

Introduction to Modern Jewish Philosophy (Religious Studies / Philosophy 2JP3) – Winter 2018

TEXT PREPARATION 2 – Assignment due in class on March 2 or March 6

Please do not complete this assignment if you have not yet received your marked first assignment for this class. It is important to take full account of past feedback received before completing the second assignment for this course.

This assignment consists of attendance of the full class session on either March 2 or March 6, plus completing the written assignment below, to be submitted in class on March 2 or March 6 only.

(*Rationale:* Text Preparation assignments are designed to help you prepare the reading assignment for a particular class meeting, in conjunction with your participation in that class meeting, when we go over the reading selection together.)

If you cannot come to class on March 2 or March 6, please plan to complete a different Text Preparation assignment for a future date.

This assignment is based on:

- Franz Rosenzweig “Teaching and Law” (a selection from the longer essay “The Builders”) (1923) [coursepack]

Detailed Instructions. In well-written paragraphs, a total of approximately 500 words, please address both of the following two questions with detailed reference to the text. (Please number your answers.)

1. What does Rosenzweig claim to have learned from Buber (i.e., from the lecture “Herut”*) about what a Jewish “teaching” is and how it works?
2. Point to 1–2 objections Rosenzweig raises in Buber’s discussion (again, in “Herut”*) of “law” in Judaism?

*Note: Unless you find it useful to do so, there is no need to refer back to Buber, “Herut,” in order to answer these questions. These questions are about Rosenzweig’s text.

As was the case for the Text Summary assignment, your observations should be backed up with references that allow your reader to see what they are based on. For this purpose, please use in-text parenthetical page references, as in this sample sentence:

In discussing the possibility of revolt, Sartre refers to Hegel’s notion of dialectic (79).

Please print your assignment double-spaced and with one-inch margins, using an 11–12-point font. Please write your name and “Text Preparation 2” at the top of the first page, and indicate the total word count at the end. Please number and staple the pages you hand in.

Note: Since this is your first reading of this text, and since we have not yet discussed it in class, the Text Preparation assignment is simply a first effort at figuring out what the text says, and doing it will help you get the most of our in-class work on it. The assignment is not evaluated for whether it demonstrates a good understanding of the reading, but for evidence of your having worked in detail to understand the

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reading. Your fuller understanding will develop in the course of our class and tutorial meetings, and with successive re-readings.

Plagiarism Warning: This assignment is designed to be completed by means of independent work on the above-mentioned essay written by Franz Rosenzweig, aided by the guidance you have received in class and by consulting the instructor: I am always available to discuss the questions you encounter as you read and re-read the texts for this class. It is neither necessary nor desirable that you consult outside sources in order to complete this assignment. Please remember that unacknowledged use of such sources constitutes plagiarism and is a violation of the university's [Academic Integrity policy](#).

Please keep a copy of your assignment to refer to in our class discussions.

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