

Philosophy 100C: History of Modern Philosophy  
SYLLABUS

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00a.m.-12:50p.m.  
Dodd 175

Instructor: Eric Tracy  
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Office Hours: T 2:30-4:30 p.m.

**Course Overview**

To a surprising extent, our own philosophical questions and the space of answers were framed during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries. In this class, we will study the major works in the most influential philosophical debates taking place during the period roughly between 1600 and 1800. We will be reading Descartes, Cavendish, Conway, Spinoza, Leibniz, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, Mary Shepherd, and Kant.

## Course Materials

*Required:* Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*

*Required:* Atherton (Ed.), *Women Philosophers of the Early Modern Period*

*Required:* Spinoza, *Ethics*

*Required:* Leibniz, *Philosophical Essays*

*Required:* Locke, *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*

*Required:* Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*

*Required:* Berkeley, *Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous*

*Required:* Immanuel Kant, *Prolegomena to any Future Metaphysics*

*Optional:* Berkeley, *A Treatise Concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*

Please obtain the latest Hackett edition of these primary texts. All other readings will be made available on the course website.

## Difficulty

This course is not an introduction to philosophy. The material will be challenging, though we will be dealing directly with primary texts. Doing well in the course requires sustained engagement with the ideas and arguments we discuss, careful and critical reading of challenging texts, and the development and exercise of the skills of philosophical writing.

In short, to excel in this course, you should expect to:

- Do all assigned readings *and engage* (take notes, evaluate, etc.)
- Attend lecture *and engage* (take notes, ask questions, etc.)
- Complete all of the online reading responses (see below)
- Work hard on papers (and submit them on time)

## Course Requirements

1. One ungraded paper (1-2 pgs.)
2. Two graded papers (3-4 pgs. and 5-6 pgs.)
3. Final Exam
4. Regular lecture attendance.

The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

- *Participation:* 10%
- *Short paper:* 25%
- *Final Paper:* 35%
- *Exam:* 30

- Students needing an academic accommodation because of a disability should notify the UCLA Center for Accessible Education and the instructor within the first two weeks of the quarter.
  - The CAE is at A255 Murphy Hall; its phone number is (310) 825-1501.
- Late papers will be docked by **one-third of a letter grade**, and docked an additional third of a letter grade every twenty-four hours after the due date.
- Late papers will not be accepted after seven days beyond the due date.
- No extensions will be granted within 24 hours of a deadline or after the deadline has passed.

### **Electronics**

This class has a no-electronics policy. Please do not use cell phones, laptops, tablet computers, etc. during lecture. Please be in touch with the instructor before the quarter begins if there is a special reason why you may need to use a laptop during our class. Violation of this policy may affect your participation grade as a form of negative participation, especially if it distracts other students.

### **Papers**

FIRST PAPER (3-4 pages)

Due [ ] at 11:59 p.m. to Turnitin via CCLE.

SECOND PAPER (4-6 pages)

Due [ ] at 11:59 p.m. to Turnitin via CCLE.

### **Exam**

FINAL EXAM on [ ] at [ ].

### **Academic Integrity**

Students are responsible for abiding by UCLA's policies regarding academic and intellectual integrity: <http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Academic-Integrity>

In accordance with these policies, any suspected plagiarism or academic dishonesty will be forwarded to the Dean of Students.

Course Schedule (subject to change)

Week 1: Introduction, Descartes

Read: Descartes *Discourse on Method*

Read: Descartes *Meditations* Preface and Meditation 1

Week 2: Descartes

Read: Descartes *Meditations* 2

Read: Descartes *Meditations* 3

Week 3: Descartes

Read: Descartes *Meditations* 4-5

Read: Descartes *Meditations* 6, Selections from the Objections and Replies

Week 4: Elizabeth and Cavendish

Read: Princess Elizabeth, pp. 9-21

Read: Cavendish, pp. 22-45

Week 5: Conway, Spinoza

Read: Conway, pp. 46-76

Read: Spinoza *Ethics* Part 1

Week 6: Spinoza

Read: Spinoza *Ethics* Part 2

Read: Spinoza *Ethics* Parts 3-5

Week 7: Leibniz

Read: Leibniz, pp. 149-155, 28-69

Read: Leibniz, pp. 94-101, 193-196

\*\* FIRST PAPER DUE [ ] AT 11:59 p.m. TO TURNITIN \*\*

Week 8: Leibniz, Lady Masham

Read: Leibniz, pp. 213-225

Read: Damaris Cudworth, Lady Masham, pp. 77-95

Week 9: Locke

Read: Locke *Essays Concerning Human Understanding* Book I

Read: Locke *Essays* Book 2, i-vii

Week 10: Locke

Read: Locke *Essays* Book 2, viii-xviii, xxiv-xxxiii

Read: Locke *Essays* Book 4, i-vi, xi-xviii

Week 11: Berkeley

Read: Berkeley, *Three Dialogues*, First Dialogue

Read: Berkeley, *Three Dialogues*, Second and Third Dialogues

Week 12: Berkeley, Hume

Read: Berkeley, *Principles* Selections

Read: Hume, pp. 15-25

Week 13: Hume

Read: Hume, pp. 53-69

Read: Hume, pp. 72-90

\*\*SECOND PAPER DUE [ ] AT 11:59 p.m. TO TURNITIN\*\*

Week 14: Shepherd, Kant

Read: Shepherd, pp. 147-159

Read: Kant, *Prolegomena* pp. 9-35

Week 15: Kant

Read: Kant, *Prolegomena* pp. 36-63

Read: Kant, *Prolegomena* pp. 64-99