

University of Central Florida
Philosophy Department
T/TH: 12pm-1:15 pm
Professor Mark Fagiano

Modern Philosophy

Office Hours: Wednesday 11am – 3pm or by apt.

Office Location: PSY 244

Course Description:

This course explores the major figures and themes of modern philosophy. What is “modern” philosophy? What makes it different from, say, the pre-modern, renaissance, or post-modern traditions? We will answer these core questions by exploring the modern era/tradition of philosophy beginning with Bacon and ending with Hegel. Specifically, we will focus upon the metaphysical and epistemological foundations of modern philosophers as well as the mechanistic and/or teleological models they endorsed.

Required Texts:

Roger Ariew and Eric Watkins. Modern Philosophy: An Anthology of Primary Sources.

Roger Scruton. Modern Philosophy: An Introduction and Survey

Recommended secondary source: Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy
<http://plato.stanford.edu/contents.html>

Grading Details (Assignments and/or Tests/Exams):

- Participation=10%
- Journal Entries=15%
- Two short papers= 20%
- Midterm=25%
- Final Paper/Project=30%

10% Participation—your presence is expected at every class and your participation is both invited and necessary. Although the participation part of your grade is the easiest part to earn, you will lose percentage points if you miss more than two classes. Specifically, because your sentience, intelligence, and reflection are greatly desired at each and every class, every unexcused absence (after three) takes a **1/2 of a percentage point** off your final grade. Excused absences (see the full list below) must be supported with a note from your doctor, coach, family, etc. All other absences count against your final grade. It will be impossible to pass this class if you miss class excessively. More than just being present for each and every class, participation includes actively engaging with the material by asking question or making comments during class time, especially during small group discussions. **Note also: if you do not have your book or other materials on a given class day, it is nearly the same as not being there and you will lose participation points.**

15% Entries into Journal/Notes—for every reading assignment, students will be required to enter a short analytical reflection into their journals. Each entry will be based on a prompt provided by the professor. The journal, itself, may be either a bound notebook or a Word/Pages document, but it must include the student's critical analysis of the reading based on the prompt provided.

20% Papers—twenty percent of your grade will be determined by your performance on two assignments—two analytic/reflective papers (5-7 pages). Each paper will be based on a prompt provided to you by your professor. The due dates for these papers are **September 15th and November 17th**. Late papers will be marked down one-half of grade for each day it is late. Exemption: e.g., documented illness.

25% Midterm—the midterm will consist of short answer questions and essays and will be based on lectures, in-class discussions, and the assigned readings. The class day before the midterm will be entirely devoted to reviewing the material for the exam, and I will hand out a list of testable concepts/ideas before the review session. **Students MUST BRING A BLUEBOOK EXAM BOOK for the midterm.**

30% Final Paper/Project— the prompt for the final paper (5-7 pages) will be released on November 8th. In the paper, you will write an argument based on the prompt; the project will involve creating a philosophical virtual reality narrative.

Academic Honesty

The integrity of students and their written and oral work is a critical component of the academic process. The submission of another's work as one's own is plagiarism and will be dealt with using the procedures outlined in the University of Tennessee catalog. Remember that allowing another student to copy one's own work violates standards of academic integrity.

Examples of cheating include but are not limited to:

1. The unauthorized possession or use of notes, texts, electronic devices (e.g., computers, mobile phones), online materials or other such unauthorized materials/devices in fulfillment of course requirements.
2. Copying another's person work or participation in such an effort.
3. An attempt or participation in an attempt to fulfill the requirements of the course with work other than one's own.
4. Forging or deliberately misrepresenting data or results.
5. Obtaining or offering either for profit or free of charge materials one might submit or has submitted for academic credit. This includes uploading course materials to online sites devoted in whole or in part, to aiding and abetting cheating under the guise of providing "study aids." There is no prohibition concerning uploading exemplars one's work to one's personal website or to departmental, divisional, University or professional society websites for the purposes of publicity, praise, examination or review by potential employers, graduate school admissions committees, etc.
6. Violating the specific directions concerning the operation of the honor code in relation to a particular assignment.
7. Making unauthorized copies of graded work for future distribution.
8. Claiming credit for a group project to which one did not contribute.

Late Work, Absences: All out-of-class work is due AT THE BEGINNING of the class. Papers handed in after class but on the due date may be penalized one-third of a letter grade, and will be penalized by an additional one-half of a letter grade for each day they are late. Papers more than three days late will not be accepted. Students with excused absences may be excused from penalty if the excuse is received promptly. Excuses received at the end of the semester may not remove late penalties for work assigned in advance of the excused period.

There are NO MAKE UPS for any parts of this course without an excused absence:

Legitimate Excuses: college-sponsored activities closely linked to academics or to other official college functions (administrative, athletic, etc.); student illness or injury—with a note from health services—as well as critical illness/death in one's immediate family; jury duty (or subpoena for court appearance); religious holidays (for students who actively practice the religion).

Laptops and Phones

Laptops are allowed in class if and only if the laptop is being used for taking notes or, in certain circumstances, for looking up something (I will explain this in detail when appropriate). Phones are allowed only when one is looking up something. If you use your either your laptop or phone for other purposes in class (or it makes noise), it will be confiscated, then returned at the end of class. Repeated offense will result in a lowering of your participation grade.

Incompletes: The grade of incomplete will be given only in special circumstances such as an illness, an accident, or a death in the family.

Tentative Class Schedule:

		Session content	Material to be read prior to session (it is best to do the reading for each week during the week before it!). Reading for 8/25 – Scruton: 1-15
	Week One 8/23 8/25	8/23--Class One: Syllabus overview 8/25--Class Two: What is Modern Philosophy?	Reading for 8/30: Scruton: 23-33;317-327 Reading for 9/1 Lovejoy excerpt from The Great Chain of Being

	<p>Week Two</p> <p>8/30</p> <p>9/1</p>	<p>8/30--Class Three:</p> <p>Physics and the Order of Things</p> <p>Correspondence Theory of Truth</p> <p>Some "Isms"</p> <p>9/1--Class Four:</p> <p>Premodern/Renaissance/Modern</p> <p>The Great Chain of Being</p>	<p>Reading for 9/6</p> <p><i>Ariew and Wakins (hereafter A & K):</i></p> <p>1-22</p> <p>Scruton: 34-45</p> <p>Reading for 9/8</p> <p>A & K: 23-55</p> <p>Scruton: 16-22</p>
	<p>Week Three</p> <p>9/6</p> <p>9/8</p>	<p>9/6--Class Five:</p> <p>Early Modern Period</p> <p>Bacon, Galileo, Descartes</p> <p>Self, Mind, & Body</p> <p>9/8--Class Six:</p> <p>Descartes</p> <p>Skepticism,</p> <p>The Cogito</p> <p>FIRST PAPER ASSIGNED</p>	<p>Reading for 9/13:</p> <p>A & K: 56-80</p> <p>Scruton: Scruton: 47-54</p> <p>Reading for 9/15:</p> <p>A & K: 81-86; 122-128</p>
	<p>Week Four</p> <p>9/13</p> <p>9/15</p>	<p>9/13--Class Seven:</p> <p>Problems with the Cartesian</p> <p>Worldview</p> <p>Body/Mind Dualism</p> <hr/> <p>9/15--Class Eight:</p> <p>Spinoza and Descartes</p> <p><i>Ethics</i> Book 1</p> <p>Paper ONE DUE</p>	<p>Reading for 9/20:</p> <p>A & K: 129-153</p> <p>Reading for 9/22:</p> <p>A & K: 153-180</p>

	<p>Week Five</p> <p>9/20</p> <p>9/22</p>	<p>9/20--Class Nine: Spinoza: <i>Ethics</i> Book II</p> <p>9/22--Class Ten: Spinoza: <i>Ethics</i> Book V</p>	<p>Reading for 9/27: A & K: 181-207; 244-248</p> <p>Scruton: 382-386</p> <p>Reading for 9/29: A & K: 225-243</p>
	<p>Week Six</p> <p>9/27</p> <p>9/29</p>	<p>9/27—Class Ten: Leibniz Intro Metaphysics</p> <p>9/29—Class Eleven: Epistemology Monads</p>	<p>Reading for 10/4 A & K: 259-269</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Reading for 10/6: A & K: 270-295</p>
	<p>Week Seven</p> <p>10/4</p> <p>10/6</p>	<p>2/23--Class Twelve: Lockean Epistemology The Mechanistic Small Groups</p> <p>_____</p> <p>2/25--Class Thirteen: Locke The Philosophy of Mind/Consciousness</p>	<p>Reading for 10/11: A & K: 296-329</p> <p>Reading for 10/13: A & K: 330-373</p> <p>Scruton: 414-416</p>

	<p>Week Eight</p> <p>10/11</p> <p>10/13</p>	<p>10/11--Class Fourteen:</p> <p>Locke End</p> <hr/> <p>10/13--Class Fifteen:</p> <p>Hobbes v. Locke = Political Philosophy</p>	<p>Reading for 10/18:</p> <p>NONE—Study for Midterm</p> <p>Reading for 10/20:</p> <p>NONE</p>
	<p>Week Nine</p> <p>10/18</p> <p>10/20</p>	<p>10/18—Class Sixteen:</p> <p>MIDTERM REVIEW</p> <hr/> <p>10/20—Class Seventeen:</p> <p>MIDTERM</p>	<p>Reading for 10/25:</p> <p>Scruton: 284-286;291-292</p> <p>A & K: 483-522</p> <hr/> <p>Reading for 10/27:</p> <p>A & K: 522- 557</p>
	<p>Week Ten</p> <p>10/25</p> <p>10/27</p>	<p>10/25--Class Eighteen:</p> <p>Hume and Kant</p> <p>What is the Foundation of Morality?</p> <p>Pyrrhonism</p> <p>Hume's Inquiry Part I</p> <p>10/27--Class Nineteen:</p> <p>Finish Hume's Inquiry</p> <p>Kant, Categories, and Noumenon</p>	<p>Reading for 11/1:</p> <p>A & K: 579-604</p> <hr/> <p>Reading for 11/3:</p> <p>A & K: 604-633</p> <p>Scruton: 54-56</p>

	<p>Week Eleven</p> <p>11/1</p> <p>11/3</p>	<p>11/1--Class Nineteen: Kant and Metaphysics</p> <p>11/3--Class Twenty: Antinomies Die Grenze of Reason</p>	<p>Reading for 11/8: --Kant: What is Enlightenment? http://www.allmendeberlin.de/What-is-Enlightenment.pdf</p> <p>Reading for 11/10: Online article: TBA</p>
	<p>Week Twelve</p> <p>11/08</p> <p>11/10</p>	<p>11/08--Class Twenty-one: Kant End.... The Enlightenment Scottish, English, and German Versions FINAL PAPER PROMPT _____</p> <p>11/10--Class Twenty-two: Hegel and the Unfolding of <i>Geist</i></p> <p>PAPER TWO ASSIGNED</p>	<p>Reading for 11/15: Work on project & paper _____</p> <p>Reading for 11/17: Work on Project & paper</p>
	<p>Week Thirteen</p> <p>11/15</p> <p>11/17</p>	<p>11/15--Class Twenty-three SMALL GROUP MEETINGS Project Work _____</p> <p>11/17--Class Twenty-four: SMALL GROUPS--Project PAPER TWO DUE</p>	<p>Reading for 11/22 Scruton:227-236 _____</p> <p>Reading for 11/24 No Reading</p>

	<p>Week Fourteen</p> <p>11/22</p> <p>11/24</p>	<p>11/22--Class Twenty-five: From the Modern into the Post- Modern</p> <p>Free Will</p> <hr/> <p>11/24 NO CLASS GIVE THANKS!!</p>	<p>Reading for 11/29: Scruton: 355-381</p> <hr/> <p>Reading for 12/1: NONE</p>
	<p>Week Fifteen</p> <p>11/29</p> <p>12/1</p>	<p>11/29--Class Twenty-six: Space and Time</p> <p>Projects/Final Prep</p> <hr/> <p>12/1—Class Twenty-Seven</p> <hr/> <p>FINAL REVIEW</p>	<hr/>
		<p>FINAL Paper—Due—December 7th</p>	

Modern Philosophy

--Religious Revelation in a Text to Reason

--Religious Wars→Secularism