

Kant's Critique of Pure Reason

PHIL 453/553
MW 6-7:50
MCK 373

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Office Hours: R 11-1
and by appointment
PLC 331

Course Description:

This course will be devoted to a reading of Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*. We will pursue a systematic assessment of Kant's transcendental idealism by examining, among other topics, the very idea of the Copernican Turn, the status of the a priori, the notion of objectivity, the role of freedom, and the limits of reason. Although we will also consider the Transcendental Doctrine of Method, the course will focus on the Transcendental Doctrine of Elements (the Aesthetic, Analytic, and Dialectic), with particular attention to the Transcendental Analytic.

Primary Texts:

Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason*, trans. Paul Guyer and Allen Wood (Cambridge). The book has been ordered and is available at the Duckstore.

Students with reading knowledge of German are encouraged to refer to the original, which you may order via amazon.de.

Selected Secondary Literature:

Students are required to read at least one commentary alongside Kant's text. Recommended secondary sources marked are on reserve at Knight. Other sources will be available on BB.

General:

Paul Guyer, *Kant*
Howard Caygill, *A Kant Dictionary*

On CPR – Introductory:

Sebastian Gardner, *Kant and the Critique of Pure Reason*

On CPR – Advanced:

Henry Allison, *Kant's Transcendental Idealism*
Robert Pippin, *Kant's Theory of Form*
Paul Guyer, *Kant and the Claims of Knowledge*
Paul Guyer, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Kant's Critique of Pure Reason*
Béatrice Longuenesse, *Kant and the Capacity to Judge*
Michelle Grier, *Kant's Doctrine of Transcendental Illusion*
Erkhard Förster, ed., *Kant's Transcendental Deductions*
P.F. Strawson, *The Bounds of Sense*
Eric Watkins, *Kant and the Metaphysics of Causality*
Norman Kemp-Smith, *A Commentary to Kant's Critique*
Otfried Höffe, *Kant's Critique of Pure Reason*
Karl Ameriks, *Interpreting Kant's Critiques*
Terry Pinkard, *German Idealism (1760-1860): The Legacy of Idealism*
Martin Heidegger, *Kant and the Problem of Metaphysics*
TW Adorno, *Kant's Critique of Pure Reason*
Gilles Deleuze, *Kant's Critical Philosophy*

Course Structure, Requirements, and Policies:

~Attendance and Participation:

You are expected to attend classes regularly and promptly. More than 3 absences will result in a failing final grade, unless proof of illness or emergency is provided. Coming prepared to discuss the assigned text and participating in class discussions are requirements.

~Commentaries:

You will submit four 2-page reconstructions of one argument within a main topic discussed (see schedule of reading for due dates).

~Prospectus:

Undergraduate Students: Please submit a one-page prospectus stating the topic of your paper and the argument that you intend to pursue.

Graduate Students: Please submit a one-page prospectus stating the topic of your paper and the argument that you intend to pursue. Please also include an annotated bibliography with a list of secondary sources that you intend to use.

~Final Paper:

Undergraduate Students: This 2,000 wd. paper should develop further—both exegetically and critically—one of your commentaries.

Graduate Students: This 3,000 wd. paper should develop a thesis about a section or problem in Kant's first *Critique*. You must situate your thesis within relevant secondary literature. Engaging secondary sources is a *requirement*.

All final papers are due by 2pm on Friday, March 23rd at the Philosophy Department (box at the counter). No late papers will be accepted, unless accompanied by proof of illness or emergency.

Statement on Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is grounds for failing the course. For more information, see: <http://www.libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/>.

Grading Standard:

A = excellent. No mistakes, well-written, and distinctive in some way or other.

B = good. No significant mistakes, well-written, but not distinctive in any way.

C = OK. Some errors, but basic grasp of the material.

D = poor. Several errors. A tenuous grasp of the material.

F = failing. Problematic on all fronts indicating either no real grasp of the material or complete lack of effort.

Grading:

Class participation	10%
Commentaries (4)	40% (10% each)
Final paper	50%

Accommodation for a Disability:

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon.

Schedule of Readings:

Wk. 1

- Mon., Jan. 9 ***The Problem of Metaphysics and Kant's Copernican Turn:***
Prefaces
Discipline of Pure Reason (Transcendental Doctrine of Method)
Wed., Jan. 11 Introduction

Wk. 2

- Mon., Jan. 16 ***Transcendental Aesthetic***
Space and Time
Wed., Jan. 18 Space and Time
Fri., Jan. 20 *First Commentary Due*

Wk. 3

- Mon., Jan. 23 ***Transcendental Analytic***
The Clue
Wed., Jan. 25 The Clue

Wk. 4

- Mon., Jan. 30 Transcendental Deduction A/B
Wed., Feb. 1 Transcendental Deduction A/B
Fri., Feb. 3 *Second Commentary Due*

Wk. 5

- Mon., Feb. 6 Schematism
Wed., Feb. 8 Schematism

Wk. 6

- Mon., Feb. 13 Analogies of Experience – Second Analogy
Wed., Feb. 15 Analogies of Experience – Second Analogy
Refutation of Idealism

Wk. 7

- Mon., Feb. 20 Phenomena and Noumena
Wed., Feb. 22 Phenomena and Noumena
Amphiboly of Concepts of Reflection
Fri., Feb. 24 *Third Commentary Due*

Wk. 8

- Mon., Feb. 27 ***Transcendental Dialectic***
Paralogisms of Pure Reason
Wed., Feb. 29 Antinomy of Pure Reason – Third Antinomy
Prospectus Due

Wk. 9

- Mon., Mar. 5 Antinomy of Pure Reason – Third Antinomy
Wed., Mar. 7 Ideal of Pure Reason
Appendix to the Transcendental Dialectic –
Regulative Use of the Ideas of Pure Reason
Fri., Mar. 9 *Fourth Commentary Due*

Draft – final version of the syllabus will be distributed in class and available on BB

Wk. 10

Mon., Mar. 12 *Doctrine of Method*

Canon of Pure Reason

Wed., Mar. 14 Architectonic of Pure Reason

History of Pure Reason

Wk. 11

Fri., Mar. 23 *Final Essay is due*