

## Course Description

This course will be devoted to an intensive study of selected portions of Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*. The focus of the course will be on the *Transcendental Analytic* and especially the *Transcendental Deduction*, but some effort will be made to situate those portions of the text with respect to the *Transcendental Aesthetic* and the *Transcendental Dialectic*.

Although the focus of the course will be on Kant's text, some consideration will be given to some of the available competing interpretations of the book. The primary commentators whose work will thus figure briefly in the course in this regard are Henry Allison, Arthur Collins, Martin Heidegger, Dieter Henrich, John McDowell, Wilfrid Sellars, Peter Strawson, Manley Thompson. Our interest in these commentators in this course will always only be as a useful foil for understanding selected passages from Kant's text. No separate systematic study will be attempted of the work of any of these commentators.

## Prerequisites

There are no formal prerequisites for this course. It would be lunatic, however, to take this as your first course in philosophy: some previous exposure to philosophy is essential. No particular form of prior philosophical knowledge will be presupposed. (In particular, no previous knowledge of Kant will be presupposed.) Though some previous exposure to Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* is desirable and ought to prove advantageous.

## Course Requirements

For undergraduates: A midterm exam (20%) a final exam (30%) and a ten-page final paper (50%).

For graduate students: a final paper.

## Books

The following book is for sale at the Seminary Co-Op Bookstore and is the only absolutely essential text for this course:

<u>Author</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
Kant, Immanuel	<i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> (trans. Kemp Smith)	St. Martins

All of the remaining titles which figure on this page are mentioned in declining order of importance – all of them will be of use but none of them is essential.

The following alternative translation is also for sale at the Seminary Co-Op Bookstore and will frequently be referred to in lecture:

Kant, Immanuel	<i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> (trans. Guyer & Wood)	Cambridge
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The following three books will also come in for frequent mention in lecture and thus are highly recommended:

Collins, Arthur	<i>Possible Experience</i>	California
Strawson, Peter	<i>The Bounds of Sense</i>	Routledge
Allison, Henry	<i>Kant's Transcendental Idealism</i>	Yale

The following two books will come in for comparatively less frequent mention and thus are less highly recommended:

Sellars, Wilfrid	<i>Science and Metaphysics</i>	Ridgeview
Heidegger, Martin	<i>The Phenomenological Interpretation of the Critique of Pure Reason</i>	Indiana

The rest of the readings for this course are available in xerox form in a coursepacket for sale at the Humanities Copy Center in Classics 11. The table of contents for the coursepacket is attached to this syllabus.

## Coursepacket of supplementary readings

### Table of Contents

1. Ralph Walker, “The Transcendental Deduction of the Categories” (*Kant*, chapter VI)
2. Lewis White Beck, “Did the Sage of Königsberg Have No Dreams?”
3. Wilfrid Sellars, “Sensibility and Understanding” (*Science and Metaphysics*, chapter 1)
4. Dieter Henrich, “The Proof-Structure of Kant’s Transcendental Deduction”
5. Henry Allison, “Reflections on the B-Deduction”
6. John McDowell, *Having the World in View: Sellars, Kant, and Intentionality*
7. Manley Thompson, “Singular Terms and Intuitions in Kant’s Epistemology”
8. Peter Strawson, “Imagination and Perception”
9. David Bell, “The Art of Judgement”
10. Wilfrid Sellars, “Some Remarks on Kant’s Theory of Experience”
11. Wilfrid Sellars, “The Role of the Imagination in Kant’s Theory of Experience”
12. Wilfrid Sellars, “Kant’s Transcendental Idealism”