

PHIL 309
Kant
Department of Philosophy
University of Victoria
Spring 2016

Mondays & Thursdays 11:30-12:50
Engineering & Compute Science (ECS) 108

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Office Hours: Tuesdays & Fridays 1:00-2:00

Course Description

There is little question that Immanuel Kant stands as a pivotal - indeed a revolutionary - figure in the history of philosophy. Having seemingly brought to an abrupt end the Early Modern debates between Rationalists and Empiricists, Kant inaugurated a new approach to philosophical inquiry, the legacy of which still stands today. This course offers an opportunity to engage in a systematic close-reading of Kant's magnum opus, the *Critique of Pure Reason*.

Reading

All required readings will come from Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*. There are several translations of Kant's *Critique* available, but you are strongly encouraged to purchase the edition published by Cambridge University Press in the series entitled The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Immanuel Kant. I have ordered this edition, and it should be available at the Campus Bookstore.

Kant's *Critique* is a difficult text to get through, but nevertheless you will be expected to have done the readings *prior* to coming to classes. Failure to do so will impede discussion and limit the pace of lectures. Please ensure that you have done the readings in advance.

Note – Given that this course offers a close reading of Kant's *Critique*, we may stray from the schedule of readings in order to more fully explore a problem or to accommodate class discussion. It is your responsibility to ensure that you know what to have read for each class.

Course Requirements:

1. **Explication Papers** – You will be required to submit *two* short explication papers throughout the term. Topics to be addressed in these papers will be made available to you in the second week of classes. Each explication paper is to be 5-8 pages in length. The first explication paper is worth **25%**, and the remaining one is worth **30%**, for a total of **55%**.

The first explication paper is due on **Thursday, February 9 (16)**

The second explication paper is due on **Thursday, March 23 (30)**

2. **Take Home Final Examination** – You will be required to submit a take home final examination, worth **40%**. This is due on **Tuesday, April 18 (No Comment/No Comment option)**

3. **Attendance and Participation** – Your attendance in class is required, and as such, I will periodically be taking attendance. In addition, I will be adjudicating your participation in class (a strong incentive to ensure that you have the reading done in advance). Attendance and participation will be worth an additional **5%**.

Policy Regarding Late Submission of Written Work:

- 1) All term work submitted on or before the specified due dates will be adjudicated and returned with written comments.
- 2) Term work submitted **within one week** of the specified due dates will be adjudicated without penalty, but will be returned without written comments.
- 3) Any term work submitted **after the week** following the specified due date will be adjudicated and returned without comment, and a **penalty of 3% per day** will be assessed.
- 4) Please note, there is **no comment/no comment option** available for the final take home examination.

Grade Scale & Description:		
A+ A A-	90-100 85-89 80-84	An A+, A, or A- is earned by work which is technically superior, shows mastery of the subject matter, and in the case of an A+ offers original insight and/or goes beyond course expectations. Normally achieved by a minority of students.
B+ B B-	77-79 73-76 70-72	A B+, B, or B- is earned by work that indicates a good comprehension of the course material, a good command of the skills needed to work with the course material, and the student's full engagement with the course requirements and activities. A B+ represents a more complex understanding and/or application of the course material. Normally achieved by the largest number of students.
C+ C	65-69 60-64	A C+ or C is earned by work that indicates an adequate comprehension of the course material and the skills needed to work with the course material and that indicates the student has met the basic requirements for completing assigned work and/or participating in class activities.
D	50-59	A D is earned by work that indicates minimal command of the course materials and/or minimal participation in class activities that is worthy of course credit toward the degree.
F	0-49	F is earned by work, which after the completion of course requirements, is inadequate and unworthy of course credit towards the degree.
N	Grade withheld	Did not write examination or otherwise complete course requirements by the end of term or session.

Important Dates:	
Tues. Jan. 17	Last day for 100% refund on dropped course
Tues. Feb. 7	Last day for 50% refund on dropped course
Feb. 13-17	Reading Break - No Class
Tues. Feb. 28	Last day for withdrawal without penalty of failure
Tues. Apr. 4	Last day of classes

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Integrity Statement:

Academic integrity is intellectual honesty and responsibility for academic work that you submit individual or group work. It involves commitment to the values of honesty, trust, and responsibility. It is expected that students will respect these ethical values in all activities related to learning, teaching, research, and service. Therefore, plagiarism and other acts against academic integrity are serious academic offences.

The responsibility of the institution

Instructors and academic units have the responsibility to ensure that standards of academic honesty are met. By doing so, the institution recognizes students for their hard work and assures them that other students do not have an unfair advantage through cheating on essays, exams, and projects.

The responsibility of the student

Plagiarism sometimes occurs due to a misunderstanding regarding the rules of academic integrity, but it is the responsibility of the student to know them. If you are unsure about the standards for citations or for referencing your sources, ask your instructor. Depending on the severity of the case, penalties include a warning, a failing grade, a record on the student's transcript, or a suspension.

It is your responsibility to understand the University's policy on academic integrity:

<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2012/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcl.html>

Diversity Statement:

UVic is committed to equity, diversity, social justice and fostering a welcoming and diverse learning, teaching and working environment. These are essential elements in achieving excellence in research and education.

As members of a diverse and dynamic learning community, we each have a role to play in creating safe, supportive, inclusive and healthy learning environments that foster mutual respect and civility, and that recognize that people are our primary strength.

Accessibility Statement:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course.

In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Resource Centre for Students with a Disability (RCSD) as soon as possible.

The RCSD staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Schedule of Readings	
Topic 1	Introduction Introductory Lecture: Kant's Philosophical Development No Reading
Topic 2	Kant's Prefaces <i>Reading:</i> i) Preface to the A-edition Avii-Axxii (G&W 99-105) ii) Preface to the B-edition Bvii-Bxliv (G&W 106-124)
Topic 3	Kant's Introduction <i>Reading:</i> B-edition Introduction B1-30 (G&W 136-152)
Topic 4	Kant's Transcendental Aesthetic – Space and Time <i>Reading:</i> B-edition Transcendental Aesthetic B33-B73 (G&W 172-192)
Topic 5	Kant's Transcendental Logic <i>Reading:</i> i) Introduction: The Idea of a Transcendental Logic A50/B74-A64/B88 (G&W 193-200) ii) Transcendental Logic – First Division: The Transcendental Analytic A64/B89-A65/B90 (G&W 201) iii) Transcendental Analytic – First Book: The Analytic of Concepts A65/B90-A66/B91 (G&W 202-203)
Topic 6	Kant's 'Metaphysical' Deduction of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding [The Categories] <i>Reading:</i> The Analytic of Concepts – First Chapter: On the Clue to the Discovery of all Pure Concepts of the Understanding [The Metaphysical Deduction] A66/B91-B116 (G&W 204-218)
Topic 7	Kant's A-edition 'Transcendental' Deduction of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding [The Categories] <i>Reading:</i> The Transcendental Analytic – Second Chapter: On the Deduction of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding A84/B116-A130 (G&W 219-244)
Topic 8	Kant's B-edition 'Transcendental' Deduction of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding [The Categories] <i>Reading:</i> Of the Deduction of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding – Second Section: Transcendental Deduction of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding B129-169 (G&W 245-266)
Topic 9	Kant's Schematism of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding [The Categories] <i>Reading:</i> i) The Transcendental Analytic – Second Book: The Analytic of Principles A131/B169-A136/B175 (G&W 267-270) ii) The Transcendental Doctrine of the Power of Judgment (or Analytic of Principles) – First Chapter: On the Schematism of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding A137/B176-A147/B187 (G&W 271-277)
Topic 10	Kant's Principle of the Pure Concepts of the Understanding [The Categories] <i>Reading:</i> Transcendental Doctrine of the Power of Judgment (or Analytic of Principles) – Second Chapter: System of all Principles of Pure Understanding A148/B187-A226/B273 (G&W 278-325)