

Philosophy 4931: Key Figures – Kant

*University of Central Florida
Fall Semester 2018*

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Meeting Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30-5:45

Meeting Location: Harris Engineering Center 118

Office Hours: Tuesdays 6:15-7:15pm, and Wednesdays, 12-1pm, or by appointment

Enriched Description

Kant is, without a doubt, one of the most influential figures in the Western tradition. This course will examine his major works and ideas.

Course Format

Lecture, discussion, composition, and examination

Course Policies

1) *Academic Conduct Policy.* All members of the academic community at UCF are expected to practice and uphold standards of academic integrity and honesty. “Academic integrity” means representing oneself and one’s work honestly. Misrepresentation is cheating, since it involves claiming credit for ideas and work not actually one’s own and thus trying to attain a certain academic evaluation without actually earning it. Here are some examples of academic dishonesty:

a) Plagiarizing the work of others. UCF’s Golden Rule defines plagiarism as follows: “whereby another’s work is used or appropriated without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student’s own.” Whether students have read or heard the information used, they must document the source of the information. When dealing with written sources, a clear distinction should be made between quotations (which reproduce the information word-for-word within quotation marks) and paraphrases (which digest the source of information and provide it in the students own words). Both direct quotations and paraphrases must be documented. Even if students rephrase, condense, or select from another person’s work, the ideas are still the other person’s, and failure to give credit constitutes misrepresentation of the student’s actual work and plagiarism of another’s ideas. Buying a paper or taking information from the internet without attribution and handing it in as one’s own work is, in fact, plagiarism.

b) Falsifying records or providing misinformation regarding one’s credentials.

c) Unauthorized collaboration on computer assignments and unauthorized access to and use of computer programs, including modifying computer files created by others and representing that work as one’s own.

2) *Completion of Required Work.* Completion of all required work is necessary in order to pass the course. (See “Assignments” below.)

3) *Excused Absences.* Attendance and participation directly determine a portion of the grade in this course. Students are obligated to inform their instructors of dates they will miss class due to an excused absence prior to those anticipated dates. For activities such as athletic competitions whose schedules are known prior to the start of a term, students must provide their instructors during the first week of each term a written schedule showing days they expect to miss class. For other university excused absences, students must provide each instructor at the earliest possible time the dates they will miss. To do this, please contact the instructor via Webcourses, attaching any necessary documentation of your absence to your message.

4) *Deadline Extensions.* Things come up, and none of us are totally rock-solid. I understand this. Thus, I’m happy to consider extensions for family emergencies, medical emergencies, and other serious unanticipated events. (Although certain assignments may come at very busy times in your semester, I am unlikely to grant any extension requested for this reason. In the normal course of events, students are expected to plan ahead and budget for the busiest times of the semester.) Only those extensions requested 36 hours or more before the specified due date can be considered. The length of extensions will be determined by the factors involved in your need for it. To request an extension, please submit the aforementioned Absence Form.

5) *Add/Drops.* UCF’s policy will be explicitly followed. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of deadline dates for dropping, entering, and remaining in courses.

6) *Office Hour Policies.* Most of the time, you’ll be able to drop by office hours whenever you want, no appointment required. In the week prior to the due-date of a paper, however, you’ll need to notify me of your intention to come and request an appointment. These appointments will be doled out on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you cannot come to a scheduled session of office hours, we can try to devise a time that will work for both of us.

7) *In-Classroom Conduct – General.* Philosophy requires the discussion of controversial ideas. Everyone should feel comfortable voicing their reasoned assessments of these ideas. Therefore, it’s essential that we maintain a respectful academic environment in the classroom. No derogatory or discriminatory speech acts will be permitted.

If you have any questions about what this entails, feel free to contact me. (Please also see section 10 below.)

8) *In-Classroom Conduct – Electronic Devices.* Since I want you to engage with the material through discussion and concentration on the lectures, use of laptops and smartphones during class is prohibited. Note-taking is indeed a good idea, but you should use paper and a writing utensil.

Notes: 1) It’s fine to keep your cellphone on with the ringer silenced. You just can’t look at it. I recommend stowing it in your bag. 2) If you have a documented condition that conflicts with this policy, see “Accessibility and Accommodation” below.

9) *Accessibility and Accommodation.* The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need specific access in this course, such as accommodations, should contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss various access options. Students should also connect with [Student Accessibility Services](#) (Ferrell Commons, 7F, Room 185, sas@ucf.edu,

phone (407) 823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable.

10) *Diversity and Inclusion*. The University of Central Florida considers the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff to be a strength and critical to its educational mission. UCF expects every member of the university community to contribute to an inclusive and respectful culture for all in its classrooms, work environments, and at campus events. Dimensions of diversity can include sex, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, intellectual and physical ability, sexual orientation, income, faith and non-faith perspectives, socio-economic class, political ideology, education, primary language, family status, military experience, cognitive style, and communication style. The individual intersection of these experiences and characteristics must be valued in our community.

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at www.shield.ucf.edu and <http://cares.sdes.ucf.edu/>.

If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement, please notify the instructor as soon as possible and/or contact Student Accessibility Services.

For more information on diversity and inclusion, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- Title IX – OIE - <http://oie.ucf.edu/> & askanadvocate@ucf.edu
- Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services - <http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/> & sas@ucf.edu
- Diversity and Inclusion Training and Events – www.diversity.ucf.edu
- Student Bias Grievances – Just Knights response team - <http://jkrt.sdes.ucf.edu/>
- UCF Compliance and Ethics Office - <http://compliance.ucf.edu/> & complianceandethics@ucf.edu
- Ombuds Office - <http://www.ombuds.ucf.edu>

11) *Classroom safety*. Instructors and staff at UCF take classroom safety very seriously. In the event of an emergency, please follow all orders from the instructor (if the instructor is available to give orders). For a complete statement of UCF's emergency procedures, please visit our emergency preparedness site at <http://emergency.ucf.edu/>.

Grading

The grade will be determined by the percentage of possible points you earn on the various assignments (see below). The percentages correspond to letter grades as follows:

A grades
A: 93.33-100%
A-: 90-93.32

B grades
B+: 86.67-89.99
B: 83.33-86.66

B-: 80-83.32
C grades
C+: 76.67-79.99
C: 73.33-76.66
C-: 70-73.92

D grades
D+: 66.67-69.99
D: 63.33-66.66
D-: 60-63.32

F grades
>59.99

Because the deadlines in this course are few and the submissions major, late submissions will be accepted only in consultation with the instructor.

Even if you've already missed a deadline so much that you will not receive any points on an assignment, you must complete the assignment to pass the course. See section 2 in "Course Policies" above.

Evaluation

Syllabus Quiz (2%). This small quiz, which just concerns some basic course information available in this syllabus, is due at the end of the first week of classes (Friday, Aug. 24, 5pm). You will receive full credit for the quiz if you score a 70% or higher, and you are permitted (even encouraged) to consult the syllabus while taking the quiz. This quiz is assigned in order to: a) give students incentive to familiarize themselves with the syllabus, and b) verify each student's "academic engagement" with the course, which enables any student due to receive financial aid for the course to receive that aid in a timely fashion.

Participation (18%). Since we'll be engaged in deep readings of complex works, it's very important to attend and participate in every class session possible. Technically, I only require attendance, but I *strongly* encourage students to ask questions, discuss, and debate, particularly in a class of this level. Thus I will take particularly excellent participation into account when computing final grades.

Short Paper (20%). This 1500-word paper---five pages, basically---on some preliminary areas of the Critique of Pure Reason will give me a baseline of your writing, and provide the opportunity to receive commentary before beginning the second, weightier paper. Topics for this paper will be posted on or by September 4. Please include a word-count in the heading on the first page. All papers will be required to include a bibliography cited according to a standard academic style.

Long Paper, Preliminary Draft (7.5%). The long paper in the course is the most significant determinant of the grade. I don't want students to feel unprepared for submitting it, so I require all students to submit a rough draft in order to receive my commentary. (See below for more details on the long paper.) This preliminary draft will be graded on its seriousness and completeness as a preliminary draft. You'll receive my commentary with sufficient time to amend the final copy.

Long Paper, Final Submission (30%). This 4500-word paper will concern a particular topic in Kant's work in detail, advancing a thesis with argumentation and defending that thesis from objections. All papers will be required to include a bibliography cited according to a standard academic style.

Final Examination (22.5%). The final examination will test for your general comprehension of the Kant you've been exposed to in the course. You'll receive much more detail on this final examination later in the term. I will supply a study guide in advance of the exam.

Course Schedule

(Note: As always, the schedule is subject to change due to factors, such as closure of the university, personal emergency, severe weather, and pedagogy.)

DATE	TOPIC	READING	DUE
<i>Aug 21</i>	Course Introduction and Biography	This syllabus	Complete syllabus quiz ASAP; due Friday, August 24 by 5pm
I	Kant's Problematic		
<i>Aug 23</i>	Rationalism and Empiricism	1) Rosenberg, Intro. and Ch. 1 2) Optional: See supplemental PPTs on Berkeley, Hume and Leibniz [posted on Webcourses]	
<i>Aug 28</i>	Kant's Critical Self-Understanding	1) Prefaces (Avii-Axxii , Bvii-Bxliv) [Pluh. 5-40] 2) Rosenberg, Ch. 1	
<i>Aug 30</i>	The Intentions and Methods	1) Introduction (A1-16/B1-B30) [Pluh. 43-68] 2) Rosenberg, Ch. 2 3) Van Cleve, Ch. 2, pp. 15-27 [course reserve]	
II	(Our) Space and Time		
<i>Sept 4</i>	Space	1) TDE, Pt I, sec 1 (A23/B37-A30/B45) {Pluh. 71-86} 2) Rosenberg, Ch. 3	
<i>Sept 6</i>	Time	TDE, Pt I, sec 2 (A30-45/B46-73) {Pluh. 87-104}	
<i>Sept 11</i>	Review Session	No reading assigned; I'll be presenting clarifications and notable objections/replies pertinent to Units I and II.	Paper 1

III	Subject and Object		
<i>Sept 13</i>		TDE, Pt 2, sec 1-3, and the introductions of the Tdl Analytic (A50/B74–A67/B92) {Pluh. 105-20}	
<i>Sept 18</i>	Deriving Self and World; Pt I: The “A Deduction”	AC, Ch. 1 and Ch.2, Sec 1-Sec 2, <i>A edition</i> (A67-95/B92-129, and then A95-A130) {Pluh. 121-174}	
<i>Sept 20</i>	Pt II: The “B Deduction”	Analytic of Concepts, Ch. 2, Sec. 2 , B edition (B129-69) {Pluh. 175-203}	
<i>Sept 25</i>	Empirical Judgment and Causation	Intro. to Tdl Doctrine of the Power of Judgment and the beginning of Analytic of Principles, Ch. 2, sec. 1-2 (A148-59/B188-97) {Pluh. 220-228}; also, the 2 nd Analogy (B232-56; it eventually dovetails with A, so it also ends on A211) {Pluh. 259-76}	
<i>Sept 27</i>	Neither Damned nor Divine	“Refutation of Idealism” (B274-B295) and “Phenomena and Noumena”, Ch. 3 (A235-60/B294–315) {Pluh. 288-322}	
<i>Oct 2</i>	On Having and Eating a Classic Baked Good	1) Brueckner, “Transcendental Arguments” [course reserve] 2) Van Cleve, Ch. 10 [course reserve]	
IV	A Broader Application of the Method		
<i>Oct 4</i>	We Know What the Mind Does, but What Is It?	Tdl Dialectic, Introduction (A293-309/B349-66) {Pluh. 349-59} and the Paralogisms (A341-348/B399-405, and then A348-405; see also the fourfold chart on B419) {Pluh. 382-424}	

Oct 9	Cont'd	TBD	
Oct 11	The Limits of The Universe (and Reason)	The Antinomy, sec. 1- 3 (A408-477/B435-505)	
Oct 16	Cont'd	TD, Part II, sec. 9, III (A532-557/B560-93) {Pluh. 535-557}	
Oct 18	Theism	TBD	
Oct 23	What Remains of Metaphysics?	Appendix to the Tdl Dialectic (A642-708/B671-736) {Pluh. 617-64}	
V	Reception and Reaction		
Oct 25	Maimon	1) Maimon, "Essay on Transcendental Philosophy," selections [Webcourses] 2) TBD	
Oct 30	Fichte	1) Breazeale, "Johann Gottlieb Fichte," sec. 1-4 2) TBD	
Nov 1	No class – campus closed for Temple @ UCF		
Nov 6	Hegel	TBD	Preliminary Draft of Paper 2
VI	Kant on Action and Ethics		
Nov 8	Kant on The Rules of Action	<i>Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals</i> , selections [course reserve]	
Nov 13	Cont'd	<i>Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals</i> , further selections [course reserve]	
Nov 15	Freedom of the Will	1) <i>Critique of Practical Reason</i> , 5:19-31 2) TBD	
Nov 20	On Particular Matters	<i>Critique of Practical Reason</i> , selections	
Nov 22	No class – eat well this Thanksgiving!		
Nov 27	The End of History	"Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch"	
Nov 29	Kant <i>ingesamt</i>	No reading assigned	Final Draft, Paper 2

Dec 6, 4-6:50pm	Final Examination	Study for exam (incl. consultation with the study guide)	Final Examination
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Bibliography

Brazeale, Dan. 2018. "Johann Gottlieb Fichte." *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.
<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/johann-fichte/>

Brueckner, Anthony. 1983. "Transcendental Arguments." *Nous* 17(4): 551-575.

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Maimon, Solomon. 2010 [1790]. *Essay on Transcendental Philosophy*. Translated by Nick Midgley, Henry Somers-Hall, Alistair Welchman, and Merten Reglitz, introduction by Nick Midgley. New York: Continuum.

Rosenberg, Jay F. 2005. *Accessing Kant: A Relaxed Introduction to the Critique of Pure Reason*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Van Cleve, James. 1999. *Problems from Kant*. New York: Oxford University Press.