

Kant and Analytical Kantianism

Syllabus

Course Description

This course will be devoted to a study of selected portions of Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* and certain parallel episodes in twentieth-century analytic philosophy. The portions of the course devoted to Kant will focus on his views on the relation between sensibility and understanding (especially as articulated in the *Transcendental Deduction*), and those devoted to analytic philosophy will focus on how those Kantian views are inherited, articulated and transformed in the writings of certain analytic philosophers (especially Moritz Schlick, C. I. Lewis, Wilfrid Sellars, Robert Brandom, and John McDowell). The aim of the course is both to use certain central texts of analytic philosophy to illuminate some of the central aspirations of Kant's theoretical philosophy and to use certain central Kantian texts in which those aspirations were first pursued to illuminate the direction in which one central current of the analytic tradition in epistemology and philosophy of mind has been – and still is – traveling.

Prerequisites

It would be lunatic to take this as your first course in philosophy and inadvisable to take it as your first course on Kant. Some previous familiarity with both Kant and with analytic philosophy will be assumed.

Course Requirements

One seminar-length final paper.

A note on the reading assignments

Warning: Though some effort will be taken on the part of the instructor to present the material for the course in a manner that does not presuppose much prior familiarity with the assigned readings, the greater the extent to which you are able to study readings to be discussed in class in advance of the relevant class meetings, the more you are likely to get out of the course as a whole.

Required Books

The following three books are for sale at the Seminary Co-Op Bookstore and are absolutely essential texts for this course:

Immanuel Kant	<i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> (trans. Kemp Smith)	St. Martins
Wilfrid Sellars	<i>Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind</i>	Harvard Univ. Press
Clarence I. Lewis	<i>Mind and the World Order</i>	Dover

Recommended Books

The following alternative translation of the main text for the course is not on order at the Seminary Co-Op Bookstore but will occasionally be referred to in lecture:

Immanuel Kant	<i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> (trans. Guyer & Wood)	Cambridge Uni. Press
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Especially industrious students may also want to be informed in advance that the following books will come in for occasional mention and discussion in roughly the following order of importance and frequency:

Immanuel Kant	<i>Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics</i>
Immanuel Kant	<i>Jäsche Logic</i>
John McDowell	<i>Mind and World</i>
Henry Allison	<i>Kant's Transcendental Idealism</i>
Robert Brandom	<i>Making It Explicit</i>
Wilfrid Sellars	<i>Science and Metaphysics</i>
Martin Heidegger	<i>Phenomenological Interpretation of the Critique of Pure Reason</i>
Martin Heidegger	<i>Kant and the Problem of Metaphysics</i>

Other Readings

The rest of the readings for this course are available on electronic reserve at Regenstein Library. The following is a list of those readings:

- Henry Allison, "Discursivity and Judgment" (excerpt from Chapter 4 of *Kant's Transcendental Idealism*)
- Henry Allison, "Objective Validity and Objective Reality" (Chapter 7 of *Kant's Transcendental Idealism*)
- Henry Allison AReflections on the B-Deduction@
- Lewis White Beck ADid the Sage of Königsberg Have No Dreams?@
- John Haugeland (w/ James Conant and John McDowell) "The Transcendental Deduction in B – An Outline"*
- Dieter Henrich, AThe Proof-Structure of Kant=s Transcendental Deduction@
- Jaako Hintikka, "On Kant's Notion of Intuition"
- George Humphrey, *Thinking: An Introduction to its Experimental Psychology*, excerpts (pp. 225-234, 252-254, 275-276)
- Immanuel Kant, *Prolegomena*, excerpt
- Immanuel Kant, *Jäsche Logic*, excerpt
- C. I. Lewis, "Reply to Firth", excerpt (from *The Philosophy of C. I. Lewis*, ed. P. A. Schilpp)
- John McDowell, "Autonomous Subjectivity and External Constraint"*
- John McDowell, "The Apperceptive I and the Empirical Self" *
- John McDowell, "Transcendental Empiricism"*
- John McDowell, *Having the World in View: Sellars, Kant, and Intentionality*
- John McDowell, "Hegel's Idealism as Radicalization of Kant"*
- Charles Parsons, "Kant's Philosophy of Arithmetic"
- H. H. Price, *Thinking and Experience*, excerpts (pp. 7-32, 123-143, 211-231)
- Mortiz Schlick, "The Nature of Knowledge" (Part II of *Form and Content: An Introduction to Philosophical Thinking*)
- Wilfrid Sellars, ASensibility and Understanding@ (*Science and Metaphysics*, chapter 1)
- Wilfrid Sellars, ASome Remarks on Kant=s Theory of Experience@
- Wilfrid Sellars, AThe Role of the Imagination in Kant=s Theory of Experience@
- Wilfrid Sellars, AKant=s Transcendental Idealism@
- Peter Strawson, AImagination and Perception@
- Manley Thompson, ASingular Terms and Intuitions in Kant=s Epistemology@
- Ralph Walker, AThe Transcendental Deduction of the Categories@ (*Kant*, chapter
- Schedule of the course**

1st class/Oct.1: Introduction to the course

* Unpublished text. All unpublished material made available in the coursepacket or distributed at any other point in the course may be cited without special permission of the instructor only for purposes of writing a term paper for the course.

2nd class/Oct.8: A two-stage model of the relation between sensibility and understanding

Required reading: Mortiz Schlick, "The Nature of Knowledge"

3rd class/Oct.15: Two-stage interpretations of Kant

Required reading: *Critique of Pure Reason*, A1-A2,B1-B2,A19/B33-A22/B36,A50/B74-A52/B76,A68/B93-A69/B94,A319/B376-A320/B377
Allison, "Discursivity and Judgment"
Beck, "Did the Sage of Königsberg Have No Dreams?"

Recommended: Thompson, "Singular Terms and Intuitions in Kant's Epistemology"
Hintikka, "On Kant's Notion of Intuition"
Parsons, "Kant's Philosophy of Arithmetic"
Kant, *Prolegomena*, excerpt
Kant, *Jäsche Logic*, excerpt

4th class/Oct. 22: Kantian diagnoses of the common error of rationalism and empiricism

Required reading: Lewis, *Mind and the World Order*, chapters 1-3
Lewis, "Reply to Firth"

5th class/Oct. 29: A first look at the *Transcendental Deduction* and its role in the *Critique*

Required reading: *Critique of Pure Reason*, Transcendental Deduction, §13
(A84/B116 - A92/B124), §§15-27 (B129 - B169)
Allison, "Objective Validity and Objective Reality"

Recommended: *Critique of Pure Reason*, A98 – A111
Walker, "The Transcendental Deduction of the Categories"

6th class/Nov. 5: The myth of the given and its guises

Required reading: Sellars, *Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind*, §§1-8 (pp. 13-79)

7th class/Nov. 12: A closer look at the *Transcendental Deduction* in B

Required reading: Haugeland et al, "Transcendental Deduction in B – An Outline"
Henrich, "Proof-Structure of Kant's Transcendental Deduction"

Recommended: Strawson, *Imagination and Perception*
Allison, *Reflections on the B-Deduction*

8th class/Nov. 19: The battle for the soul of Sellars

Required Reading: Brandom, "Study Guide to *EPM*", pp. 119-162
McDowell, "Transcendental Empiricism"

Recommended: Sellars, *Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind*, §§9-16
Brandom, "Study Guide to *EPM*", pp. 162-181

9th class/Nov. 26: The Logical Form of an Intuition

Required reading: Sellars, "Sensibility and Understanding"
McDowell, *Having the World in View*, Lectures I & II

Recommended: Sellars, "Some Remarks on Kant's Theory of Experience"
Sellars, "The Role of the Imagination in Kant's Theory of Experience"
Sellars, "Kant's Transcendental Idealism"
McDowell, *Having the World in View*, Lecture III

10th class/Dec. 3: Understanding Kant better than he understood himself

Required reading: McDowell, "Hegel's Idealism as Radicalization of Kant"
McDowell, "Autonomous Subjectivity and External Constraint"

Recommended: McDowell, "The Apperceptive I and the Empirical Self", pp. 1-6

Highly recommended: Re-read the whole *Critique of Pure Reason*!!