



**University
of Victoria**

Graduate Studies

**Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Master of Arts**

of

DOMENICO CERISANO

BA (York University, 2011)

**“Husserl and Intersubjectivity: The Bridge Between the Cartesian and
Ontological Way”**

Department of Sociology

Friday, October 30, 2015
10:00AM
Cornett Building
Room A340

Supervisory Committee:

Dr. Peyman Vahabzadeh, Department of Sociology, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Steve Garlick, Department of Sociology, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:

Dr. Nina Belmonte, Department of Philosophy, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:

Dr. Catherine Léger, Department of French, UVic

Abstract

This thesis contends that the discovery of transcendental intersubjectivity revealed the inadequacy of Husserl's Cartesian way to the reduction and precipitated the development of the ontological way. Through an analysis drawing primarily from *Ideas I*, *Cartesian Meditations*, and *Crisis*, this thesis will analyze the Cartesian way, intersubjectivity, and finally the ontological way. It will be argued that the Cartesian way focuses on the transcendental ego and ignores the natural world. With the discovery of transcendental intersubjectivity 1) a being beyond the transcendental ego has a role in constituting the world and 2) since the objectivity of the world can no longer be reduced to the (individual) transcendental ego. The transition to the historical approach of *Crisis* is analyzed and we find that the Cartesian way cannot address the life-world and transcendental intersubjectivity in their new, central role. It is demonstrated how the ontological way fills this gap.