

## Schedule of Lecture Topics, Associated Readings, Dates for Papers, Exercises and Exams

**Note: if a reading is listed for a particular date, that's the date on which you must have the reading done!**

### Week

### Topic, (Reading)

#### Week #1

Jan. 17 Introduction: (a) syllabus, (b) why study the history of modern philosophy? (c) three Fundamental Frameworks (No readings—[History Handout](#), [Early Modern Philosophers Handout](#))

#### PART I: RATIONALISM

Jan. 19 Framework of the Meditations *Continued* (no new reading)

#### Week #2

Jan. 24 Meditation 1: The quest for certainty, methodological skepticism, and the critique of common sense (**READING: Preface to the Reader, Synopsis, Meditation I; "Objections and Replies" on Meditation I;** [NOTE: The only reading materials you need are available for download on the CANVAS site under Course Content (this include all of Descartes' *Meditations on First Philosophy* as well as a Word document that contains all of the Objections and Replies addendum to several of the original editions of that work])

Jan. 26 Meditation 1 cont'd (no new readings) + Meditation 2: The Cogito, the Nature of the Ego, and the Wax Argument. (**READING: Meditation 2.) Group Report #1 (on Meditation 1)**)

#### Week #3

Jan. 31 Meditation 2 continued: How is the Cogito Belief able to overcome the EDH? How can RD know *anything* about the wax (after all, he doesn't know he has a body yet!!!)? (no new readings)

Feb. 2 Meditation 3: Intuition, ideas, and types of reality; Descartes's proof that God exists given the fact that we have an Idea of God (an Idea we could not have created with our finite and limited intellects!). Stepping through the proof. (No new readings). (**READING: Meditation 3. [Handout #1](#)**)

Feb 5 **First Quiz Due [On Meditation 1] in Canvas by 11:59 pm (EXTENDED DUE DATE)**

#### Week #4

Feb. 7 Meditation 3 cont'd: how the proof works, then criticisms of the proof; One Other Proof in Med 3. (**READING: Meditation 3; Group #2 Reading Report (on Meditation 3) Due**)

Feb. 9 Meditation 4: Why God isn't a deceiver; how error is possible; New Problem: The Cartesian Circle (and a possible solution to that problem). (**READING AHEAD: Meditation 5; [Handout #2 & 2suppl](#)**)

Feb. 12 **Second Quiz (on Meditation 3) due by 11:59 pm in Canvas**

#### Week #5

Feb. 14 Meditation 5&6: Med. 5's topics: defeating the EDH for math beliefs, THEN proving: The nature of any possible external world, *should it exist*; the "ontological" proof for God's existence; preparing for Med. 6's proof for the existence of an External World (EW); Med. 6's topics: RD's proof that the external world exists (and we can know that despite the Evil Demon's attempt at deception), why we no longer must worry that the EDH undermines our *most carefully tested* sense beliefs. (**READING AHEAD: Meditation 6)**)

#### **\*\*Topics for First Paper Available on Website and Canvas\*\***

Feb. 16 Meditation 6 cont'd: Leftover problems: the fact that the Mind and the Body have causal influence on each other (inconsistent with RD's Causal Principle), and RD's solution to that problem: solving the as-yet-unsolved Dream Problem (how can I know my sense beliefs are not based on a vivid dream life?).(no new readings; **Group #3 Reading Report [on Meditation 6] due**)

Feb. 19 **Third Quiz [on Meditations 4 thru 6] due in Canvas by 11:59 pm**

#### Week #6

Feb. 21 Leftover Problems w/Descartes' Project, followed by an Introduction to Leibniz's world: The Monadology. (Reading: **Simon Sparks' translation of *Monadology*, paragraphs 1 through 38**, available for download on the website under Online Versions of Course Texts; [Handout #3](#))

Feb. 23 More Monadology. The actual world is the best of all possible worlds! (**READING: Simon Sparks' translation of *Monadology*, paragraphs 39 through the end. Group #4 Reading Report on Topic Covered by Handout #4, Phase One & Two; [Handout #4](#)**)

## PART II: EMPIRICISM

### Week #7

Feb. 28 Phase Two and Three of Leibniz's proof that this is the Best of All Possible Worlds, followed by Introduction to Locke's Empiricist approach to the Theory of Knowledge + his attack on the doctrine of innate ideas. (Reading: Locke's *Essay*, Book I, Chapter II, §1-9, 12, 14-15, 17-19, 21-22, 24; **Group 4 Reading Report Cont'd (Re: Handout #4, Phase Two and Three)**)

Mar. 2 More on Locke against innate ideas; Locke on acquired ideas and mental powers. (Reading: Locke's *Essay*, Book II, Chapter I, §1-9 inclusive; Book II, Chapter II, §1-3, Chapter III, §1-2, Chapter IV, §1-6, Chapter V, intro; Chapter VI, §1-2)

Mar. 4 **Fourth Quiz (On Leibniz)** due by 11:59 pm in Canvas.

### Week #8

Mar. 7 Locke on acquired ideas and mental powers. (Reading: Locke's *Essay*, Chapter IX, §8-12; Chapter X, §1-2, Chapter XI, §1, 4, 6, 8-11, 15, 17; Chapter XII, §1-8; Chapter XXII, §1-5.; **Group 5 Report Due**)

Mar. 9 Locke on acquired ideas and mental power (cont'd) + Introduction to Locke's concept of qualities. (No new reading)

Mar. 12 **Fifth Quiz (on Locke against Innate Ideas and How Ideas Arise in the Mind according to Locke)**

### Week #9

Mar. 14 Locke on qualities and substances *and* Locke on consciousness and personal identity. (Reading: Locke's *Essay*, Book II, Chapter VIII, §7-26, Chapter XXIII, §1-12, 14-20, 22-23, 25, 28, 30-37; Book II, Chapter I, §10-14, 19-20, 23-25; Chapter XXVII, §1-29. **Group 6 Report Due [Postponed to Mar. 16]**)

Mar. 16 Locke on Locke on consciousness and personal identity (**Same Reading as Mar. 14**) + Introduction to Hume's "mental geography" and theory of ideas. (Reading: Hume's *Enquiry*, Author's Advertisement, Section I, Section II (. **Group 6 Report Due**)

Mar. 19 **Sixth Quiz (On Locke's theories about qualities and the ideas they produce, his critique of the concept of a 'Substance' and the concept of a 'substance', and his theory of personal identity)**

### Week #10

Mar. 21 Hume's theory of ideas and the principle of association. (Reading: *Enquiry*, Section III, IV, Parts I&II; Section V, Part I&II, Section VI, Section VII, Part I&II; **Handout #5**)

Mar. 23 Hume's principle of association and its consequences. (No new reading; **Group 7 Report on readings for March 21**)

**\*\*First Paper Due\*\***

### Week #11

Mar. 28 Spring Break (no classes)

**\*\*Topics for Second Paper Available on Website and CANVAS\*\***

Mar. 30 Spring Break (no classes)

Apr. 2 **Seventh Quiz (On Hume's Philosophy) Due in Canvas by 11:59 pm (EXTENDED TO THURSDAY APRIL 6)**

### Week #12

Apr. 4 Hume's negative critique of the concept of a causal relationship, followed by his positive account, followed by a critical analysis of these critiques, plus Hume's Attack on Induction. (No new reading; **Handout #6**)

Apr. 6 Introduction to Berkeley's extreme reaction to Locke, known as Phenomenalism or Berkeleyan Idealism (Reading: Berkeley's *Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous*, First Dialogue. (**Group 8 Report Due**)

### Week #13

Apr. 11 Berkeley on Perception, Existence and Human Knowledge. (Reading: Berkeley's *Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous*, Second Dialogue.)

Apr. 13 Finishing Berkeley; Reid's (and other's) attack on the "idea"-idea. What Descartes, Hume, Locke and Berkeley all assumed about the nature of ideas. (Reading: Berkeley's *Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous*, Third Dialogue)

Apr. 16 **Eighth Quiz** (on Berkeley's attack on the concept of a material substance)

PART III: BEYOND RATIONALISM AND EMPIRICISM

Week #14

Apr. 18 The Old problem of Objectivity: Kant's Copernican revolution and the reconciliation of rationalism and empiricism and the New problem of Objectivity. (Reading: Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* [CPR], Preface to 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, Preface to 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Introduction to 1<sup>st</sup> Edition; Handouts #7-#8; **Group 9 Report Due**)

Apr. 20 Kant solves the Old Problem of Objectivity and creates the New Problem of Objectivity. The Transcendental Aesthetic (TA) and transcendental idealism, *or, How the Active Faculty of Appearances Creates Something A Priori in Perception*. (Reading: Kant's CPR, Introduction to 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Transcendental Doctrine of the Elements, First Part.)

Apr. 23 **Ninth Quiz** (on Kant's *Transcendental Aesthetic*)

Week #15

Apr. 25 Transcendental Aesthetic (continued) (No New Reading) (Reading Ahead regarding The Logical Deduction/Metaphysical Deduction: Kant's CPR, Transcendental Doctrine of the Elements, First Part [2<sup>nd</sup> Edition], Second Part).

Apr. 27 Transcendental Analytic: The Role of the Faculty of Judgment in the Constitution of Experience—First Step: Contribution from the Forms of Judgment. (**READINGS:** *Critique of Pure Reason*: Transcendental Doctrine of Elements, First Division: Transcendental Analytic, Book I Analytic of Concepts, Chapter 1, On the clue to the discovery of all pure concepts of the understanding [Transcendental Guide for the Discovery of all Pure Concepts of Understanding])

**\*\*Second Paper Due April 28 at 11:59 p.m.\*\***

Week #16

May 2 Transcendental Analytic: The Role of the Faculty of Concepts in the Constitution of Experience cont'd—Second Step: How the Forms of Judgment Became Categories of Understanding that Constitute Objects of Experience; Overview of Kant's Transcendental Deduction of the Categories where Kant Solves Hume's Problem with the Idea of a Causal Relation (**READINGS:** *Critique of Pure Reason*: Transcendental Doctrine of Elements, First Division: Transcendental Analytic, Book I Analytic of Concepts, Chapter 2, On the Deduction of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding [pp. 112-171 BUT ONLY THE A-Edition Material {on the bottom of the pages, *all in italics!!!*}; **Group 10 Report Due [covering the reading for April 27]**)

May 4 The Second Analogy cont'd: Kant's reply to Hume; The Refutation of Idealism (Kant's reply to Descartes and Berkeley); Profound conclusions of the CPR, course review (Reading: Analytic of Principles, Chapter II, Section III, part 3 [pp. 203-231]; **Tenth Quiz; Makeup Report 2 Due**).

**\*\*Optional Revised First Paper Due May 5 at 11:59 p.m.\*\***

**\*\*Takehome/Downloadable Final Exam Distributed at 8 a.m., May 6; Final Exam is Due May 8 at 11:59 p.m.\*\***