We will begin with Nietzsche’s attack on traditional philosophical and religious justifications for social and individual ethical frameworks based on views about “man” and “human nature.” This will involve a consideration of Nietzsche’s purported “nihilism,” and his influence on the development of 20th century existentialism and the purported nihilism in works of “the school of Paris”—(Malraux, Sartre, DeBeauvoir, -- and—Camus, etc.). The focus will be on philosophical essays, plays and novels* of Camus and Sartre and the different political and individual ethical views they develop—Sartre’s “existentialism” and “existential psychology” and Camus’ “ethics of absurdity and rebellion”—which led to the (once celebrated) Sartre-Camus “debate” over political violence, rebellion, nihilism, and Marxism. GRADING TWO EXAMS (40 % EACH ) + CLASS PARTICIPATION + SHORT PAPER (4-5 PAGES) --20%

READING--------TEXTS:

Nietzsche  Beyond Good and Evil Random House ISBN 0679724656  12
Camus  Caligula and Three Other Plays Knopf—ISBN 0394702077  13
   The Plague*, The Fall* .... Selected Essays
   (includes The Myth of Sisyphus) Everyman’s Library Knopf
   ISBN: 1400042550'
Sartre  Essays in Existentialism Kensington Publishing Co ed. W. Baskin
   ISBN-0806501626
   The Transcendence of the Ego FARRAR/STRAUS
   ISBN- 0809015455
   Nausea* NEW DIRECTIONS ISBN-0811201880  12

OTHER READING:

Kierkegaard from Fear and Trembling on Blackboard and on Web
Dostoyevsky from The Brothers Karamazov—The Grand Inquisitor on Blackboard and on Web
de Beauvoir from The Ethics of Ambiguity on Blackboard and on Web
Book Forum review of commentaries on Blackboard and on Web
AUG
27  Introduction—course description

SEPT
1  3  NIETZSCHE, PARTS I-V, pp. 202-210
8  10  CAMUS—Camus, Plotinus and Augustine
   CALIGULA & THE MYTH OF SISYPHUS
15 17
22 24  THE PLAGUE
29  EXAM 1 – CAMUS & NIETZSCHE

OCT
1  SARTRE: EXISTENTIALISM-HUMANISM,
    NAUSEA
6  8  SARTRE FILM (SARTRE BY HIMSELF)
13 15  TRANSCENDENCE OF THE EGO
20 22
27 29

NOV
3  5  QUESTIONS FOR SARTRE EXAM DISTRIBUTED
10  EXAM 2—SARTRE
12  CAMUS—THE PLAGUE, REFLECTIONS on the
    GUILOTTINE, THE JUST
17 19  SARTRE—BEING AND NOTHINGNESS SELECTIONS,
    SARTRE-CAMUS CONTROVERSY, DE BEAUVIR—
    PAPER TOPICS DIST.

24  NO CLASS—PREPARE PAPER FOR TURN-IN  DEC. 1
26  THANKSGIVING

DEC

1  SARTRE-CAMUS-DEBEAUVIR CONTIN.  PAPER DUE