Directed Studies: Philosophy

Spring 2021

Lectures:

Each lecture will be available on Canvas by Monday morning of the week in which the material will be discussed. Students should watch the lecture prior to the first section dealing with the relevant text(s).

Synchronous Zoom Sections:

Paul Franks TTh 1:00-2:15
Paul Grimstad TTh 11:35-12:50
Anthony Kronman TTh 2:30-3:45
Mark Maxwell TTh 11:35-12:50
Zoltan Szabo TTh 11:35-12:50
Andrew Werner TWTh 6:00-6.50

Texts:

1. René Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*, edited by John Cottingham (Cambridge)
2. Princess Elisabeth of Bohemia, selections from her correspondence with Descartes (to be distributed)
3. Leibniz, *Discourse on Metaphysics and Other Essays*, translated by Daniel Garber and Roger Ariew (Hackett)
12. Simone de Beauvoir, *Ethics of Ambiguity*, translated by Bernard Freichtman (Open Road Media)
14. Gilbert Ryle, *The Concept of Mind* (Chicago) (extract to be distributed)

**Weekly Readings and Lectures:**

**Week 1**
Lecture on Descartes: Mark Maxwell

T 2/2  Descartes, *Meditations* 1-3
Th 2/4  Descartes, *Meditations* 1-3

**Week 2**
Lecture on Descartes: Zoltan Szabo

T 2/9  Descartes, *Meditations* 4-6, Princess Elisabeth, selections from her correspondence with Descartes
Th 2/11 Descartes, *Meditations* 4-6, Princess Elisabeth, selections from her correspondence with Descartes

**Week 3**
Lecture on Leibniz and Conway: Paul Franks

T 2/16  Leibniz, *Monadology*
Th 2/18  Conway, *The Principles of the Most Ancient and Modern Philosophy*

**Week 4**
Lecture on Berkeley: Zoltan Szabo

T 2/23  Berkeley, *A Treatise concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*
Th 2/25  Berkeley, *A Treatise concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*

**Week 5**
Lecture on Hume on causality: Paul Grimstad

T 3/2  Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, sections 1-5, 7-8, 12
Th 3/4  Hume, *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, sections 1-5, 7-8, 12

**Week 6**
T 3/9 break
Lecture on Hume’s moral philosophy: Mark Maxwell

**Week 7**


Lecture on Kant's Critique: Paul Franks


**Week 8**


Lecture on Kant’s Critique: Paul Franks

Th 3/25  Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason*, opening of the Transcendental Analytic, First and Second Analogies, Refutation of Idealism, Third Antinomy plus Resolution of the cosmological idea (pp. 204-14 [up to the end of section 10]; 246-8 [section 16 only]; 299-309 [stop at A 197, before "we have representations in us, . . . "] ; 326-9 [begin at heading "Refutation of Idealism," stop at end of "Note 3"]; 484-9; 532-7 [stop before “Clarification”]; and single paragraph on top of p. 546.

**Week 9**

T 3/30  Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason*, opening of the Transcendental Analytic, First and Second Analogies, Refutation of Idealism, Third Antinomy plus Resolution of the cosmological idea (pp. 204-14 [up to the end of section 10]; 246-8 [section 16 only]; 299-309 [stop at A 197, before "we have representations in us, . . . "] ; 326-9 [begin at heading "Refutation of Idealism," stop at end of "Note 3"]; 484-9; 532-7 [stop before “Clarification”]; and single paragraph on top of p. 546.

Lecture on Kant’s moral philosophy: Anthony Kronman

Th 4/1  Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*

**Week 10**

T 4/6  Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*

Th 4/8 break

**Week 11**

Lecture on Mill: Anthony Kronman

T 4/13  Mill, *Utilitarianism*

Th 4/15  Mill, *Utilitarianism*

**Week 12**
Lecture on Kierkegaard: Andrew Werner

T 4/20 Kierkegaard, *Fear and Trembling*

Th 4/22 Kierkegaard, *Fear and Trembling*

**Week 13**

Lecture on Beauvoir: Andrew Werner

T 4/27 Beauvoir, *Ethics of Ambiguity*

Th 4/29 Beauvoir, *Ethics of Ambiguity*

**Week 14**

Lecture on Ryle and Murdoch: Paul Grimstad

T 5/4 Ryle, *Concept of Mind*, ch. 1; Murdoch, *The Sovereignty of Good*

Th 5/6 Ryle, *Concept of Mind*, ch. 1; Murdoch, *The Sovereignty of Good*