DESCRIPTION

A survey of foundational and highly influential texts in Analytic Philosophy. Emphasis will be on four sub-topics, namely Language and Philosophical Logic, Methodology, Ethics and Epistemology. Thematicall, the focal point across all sub-topics will be the tools and techniques highlighted in these texts, which reappear across Analytic philosophy.

REQUIRED TEXT


OBJECTIVES

The twin objectives are honing of philosophical skills and enriching students’ familiarity with some “touchstone” material in 20th Century Analytic philosophy. In terms of skills, the emphasis will be on: professional-level philosophical writing; close reading of notoriously challenging texts; metphilosophical reflection; and respectful philosophical dialogue.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Twelve weekly “Briefing Notes” on Selected Readings: 60%
Three “Revised Brief Notes”: 25%
Class Participation: 15%
COURSE READINGS

Language and Philosophical Logic
Gottlob Frege (1892), “On Sense and Reference”
Gottlob Frege (1918), “The Thought”
Bertrand Russell (1905), “On Denoting”
Ludwig Wittgenstein (1933-35 [1958]), Excerpts from The Blue and Brown Books
H. Paul Grice (1957), “Meaning”
Saul Kripke (1971), “Identity and Necessity”

Methodology
A.J. Ayer (1946), Excerpts from Language, Truth and Logic
Rudolf Carnap (1950), “Empiricism, Semantics and Ontology”
Wilfred Sellars (1962), “Philosophy and the Scientific Image of Man”
W.V.O Quine (1951), “Two Dogmas of Empiricism”

Ethics
G.E. Moore (1903), Excerpts from Principia Ethica
Charles Stevenson (1937), “The Emotive Meaning of Ethical Terms”
Elizabeth Anscombe (1958), “Modern Moral Philosophy”
Philippa Foot (1972), “Morality as a System of Hypothetical Imperatives”
Peter F. Strawson (1962), “Freedom and Resentment”

Epistemology
Bertrand Russell (1912), “Knowledge by Acquaintance and Knowledge by Description”
J.L. Austin (1947-59 [1964]), Excerpts from Sense and Sensibilia
Ludwig Wittgenstein (1949-51 [1963]), Excerpts from On Certainty
Gail Stine (1976), “Skepticism, Relevant Alternatives and Deductive Closure”
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Tentative Date</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frege and Russell</td>
<td>Sept 14</td>
<td>Rob Stainton</td>
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<td>Wittgenstein and Strawson</td>
<td>Sept 21</td>
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<td>Grice</td>
<td>Sept 28</td>
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<td>Kripke and Putnam</td>
<td>Oct 5</td>
<td>Rob Stainton and Chris Viger</td>
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<td>Ayer and Sellars</td>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Gillian Barker and Chris Smeenk</td>
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<td>Carnap and Quine</td>
<td>Oct 19</td>
<td>Robert DiSalle</td>
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<td>Quine vs. Grice &amp; Strawson</td>
<td>Oct 26</td>
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<td>Stevenson and Foot</td>
<td>Nov 2</td>
<td>?? and Samantha Brennan</td>
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<td>Anscombe and Rawls</td>
<td>Nov 9</td>
<td>Tracy Isaacs and Dennis Klimchuk</td>
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<td>Strawson and Thomson</td>
<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>Andrew Botterell</td>
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<td>Russell and Austin</td>
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<td>Moore and Wittgenstein</td>
<td>Nov 30</td>
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<td>Gettier and Stein</td>
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