

Phil 111: History of Philosophy: Early Modern

Professor Eric Watkins
Office: Ridgewalk Academic Complex, Bldg. 1, 0486
Office Hours: Monday 1:00-2:00 and by appt.

Room: Ridgewalk AC 0426
Time: MWF 12:00-12:50
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This course is about the radical intellectual developments undertaken in the early modern period by Descartes, Leibniz, Locke, and Hume, among others.

Reading Assignments (subject to adjustment)

M 1-6 Introduction

W 1-8 Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*, Letter of Ded., Synopsis, and Meditation I (35-43)

F 1-10 Descartes, *Meditations II* (43-47)

M 1-13 Descartes, *Meditations III* (47-54)

W 1-15 Descartes, *Meditations III* (47-54)

First Paper Due

F 1-17 Descartes, *Meditations IV* (54-58)

M 1-20 No class (MLK Jr. Day)

W 1-22 Descartes, *Meditation V* (58-61)

F 1-24 Descartes, *Meditation VI* (61-68)

M 1-27 Descartes, *Meditation VI* (61-68)

W 1-29 *Descartes, *Principles of Philosophy* (selections)

F 1-31 Princess Elizabeth and Descartes, *Correspondence* (93-99)

M 2-3 Malebranche, *The Search After Truth*, VI.2.3, *Elucidation XV* (243-251)

W 2-5 Leibniz, "A New System of the Nature and Communication of Substances" (297-302)

F 2-7 Leibniz, "Primary Truths" (293-296)

M 2-10 Leibniz, "Discourse on Metaphysics" (252-75)

W 2-12 Amo, "On the Apathy of the Human Mind" (332-334)

F 2-14 Locke, *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Book I (346-52)

M 2-17 No class (President's Day)

W 2-19 Locke, *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Book II, Chapters 1-8 (352-67)

F 2-21 Locke, *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Book II, Chapters 12 (370-2) and 23 (389-97)

M 2-24 Locke, *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, Book IV, Chapters 1-3 (416-433)

W 2-26 Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* §§1-3 (579-588)

F 2-28 Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* §4 (588-594)

M 3-3 Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* §5 (594-601)

W 3-5 Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* §7 (602-610)

Lady Shepherd, *An Essay Upon the Relation of Cause and Effect* (687-689)

F 3-7 Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* §10-11 (623-639)

M 3-10 Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* §12 (639-646)

Second Paper Due

W 3-12 Hume, *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion* (647-686)

F 3-14 Conclusion

W 3-19 11:30am-2:29am

Final Exam

Requirements

Eighteen Homework Assignments: There will be eighteen homework assignments on the assigned readings. (This is indicated by the date being underlined on the Reading Assignments.) The homework questions are available on Canvas and must be completed **prior to** the class for which the reading was assigned. Together, they will be worth 20% of the final grade. The two lowest homework grades will be dropped.

Two Papers: Students must write two medium length papers (4-5 pages). Each paper is worth 20% of the final grade. The paper prompts will be posted on Canvas.

Final Exam: The final exam is worth 30% of the final grade. It will be cumulative.

Participation: Students should be prepared to discuss the assigned reading in class. Participation is worth 10% of the final grade. (If students are not participating in class as much as they would like, they can send me an email with questions or comments on the reading prior to the class in which the reading is to be discussed.)

Late Paper Policy: Papers turned in late will be penalized one +/- grade per day, unless evidence is presented of a valid excuse in a timely manner (e.g., a note from the doctor, the dean, etc.).

Text

Ariew, Roger and Watkins, Eric, *Modern Philosophy: An Anthology of Primary Texts*, third edition (Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 2019).

The text is available in the UCSD bookstore. All readings listed on the syllabus will be from this anthology, except where noted by *. (These texts will be provided on Canvas.)

Other Information

1. You are expected to observe the UCSD Academic Integrity Policy in this course. *Plagiarism is attributing work to yourself that you did not do.* To maintain integrity in the course, cases of plagiarism that affect the fair assessment of student academic performance based upon the course learning objectives, course policies, or assignment instructions will be referred to the Academic Integrity Office for assessment and potential disciplinary action. The course learning objectives include developing skills in reading and writing as modes of critical thinking. Accordingly, examples of activity that constitute plagiarism in this course include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Using generative artificial intelligence (e.g. large-language models like ChatGPT) to generate or modify the structure, ideas, or language of your work.
- Using secondary sources to generate or modify the structure, ideas, or language of your essay. In the Humanities Program, you are to write essays based only on your own study of the assigned materials, not on secondary sources.
- Submitting the same essay for more than one assignment or class.
- Allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade.

Students agree that by taking this course all required work will be subject to text-similarity review through Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism.

2. If accommodations are needed for any reason, please notify me as soon as possible. Also, please do not attend classes if you are feeling ill. In case of illness, quarantine, other Covid-related reasons, or a medical or family emergency that may prevent you from attending class, please send me an email so that I am aware of your situation.