**Hermeneutics**  2 credits Fall 2016

Time and Location: T 13:30 -15:10 in N13

Instructor: David Weberman. Office Hours: T, Th 15:15- 17:15 & by appt. in N13 205

Course Description: We’ll spend the first half of the course slowly reading Gadamer’s Truth and Method (mainly the middle third of the book). The second half of the book will be an exploration of hermeneutics by looking at other writes on selected topics such as the interpretation of art, law, history, etc., depending on students’ interests. No prior knowledge of hermeneutics is assumed.

Course Goal: The course has two main goals: 1) acquiring the skills needed to grasp and assess the texts and to formulate one’s own arguments and views on the topic and 2) acquiring a deeper knowledge and understanding of the issues, positions and arguments.

Learning Outcomes: By the end of the course students will be expected to possess the skills to analyze the concepts and arguments studied and to be able to discern strategies that could lead to new insights.

Requirement and Assessment: Regular attendance, preparation, and participation in discussion plus one two response papers (500 words (20%). One 2,000-word term paper (80%). An A grade requires a clear, focused and somewhat original paper.

Texts: Book chapters and articles available on the e-learning website

Week 1 T Sep 20 Introduction

Week 2 T Sep 27 pre-20th history of hermeneutics

Week 3 T Oct 4 Gadamer Truth and Method (TM)

Week 4 T Oct 11 Gadamer TM

Week 5 T Oct 18 Gadamer TM

Week 6 T Oct 25 Gadamer TM

Week 7 T Nov 1 Holiday – class to be made up Gadamer TM

Week 8 T Nov 8

Week 9 T Nov 15

Week 10 T Nov 29

Week 12 T Dec 6