

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
Course Outline

Philosophy 4050G/9008B: Kant's First Critique

Fall 2017/18
Time TBD
Classroom StH 1145

Instructor: Corey W. Dyck
StH 4138, Office Hours: T, Th 3-4
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DESCRIPTION

Immanuel Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* initiated a revolution in metaphysics and epistemology unlike any before or since. Through the *Critique* Kant made original and lasting contributions to debates regarding the (in)compatibility of freedom and determinism, the possibility of proving God's existence, the nature of the soul, the possibility of science and mathematics, the rational basis of causal inferences, and the nature of space and time. In this course, we will engage in a careful consideration of Kant's monumental text, including the details of its arguments and its systematic underpinnings.

TEXTS

Required

Kant, I. *Critique of Pure Reason*, ed. & tr. Guyer & Wood (Cambridge UP, 1998)*

Recommended

Allison, Henry. *Kant's Transcendental Idealism* (Yale UP, 2004)

(around 10 copies should be available in the campus bookstore)

*While the Kemp Smith translation of CPR is hardly unreliable, I find the Guyer-Wood translation preferable for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is its more accessible layout. To minimize opportunities for confusion it is important that we are all working from the same primary text, so the Guyer-Wood is required for this course.

OBJECTIVES

Students completing this course successfully will:

- (1) be familiar with the principal themes and arguments of Kant's theoretical philosophy,
- (2) be able to write concise summaries of complex philosophical arguments,

REQUIREMENTS

65% Short Expository Papers (x 9) (due at the beginning of class weeks 2-10)

25% Argumentative Paper (10-12 pages, due on the last day of the semester [Apr. 6 2016])

10% Participation

Regular attendance is mandatory and *all* participants are expected to have prepared for class discussion (i.e., to have read and digested the assigned material).

OWL

There is an OWL page for this class (under the title Phil 4050G) on which I will post course info,

links to secondary materials, and other resources. All undergraduate students are already enrolled on the site. Any graduate students who would like to be added can send me an email indicating as much.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

1. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Electronic devices are permitted to be used in class for purposes of note-taking and accessing class-related materials. Any devices required for reasons of accessibility are also permitted. Use of recording devices or transcription software must be approved in advance by the instructor.

2. Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

3. Medical and Non-Medical Absences

Students seeking accommodations for medical illnesses should consult the university Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness (available here: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>). For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation to it. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Assignments worth less than 10% missed as a result of an unanticipated (and documented) medical absence can be submitted late for full credit with the approval of the instructor.

Accommodations for *justified* non-medical (non-emergency) absences that interfere with the completion of assignments worth less than 10% can be arranged only through consultation with the instructor at least **two** weeks before the assignment deadline. In cases where such accommodations are granted, assignments will typically be allowed to be submitted before (not after) the originally stipulated deadline.

4. Support Services

For information about support services, please visit the web sites for Registrarial Services (<http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>), and Student Support Services (including the services provided by the USC listed here: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>) and the Student Development Centre (<http://www.sdc.uwo.ca>).

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to

obtain help.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic/Section	Page #'s
1	Intro to the Course	
2	Introduction in B*	pp. 136-52
3	Transcendental Aesthetic in B*	pp. 172-92
4	Intro to Transcendental Logic/Analytic/of Concepts Metaphysical Deduction*	pp. 193-203 pp. 204-18
5	The Transcendental Deduction of the Categories (First Section)*	pp. 219-226
6	The Transcendental Deduction of the Categories in B, First Step (§§15-20)*	pp. 245-52
7	The Transcendental Deduction of the Categories in B, Second Step (§§21-27)*	pp. 253-66
8	The Analogies of Experience Second Analogy*	pp. 295-98 pp. 304-16
9	First and Third Analogy The Refutation of Idealism*	pp. 298-304; 317-21 pp. 326-29, 121-22
10	Amphiboly* Intro to Tr. Dialectic	pp. 366-83 pp. 384-408
11	Paralogisms in A	pp. 409-25
12	Antinomy	pp. 459-89
13	Transcendental Idealism and the Resolution of the Antinomy	pp. 511-19