

MODERN PHILOSOPHY

Course Outline

Course Number: HUMN3

Modern Philosophy is the second of a two-part introductory philosophy course. The primary goal of the course is to introduce students to the great tradition and story called western philosophy, and to provide a perspective on its history through a study of philosophy's central concerns and challenges. In this course students learn about some of the major developments in modern philosophy and some changing perspectives on central philosophical concerns/problems: What is truth? (epistemology): What is the nature and source of the world? (metaphysics): What is the good life? (ethics): What is being, and what does it mean? (ontology). Students experience directly philosophy's self-imposed rigour (its inquiry method) as they learn to read philosophical texts and develop their analytic and critical thinking skills. Finally, students gain an understanding and appreciation of philosophy's influence and role.

Learning Sequence:

Wks/Hrs Units	Topics, Resources, Learning Activities	Assessment
Week 1	Introduction: “Awaken from dogmatic slumber”—Hume and Kant	TGC-pp431-467 Performance Assessment
Week 2	Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason The Copernican Revolution in Philosophy	TGC-pp431-467 Performance Assessment
Week 3	Kant’s Critique-the question of God, the will, morality	TGC-pp431-467 Performance Assessment
Week 4	Hegel—Idealism reconstituted	TGC-pp468-495 Performance Assessment
Week 5	Hegel’s Dialectic, e.g.Master/Slave dialectic	TGC-pp468-495 Performance Assessment
Week 6	Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto, Dialectic Materialism--Transcendent made Historical (Hegel—Marx)	TGC-pp515-522 Performance Assessment
Week 7	Kierkegaard—Concluding Unscientific Postscript –The Existential (Hegel— Kierkegaard)	TGC-pp497-515 Performance Assessment Essay 1
Week 8	Reading Week	TGC-pp497-515 Reading handout Performance Assessment
Week 9	Kierkegaard Against Objectivity in Religion–(truth as subjectivity)	TGC-pp497-515 Chap 22 and 23 Reading handout Performance Assessment
Week 10	Nietzsche’s Madman—God is Dead (Birth	TGC-pp542-576

	of the Ubermensch)	Performance Assessment
Week 11	Nietzsche's Will to Power Transvaluation of all Values	TGC-pp542-576 Performance Assessment
Week 12	Heidegger—The end of metaphysics and The Meaning of Being	TGC-pp655-699 Performance Assessment
Week 13	Heidegger—The Question Concerning Technology	TGC-pp655-699 Reading handout Performance Assessment
Week 14	Wittgenstein--Language and the Analytical	TGC- Chap 22, 23 Performance Assessment Essay 2
Week 15	Wrap-up	

Learning Resources:

Great Conversations

Assessment Plan:

Item/Date:	Percent:	Description:
Week 7	30	Essay 1
Week 15	30	Essay 2
Weekly	40	Inclass assessment