

PHIL 480R Seminar on Immanuel Kant

Spring 2015

T*Thu 11:30-12:45 Anthropology 107

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Bowden Hall 110
T*Thu 1-2pm and by appointment

Course Description: This is an undergraduate seminar on the works of 18th century German philosopher Immanuel Kant. Kant's Critical philosophy is known to have revolutionized the fields of epistemology, ethics, aesthetics, and politics, and almost all 19th and 20th century thinkers engage with or make references to Kant's work. In this course we will examine his major works, together with significant secondary sources on these works, in order to develop a clear understanding of his significance for the canon of Western philosophy and beyond. Course format includes informal lecture, participant presentations, and as much discussion as allowed by class size.

Prerequisites: It is not appropriate for First Year students. This class requires at least seven (7) credit hours of Philosophy (preferably PHIL 202 and/or PHIL 204), or consent of the Instructor.

Texts: The following required texts are available at the University Bookstore.

1. Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals* (ISBN: 9780872201668)
2. Kant, *The Critique of Judgment* (ISBN: 9780872200258)
3. Kant, *Political Writings* (ISBN: 9780521398374)
4. Kant, *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics* (ISBN: 9780872205932)

Additional required and recommended readings are available on Blackboard under Course Documents.

Note that there are various translations of all of Kant's works; however, it is crucial that you obtain the editions and translations above so that you can follow the lectures and discussions smoothly.

Students interested in further resources should consult with the professor. You must bring a hard copy of the assigned text(s) to classes.

Assignment Schedule

This schedule may change given our pace. Be sure to check your emails and *Blackboard* (Daily Assignments) regularly to be updated on what is due each class.

Epistemology and Metaphysics

Week 1

January 13 Tuesday: Syllabus and Course introduction

January 15 Thursday: *Prolegomena* §§1-5 (pp. 9-22)

Week 2

January 20 Tuesday: *Prolegomena* §§ 6-13 (pp. 23-34); Preface and Introduction from *Critique of Pure Reason* (pp. 106-124 and 136-152) (e-texts)

January 22 Thursday: *Prolegomena* §§14-23 (pp. 35-45); [Recommended: Schematism from *Critique of Pure Reason* (pp. 271-277) (e-text)]

Week 3

January 27 Tuesday: *Prolegomena* §§ 27-38 (pp. 49-59); Third Antinomy from *Critique of Pure Reason* (pp. 484-487) (e-text) [Recommended: Transcendental Deduction Excerpt (e-text)]

January 29 Thursday: Phenomena-Noumena Distinction from *Critique of Pure Reason* (pp. 354-65) (e-text) **Presentation 1**

Moral Philosophy

Week 4

February 3 Tuesday: Canon of Pure Reason from *Critique of Pure Reason* (pp. 672-690) (e-text)

February 5 Thursday: *Groundwork*, Preface and Section I (pp. 1-17) **Presentation 2**

Week 5

February 10 Tuesday: *Groundwork*, cont'd (pp. 1-17)

February 12 Thursday: *Groundwork* Section II (pp. 19-33) **Presentation 3**

Week 6

February 17 Tuesday: *Groundwork* Section II, cont'd (pp. 19-33; 33-48)

February 19 Thursday: *Groundwork* Section III (pp. 49-62) **Presentation 4**

Aesthetics and Teleology

Week 7

February 24 Tuesday: Preface, Section IX of Introduction, and §§ 1-9 Analytic of the Beautiful from *Critique of Judgment* (pp. 3-8; 35-39; 43-64)

February 26 Thursday: Analytic of the Beautiful §§ 10-17 (pp. 64-84) **Presentation 5**

Week 8

March 3 Tuesday: Analytic of the Sublime §§ 23-24, and 27 (pp. 97-101; 114-117)

March 5 Thursday: Analytic of the Sublime §§ 28-29 (pp. 119-126) **Presentation 6**

Spring Break March 9-13 – No class meetings

Week 9

March 17 Tuesday: Deduction of Judgments of Taste §§38-39-40, and 45 (pp. 155-162; 173-174)

March 19 Thursday: Morality - Aesthetics §§41-42, and 59 (pp. 163-170; 225-230) **Presentation 7**

Week 10

March 24 Tuesday: Internal and External Purposiveness §§ 63 and 67 (pp. 244-247; 257- 261)

March 26 Thursday: Organisms §§ 64-65-66 (pp. 248-257) **Presentation 8**

Anthropology, History, Political Philosophy

Week 11

March 31 Tuesday: *Observations on the Feeling of the Beautiful and the Sublime* (pp. 23-33) (e-text)

April 2 Thursday: *Observations*, cont'd (pp. 40-45; 51-62) **Presentation 9**

Week 12

April 7 Tuesday: “What is Enlightenment?” (pp. 54-60)

April 9 Thursday: “Idea for a Universal History with a Cosmopolitan Intent” (pp. 41-53)

Presentation 10

Final Paper Topics and Guidelines to be posted on Blackboard>Paper Assignments

Week 13

April 14 Tuesday: “Idea,” cont'd; “Perpetual Peace” (pp. 93-97)

April 16 Thursday: “Perpetual Peace”, cont'd. (pp. 98-115) **Presentation 11**

Week 14

April 21 Tuesday: Catch up day.

April 23 Thursday Final Paper Workshop and discussion.