national contexts: France, Germany, Great Britain
   • Christophe Charle, *The Birth of the Intellectual*, excerpts
   • Fritz Ringer, *The Decline of the German Mandarins*, excerpts
   • Stefan Collini, *Public Moralists: Political Thought and Intellectual Life in Britain, 1950-1930*, excerpts
   • Raymond Williams, *Culture and Society*, part I: A Nineteenth-Century Tradition, excerpts

4. Contextualism and discourse: the Cambridge School of the history of political thought
   • Quentin Skinner, “Meaning and Understanding in the history of ideas”

5. The history of ideas: a revival
   • Darrin McMahon, “The Return of the History of Ideas?”
   • Sophia Rosenfeld, *Common Sense: A Political History*
6. Intellectual history and the production of knowledge
   • Guest: Prof. Ian McNeely

7. The history of science
   • Guest: Prof. Vera Keller

8. Intellectuals and the public use of history
   • Jan-Werner Müller, *Another Country: German Intellectuals, Unification, and National Identity*

9. Towards a global intellectual history?
   • Moyn and Satori, eds. *Global Intellectual History*
   • Sanjay Subrahmanyam, “Global Intellectual History Beyond Hegel and Marx”
   • Sanjay Subrahmanyam, “Beyond the Usual Suspects: On Intellectual Networks in the Early Modern World”

10. Student projects and final discussion