

PHIL*3080-01

HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY FROM KANT [0.50]

Instructor: Dr. J. Mitscherling

Brief Course Synopsis:

As it is described in the Calendar, this course is intended to familiarize students with major philosophers and philosophical texts from the time of Kant to the end of the nineteenth century. This year, however, instead of dealing with several philosophers, we shall instead focus on only two: Immanuel Kant (1724-1804), whose *Critical Philosophy* marked a turning point for both modern and contemporary thought, and G.W.F. Hegel (1770-1831), whose systematic articulation of Absolute Idealism is commonly regarded as the culmination of the entire period we generally refer to as 'modern philosophy'.

TEXTBOOKS:

- Immanuel Kant, *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*, tr. Lewis White Beck (Upper Saddle River: Prentice-Hall, 1997).
- G.W.F. Hegel, *Hegel's Logic*, tr. William Wallace (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1975).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION:

(1) 15 written assignments = 60%

These assignments are basically homework. The students are required to submit, at the beginning of the class, a brief summary of the portions of the text that will be covered in class on that day. Each assignment will be worth a maximum possible 4 points (with each point equaling 1% of the maximum possible 100% for the entire course).

Note: As these texts are quite difficult, the student can expect to spend at least 4-5 hours on each assignment.

(2) take-home final exam = 40%

The final exam will take the form of short essay answers to two questions the student will choose from a set of questions that will be provided by the instructor. Each answer will be about 2,000 words, or roughly 4-5 pages, in length.

PREREQUISITE(S): 1.50 credits in Philosophy