Marx (& Engels), *The German Ideology* (1845-46)

Moves from critique of “idealism” in Young Hegelians, *etc.* to a conception of “materialism”

“The premises from which we begin . . .” (113)

What constitutes “material”? not just consciousness, but production, human practice & activity (114)

Examples in text?

History then becomes history of modes of production

Division and specialization of labor becomes motor of historical change

a) tribal (land, family, barter)
b) ancient communal/State (private property, commerce, slavery, town)
c) feudal (country, guilds, industry vs. commerce)
d) industrial/capital
Marx, cont.
The *camera obscura* metaphor for epistemology (118) ideology not transparent in relation to material conditions emphasis on the phantasmal series of historical contingencies which produce the sense of lack of will, the sense of “accidental” historical conditions as “fate” or “destiny lack of correspondence the motive for change Philosophy dies as a metaphysical, theological, religious inquiry, true “universally” & under “all conditions” (119) Philosophy reborn as an inquiry into changing conditions of history

Notion of Alienation, estrangement (adapted from Hegel) (124) an historical self-division of man from labor, not a permanent psychological one as with Freud Existence/essence debate (132) “The existence of a thing or a man . . “ History becomes history of class struggle (125)
What is communism for Marx?

(124) “In communist society . . .”
only possible with global conditions of capital production
To what degree is Marx’s formulation of future communist utopia a remnant, a palimpsest of Christian thinking (within a “Jewish” thinker’s program), that is a projection of the apocalyptic, post-historic unity of humanity in Christianity onto the history of modes of production?

How conceive of change?
Neo as parable of change, saltology, paralogy
While revolutionary in discourse, Marx sometimes more evolutionary in practice: see his (somewhat failed) attempt to ally with the bourgeoisie when he returned to Rhineland during 1848 Revolution
How make a history of voiceless (127)
Activist philosophy
Effects of unequal distribution of wealth

   40 acres & a mule
Science not objective (135)
Critique of universalism (137-38)
Anti-humanist (139)
Law not objective (151)

   justice vs. law
   U.S. immigration laws regarding “Asians”
See Ronald Takaki, *Strangers from a Different Shore : a History of Asian Americans*
Is revolution always against State? (157)
   is it now against “global capitalism”?
Cornell West, how imagine values so not reduced to market values?
For next time: Freud, *The Interpretation of Dreams*

How do Freud’s theories attempt to explain how self-division operates? How, practically, are his writings an explanation of the activities of the multiple parts of consciousness?

If Marx was trying to explain discrepancies, contradictions, non-transparencies between historical modes of production and historical forms of class consciousness (which discrepancies then produce the consciousness of a need for historical change & revolution), how is Freud trying to explain similar non-correspondences within the psyche?

Is therapy an evolutionary or revolutionary paradigm of change?