

**Course Outline**

**COURSE:** PHIL 7B                      **DIVISION:** 10                      **ALSO LISTED AS:**

**TERM EFFECTIVE:** Spring 2018                      **CURRICULUM APPROVAL DATE:** 09/25/2017

**SHORT TITLE:** HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

**LONG TITLE:** History of Philosophy: Renaissance to Modern Periods

Units	Number of Weeks		Contact Hours/Week		Total Contact Hours
3	18	Lecture:	3	Lecture:	54
		Lab:	0	Lab:	0
		Other:	0	Other:	0
		Total:	3	Total:	54

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is a survey of the history of Western philosophy from the Renaissance to the modern period, i.e., the philosophy of the 16th through the 18th century. Particular attention will be paid to the metaphysics and epistemology of the 'rationalists' (Descartes, Leibniz, and Spinoza), the 'empiricists' (Locke, Berkeley, and Hume), and Kant. (C-ID: PHIL 140) ADVISORY: Eligible for English 1A.

**PREREQUISITES:**

**COREQUISITES:**

**CREDIT STATUS:** D - Credit - Degree Applicable

**GRADING MODES**

L - Standard Letter Grade

**REPEATABILITY:** N - Course may not be repeated

**SCHEDULE TYPES:**

02 - Lecture and/or discussion

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. Identify significant theories held by major philosophers and/or philosophic schools of thought from the Modern period (16th through 18th century).

Measure of assessment: Essays, group projects, exams

Year assessed, or planned year of assessment: 2019

Semester: Spring

2. Explain and evaluate historically important philosophical arguments from the Modern period (16th through 18th century).

Measure of assessment: Essays, group projects, exams

Year assessed, or planned year of assessment: 2019

Semester: Spring

3. Describe the continuity between the epistemological and metaphysical systems of the Empiricists: Locke, Berkeley and Hume and the Rationalists: Descartes, Spinoza, and Leibniz. The work of Immanuel Kant will also be considered.

Measure of assessment: Essays, group projects, exams

Year assessed, or planned year of assessment: 2019

## **CONTENT, STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES, OUT-OF-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS**

Curriculum Approval Date: 09/25/2017

3 Hours

Renaissance's influence on the history of philosophy.

Performance Objectives: Demonstrate and describe the difference between primary and secondary sources.

3 Hours

Descartes: The father of modern philosophy.

Performance Objectives: Employ the Cartesian method of doubt and discuss Descartes' metaphysics and significance to philosophy.

3 Hours

Descartes: (cont.)

Performance Objectives: Examine Descartes' philosophy of mind (dualism).

3 Hours

Hobbes

Performance Objectives: Examine and analyze Hobbes' epistemology, metaphysics, and ethics (social contract theory, theory of human nature).

3

Hours

Pascal: Pascal's wager.

Performance Objectives: Analyze Pascal's wager.

2 Hours

Spinoza:

Performance Objectives: Trace the life and controversy surrounding Spinoza's work. Examine his epistemology, metaphysics, and ethics.

1 Hours

World Cultural Context: The Enlightenment and the age of Newton.

Performance Objectives: Trace the changing world of the Enlightenment, including the profound effect of Newton's physical theories on worldviews.

3 Hours

Leibniz

Performance Objectives: Examine Leibniz' contributions to metaphysics (monadology), logic (identity of indiscernibles, principle of sufficient reason, etc.), and philosophy of religion (theodicies).

3 Hours

Locke: Rise of modern empiricism.

Performance Objectives: Analyze Locke's empirical theory of knowledge, as well as Locke's theory of personal identity.

3 Hours

Locke: (cont.)

Performance Objectives: Evaluate Locke's political works and assess their significance on the U.S. Constitution.

3 Hours

Berkeley: Empiricism re-visited.

Performance Objectives: Read selections from Berkeley's writings on the reform of empiricism and metaphysics.

3 Hours

Paley's Natural Theology

Performance Objectives: Evaluate Paley's teleological argument for the existence of God.

3 Hours

Hume: Skepticism, Empiricism

Performance Objectives: Analyze Hume's problem of induction, skepticism, and moral philosophy.

3 Hours

Hume: Moral philosophy

Performance Objectives: Evaluate Hume's moral philosophy.

3 Hours

Reid

Performance Objectives: Analyze Reid's common sense philosophy, including his epistemology (realism) and theory of personal identity.

3 Hours

Rousseau:

Performance Objectives: Examine Rousseau's ethics and political philosophy.

3 Hours

Kant:

Performance Objectives: Trace Kant's task of avoiding dogmatism.

3 Hours

Kant: (cont.)

Performance Objectives: Investigate Kant's epistemological theory, including its implication for his theories of ethics and metaphysics.

2 Hours

### **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Seminar style instruction: moderate lecture, much group discussion (round table dialogue). Incorporation of philosophy podcasts that include interviews with professional scholars currently working in the field.

### **OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:**

Required Outside Hours: 36

Assignment Description: Read textbook. Study for exams. Assignment: Take home quiz on Leibniz' reply to the problem of evil. Assignment: Take home quiz on the problem of induction.

Required Outside Hours: 36

Assignment Description: Written homework. Examples: Assignment: Short writing assignment on use of primary and secondary sources. Assignment: Reading on Hobbes' state of nature. Assignment: Students will compose a response paper on Pascal's wager. Assignment: Response paper on Paley's teleological argument. Assignment: Students will criticize Reid's direct realism in a short paper. Assignment: Students will compose a short paper comparing and contrasting views on human nature from Rousseau and Hobbes. Assignment: Short essay on one of the Kant's readings. Assignment: Response paper on Kant's categorical imperative.

Required Outside Hours: 36

Assignment Description: Research and write term papers. Examples: The students will write an essay in which they assess Descartes' method of hyperbolic doubt for applicability to modern epistemological questions. Assignment: Students will evaluate Cartesian dualism in a short essay. Assignment: Students will compare and evaluate Spinoza's and Descartes' philosophies in a response paper. Assignment: Students

will compare and contrast the empirical theories of Locke and Berkeley. Assignment: Response paper on why Hume believed the origin of morality is emotion (as opposed to reason).

#### **METHODS OF EVALUATION:**

Writing assignments

Percent of total grade: 70.00 %

50% - 75% Written homework; Essay exams; Term papers; Other: group writing assignments

Problem-solving assignments

Percent of total grade: 20.00 %

10% - 20% Quizzes; Exams

Objective examinations

Percent of total grade: 10.00 %

#### **REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:**

Required Representative Textbooks

Roger Ariew, Eric Watkins, trans.. Readings in Modern Philosophy or other appropriate college level text.. Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Publishers,2000.

This is the most accurate and up-to-date translation of the works of Rene Descartes, Baruch Spinoza, and G.W. Leibniz that is currently available in an affordable student edition.

ISBN: 97800-87220-534-5

Reading Level of Text, Grade: 13 Verified by: Hackett Publishers

Required Other Texts and Materials

Volume two of the \*Readings in Modern Philosophy\* text (focusing on Hume, Berkeley, and Locke) is also assigned for this course.

#### **ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION**

Associate Degree:

GAV C2, effective 201470

CSU GE:

CSU C2, effective 201470

IGETC:

IGETC 3B, effective 201470

CSU TRANSFER:

Transferable CSU, effective 201470

UC TRANSFER:

Transferable UC, effective 201470

#### **SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:**

Basic Skills: N

Classification: Y

Noncredit Category: Y

Cooperative Education:

Program Status: 1 Program Applicable

Special Class Status: N

CAN:

CAN Sequence:

CSU Crosswalk Course Department: PHIL

CSU Crosswalk Course Number: 7B

Prior to College Level: Y  
Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N  
Funding Agency Code: Y  
In-Service: N  
Occupational Course: E  
Maximum Hours:  
Minimum Hours:  
Course Control Number: CCC000456151  
Sports/Physical Education Course: N  
Taxonomy of Program: 150900