***PHIL2160\*01:***

***Modern European Philosophy to Hume***

**Instructor:** Kimberly Baltzer-Jaray

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**Office:** MACK 339

**Office Hours:** M, 11:30pm – 12:30pm (or by appointment)

**Lecture:** MWF, 10:30am - 11:20pm in MACK 226

**Course Overview and Objectives:**

This course is designed to introduce students to the figures and ideas that laid the foundation for philosophy today. This course will provide an historical, theoretical, and critical introduction to the 17th and 18th century philosophers and the movements known as Rationalism (Bacon, Descartes, Spinoza), and Empiricism (Locke, Berkeley, Hume), and also touch on Skepticism. Special attention will be given to the developments of metaphysics and epistemology, developments that occurred alongside the rise of science. The course is designed to provide students with: (1) an in-depth understanding of the philosophical movements of Rationalism and Empiricism through their respective cultural and historical contexts, (2) a clear picture of the philosophical problems each figure was faced with and how, through various methods, they solved such problems, (3) an in-depth understanding of core terminology and concepts, and finally, (4) an in-depth understanding of how the 17th and 18th century philosophers have impacted the current philosophical movements.

**Assignments and Evaluation:**

1. Mid-Term Exam, 35% of final grade

2. Short Written Assignment, worth 20% of final grade

3. Take-Home Final Essay, worth 45% of the final grade

**Required Texts:**

David Hume. *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*. New York: Dover Publications, 2004.

A free downloadable copy of Hume’s text is available at: <http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/9662>

**\*\*\*Readings other than the required Hume text will be online PDFs, the links to the downloadable texts will be provided in Courselink. I will also list them below in the itinerary. Exact pages required for reading will be assigned in class.**

**Reading Itinerary** (tentative):

Francis Bacon (Aph. 1 – 60) – New Organon, Bk1 <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/pdfbits/bacno1.pdf>

René Descartes - <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/pdf/descmedi.pdf>

Princess Elizabeth of Bohemia - <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/pdf/descelis.pdf>

Baruch Spinoza - <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/pdf/spinethi.pdf>

Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz – (PDF) and <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/pdf/leibmona.pdf>

John Locke - <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/loess.html>

George Berkeley - <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/pdf/berkprin.pdf>

Francois Marie Arouet (Voltaire) – <http://history.hanover.edu/texts/voltaire/volindex.html>

Emilie Du Châtelet – (PDF)

Thomas Reid - <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/reip.html>

**Important Dates:**

MIDTERM EXAM – February 15, 2013, written in Class

SHORT WRITTEN ASSIGMENT – March 22, 2013, due in Class

FINAL ESSAY – Submitted by April 12th, 2013, to my office

**Essay Guidelines:**

1. 1500-2000 words, no more than 2080.
2. Format: Double-spaced, typed, 12-point Times New Roman font, numbered pages.
3. Footnotes: I prefer Chicago-Style, but really any style will do as long as you are consistent.
4. Subject: I will post three essay topics on WebCT on or by March 5 from which you will chose one to answer. The essay is intended to be one of critical analysis, not an expository report. This requires you to combine creativity and scholarship, i.e. both attentiveness to the text and a personal response of your own. Make sure that you **briefly** summarize the theory of your chosen philosopher, to inform your audience of what you are lending your critical eye to. Be sure to also consider objections to your views by commentators, or how the author would reply to your comments, and formulate appropriate replies to these as well or show that you have considered them. The more challenging you make these issues, the better: treating answers as obvious is not worth as much as seeing how they are controversial. If appropriate, you may also choose the compare and contrast approach, between two different philosophers. You are graded on content and style, so please be creative, write clearly, and exercise good grammar. You will be docked for poor grammar if it affects the clarity of the paper.
5. Sources: Primary sources are always best – either the selections from class readins or the philosopher’s full-length text are considered primary sources. Secondary sources by a commentator are permitted but should be kept to an absolute minimum. This essay is designed to test **Your** creative and critical thinking abilities, not a published author’s.
6. Cover: Include a cover page with essentials – name, student ID, course code, date, title, etc..
7. Late Penalty: Late final essays are not permitted, and if your essay is late the mark is automatically 0. This essay is essentially a final exam. The only exception is if you are ill or have a medical reason (and documentation) for being late, and if this situation should arise we arrange for an alternative submission date and time. If handing in your paper outside of office hours, please have it put in my mailbox by one of the department administrative assistants and email me that you have done so.

**8 Standard Statements of the College of Arts**

**Winter 2013**

**E-mail Communication**

As per University regulations, all students are required to check their **uoguelph.ca** e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the university and its students.

**When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement**

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, ID#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:

http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml

**Drop Date**

The last date to drop one-semester **Winter 2013** courses, without academic penalty, is **Friday, March 8, 2013.** For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar: http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml

**Copies of out-of-class assignments**

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Each student at the University of Guelph has rights which carry commensurate responsibilities which, broadly, being a civil and respectful member of the University community. The Rights and Responsibilities are detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar: http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c14/c14-strightsrespon.shtml

**Academic Misconduct**

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and enjoins all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml

**Recording of Materials**

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded in any electronic media without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer.

**Resources**

The Undergraduate Calendar is the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate programs. It can be found at:

http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/

If you find yourself in difficulty, contact the undergraduate advisor in your program, or the BA Counseling Office: http://www.uoguelph.ca/baco/contact.shtml