

Philosophy 246/346
History of Analytic Philosophy
Spring 2009

Instructor: Michael Kremer

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Silver and David will hold office hours at a time and place to be announced later.

The class meets Tuesday and Thursday, from 12:00-1:20 p.m.

Texts: The following books have been ordered for the course and are available at the Seminary Co-op: Gottlob Frege, *The Frege Reader* (ed. Michael Beaney); Bertrand Russell, *The Problems of Philosophy*; Ludwig Wittgenstein, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, and *Philosophical Investigations*; Gilbert Ryle, *The Concept of Mind*; W. DeVries and T. Triplett, *Knowledge, Mind and the Given* (contains Wilfrid Sellars, "Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind"). Most readings will be taken from these texts. Other readings will be made available through the library's e-reserve (linked to through the chalk site for the course), or through the library's electronic resources (e.g. JSTOR).

Secondary sources: This course is primary-text driven. There is a lot of reading and I do not expect students to consult secondary sources. However, some basic secondary sources may be helpful for orientation in some cases. Two on-line sources provide some very good introductory articles: the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (generally preferred) and the Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy. There are many books on the figures we will be studying, but I will not make any specific recommendations. Students can consult me if they feel the need to do further reading on any one figure.

Format: The regular classes will be primarily lecture-based. There is a lot of material to be covered in relatively little time, so clarificatory questions from the class will be accepted but long interventions will not.

There will, however, be opportunities for a more open discussion of the material in weekly discussion sections. First, there will be multiple undergraduate discussion sections, depending on enrollment. These will be led by Silver and David. Second, there will be a graduate discussion section, led by Michael Kremer. Exact arrangements for these discussion sections will be announced in second week, and the discussion sections themselves will begin to meet around the end of second week.

Students are expected to come to class prepared. You should do the assigned reading,

think seriously about it, ask yourselves questions about it, formulate possible answers to those questions, think about objections to the arguments raised, and so on, before the readings are discussed in class. You should also attend a weekly discussion section and be prepared to discuss the material at that section.

Course Objectives: You will be introduced to one of the main schools of contemporary philosophy, analytic philosophy, through reading, thinking about, discussing, and writing about classic texts in this tradition. My aim is to enable you to understand this tradition from within, grasping both the motivations that led to its development and the difficulties that it has faced and still faces. We will cover the history of analytic philosophy from its origins in the late nineteenth century until the middle of the twentieth century.

Attendance Policy: Regular attendance is required. Attendance will be recorded. If you must miss a class, please let me know in advance if at all possible. Attendance at one of the discussion sections is also mandatory and again if you must miss your section you should let me or your section leader know in advance if at all possible.

Work of the course: Undergraduates will complete two short papers (60%) and a final examination (30%). Attendance and participation in discussion sections will make up the remaining 10% of the grade. Failure to attend discussion sections or class meetings will lower your grade.

Graduate students will complete the first short paper. They may *choose* to submit a longer term paper in lieu of the second short paper and the final examination. In this case the term paper will be worth 60% of the final grade. Graduate students may also elect to write a second short paper and take the final examination.

Graduate students must inform me of their choice to write a term paper by the beginning of 8th week of the quarter.

Short papers: Two 1500-1800 word papers (approximately 6-8 pages) on assigned topics. There will be a range of topics for each paper. Due dates:

Paper 1: 4/30

Paper 2: 6/4 (Thursday in 10th week)

Term paper (graduate students only): This should be a 12-15 page paper on a topic of your choice arising from the readings of the course. It will be due on 6/4 (Thursday in 10th week).

Final examination: The final examination will be given at the time scheduled by the registrar during the exam week. It will cover the entire course and will consist of short-answer (one-two paragraphs) questions.

Grading responsibilities: Michael Kremer will grade the work of the graduate students. He will also grade the final examination for all students taking the examination (including the undergraduates).

The course assistants will grade the two short papers of the undergraduate students and will assess undergraduates' participation in discussion sections.

Policy on late work: Work is to be turned in on the assigned due date. Late work will be penalized at the rate of a half-grade per day. However, reasonable requests for extensions will be granted. Please ask for an extension before the due date.

Policy on plagiarism and intellectual honesty: Plagiarism is the unacknowledged presentation of another's thoughts or words as your own. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. For further information you should consult the book Doing Honest Work in College by C. Lipson, or the document Sources and Citations at Dartmouth College, available on-line at <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/sources/>. Informal and parenthetical citations to works covered in class are fine as long as the reference is clear.

Graduating students: Grades for students who are graduating must be turned in on the Friday of 10th week (6/5). Consequently graduating students will have to take the final examination by Thursday of 10th week at the latest, and will have to turn in their final papers by Friday of 9th week.

Tentative Syllabus:

T3/31 Introductory lecture

H4/2-T4/7: Absolute Idealism and realist reaction:

H 4/2: F.H. Bradley, "Reality and Thought," *Mind* vol. 13, no. 51 (1888), pp. 370-382 (JSTOR); additional excerpts from Bradley on the chalk site; G.E. Moore, "The Nature of Judgment," *Mind*, New Series, Vol. 8, No. 30. (Apr., 1899), pp. 176-193 (JSTOR).

T 4/7: G.E. Moore, "The Refutation of Idealism," *Mind*, New Series, Vol. 12, No. 48. (Oct., 1903), pp. 433-453 (JSTOR).

H4/9-T4/14: Logic, mathematics and language:

H 4/9: Gottlob Frege, *Begriffsschrift*, Preface; "Letter to Anton Marty, 29.8.1882;" *Foundations of Arithmetic*, Introduction, §§ 1-4, 45-63. In *The Frege Reader*, pp. 48-52; 79-83; 84-94; 98-110 (also two brief excerpts on the chalk site).

T 4/14: "On Sinn and Bedeutung," selections; "On Concept and Object." In *The Frege Reader*, pp.151-159; 171; 181-193.

Optional: "Function and Concept," in *The Frege Reader*, 130-150. (Gives a good brief introduction to Frege's logic, among other things.)

H4/16-T4/21: Analysis and atomism:

H 4/16: Gottlob Frege, "On Sinn and Bedeutung," in *The Frege Reader*, 162-164 (discussion of Kepler example); Bertrand Russell, "On Denoting," *Mind*, New Series, Vol. 14, No. 56. (Oct., 1905), pp. 479-493 (JSTOR); also brief quotations on chalk site.

T 4/21: Bertrand Russell, *The Problems of Philosophy*, chapters IV, V, and XII (link on chalk); "The Relation of Sense-Data to Physics," excerpt (e-reserve via chalk).

H4/23-T4/28: Early Wittgenstein: Ludwig Wittgenstein, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*; also brief quotations and excerpts on chalk. (See instructions on chalk for reading for 4/23.)

H4/30-T5/5: Logical Positivism:

H 4/30 Hahn, Neurath, and Carnap, "The Scientific Conception of the World: the Vienna Circle;" Moritz Schlick, "The Turning Point in Philosophy," "The Foundation of Knowledge" (all on e-reserve via chalk); also very brief quotations on chalk site.

T 5/5: Rudolf Carnap, "On the Character of Philosophic Problems," *Philosophy of Science* 1 (1934), 5-19 (in JSTOR); brief quotations from *Logical Syntax of Language* (chalk); "Empiricism, Semantics and Ontology"(on e-reserve via chalk).

H5/7-T5/12: Language-games: Ludwig Wittgenstein, *Philosophical Investigations*, Preface, §§1-142.

H5/14-T5/19: Descartes's Myth:

H 5/14 Gilbert Ryle, *The Concept of Mind*, Introduction, Chapter 1, Chapter 2, sections 1-4, 6-8, 10, Chapter 5, sections 1-2.

T 5/19 Gilbert Ryle, *The Concept of Mind*, Chapter 5, section 4, Chapter 6, sections 1-2, 4, Chapter 10.

H5/21-T5/26: Two Dogmas and the Museum Myth:

H 5/21 W.V.O. Quine, "Two Dogmas of Empiricism" (on e-reserve via chalk)

T 5/26 Rudolf Carnap, "Quine on Logical Truth" (on e-reserve via chalk); H. P. Grice and P. Strawson, "In Defense of a Dogma," *The Philosophical Review* 65 (1956), 141-158 (JSTOR); W.V.O. Quine, "Ontological Relativity," part I, pp. 26-39 (on e-reserve via chalk).

H5/28-T6/2: The Myth of the Given and the Myth of Jones:

H 5/28 Wilfrid Sellars, "Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind," sections I-VIII in DeVries and Triplett, *Knowledge, Mind and the Given*, pp. 205-250.

T6/2 Wilfrid Sellars, "Empiricism and the Philosophy of Mind," sections IX-XVI, in DeVries and Triplett, *Knowledge, Mind and the Given*, pp. 250-276.