



PHIL*3100 Kant and His Legacy

Winter 2021

Section(s): C01

Department of Philosophy

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 3.00 - January 11, 2021

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This course offers an in-depth study of the philosophy of Immanuel Kant, one of the most influential figures in the history of philosophy. The course will include study of one or more of his major works. Kant's works may be studied on their own, or in conjunction with the study of works of later philosophers who were significantly influenced by Kant's philosophical ideas.

Pre-Requisites: 1.50 credits in Philosophy or 7.50 credits

Restrictions: PHIL*3080, PHIL*3090

1.2 Course Description

Kant's most important legacy is his three Critiques – the *Critique of Pure Reason* which set epistemology or theory of knowledge on a new basis, the *Critique of Practical Reason* which introduced the concept of the Categorical Imperative into ethics, and the *Critique of Judgment* which is a seminal work on the philosophy of beauty, art, and teleological thinking.

- The *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics* is Kant's distillation of the first Critique into a condensed and more accessible form, and it is in this form that we'll be studying his theory of knowledge in class. There will be a midterm on it when we're finished.
- The *Grounding for the Metaphysic of Morals* is a prefiguring of the second Critique, and will be the subject of your essays.
- The third Critique, the *Critique of Judgment* we will study in class after the *Prolegomena*. It will be the subject of the final exam.

1.3 Timetable

Monday and Wednesday 4:00-5:20 on Zoom. the sessions will be recorded and available after class. The course homepage tells you how to access the meetings and recordings.

Timetable is subject to change. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

1.4 Final Exam

The final exam will be a take-home exam. I'll send it to you April 21 and it will be due at the end of the day April 24..

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor: Kenneth Dorter
Email: kdorter@uoguelph.ca
Telephone: +1-519-824-4120 x53218
Office: MCKN 353

Office Hours: You can email me any time, or we can arrange to meet on Zoom.

2.2 Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistant: Will Valliere
Email: rvallier@uoguelph.ca

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Prolegomena (Textbook)

Kant, *Prolegomena to any Future Metaphysics*, second edition (Hackett ISBN 0-87220-593-2)

Critique of Judgment (Textbook)

Kant, *Critique of Judgment* (Hackett ISBN 13:978-0-87220-025-8)

Metaphysics of Morals (Textbook)

Kant, *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals* (Hackett ISBN 13:978-0-87220-166-8).

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Understand the philosophy of Immanuel Kant
 2. Understand problems associated with metaphysics
 3. Understand problems associated with ethics
 4. Understand problems associated with aesthetics
 5. Be able to write clear and coherent philosophical essays
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5 Teaching and Learning Activities

Dates will depend on class discussion. I'll let you know by email when we move on to the next reading.

5.1 Lecture

Topics:

Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics:

1. 1-22 (Preface, Preamble §1-5)
2. 23-34 (First Part §6-13)
3. 35-68 (Second Part §14-44)
4. 68-91 (§45-57)
5. 91-104 (§58, Solution of the General Question)
6. 105-122 (Appendix, Supplement)

Topics:

Critique of Judgment:

1. 43-53 (§1-5)

- 2.** 53-64 (§6-9)
- 3.** 64-84 (§10-17)
- 4.** 85-95 (§18-22)
- 5.** 97-117 (§23-27)
- 6.** 119-140 (§28-29)
- 7.** 141-156 (§30-38)
- 8.** 157-171 (§39-43)
- 9.** 172-189 (§44-50)
- 10.** 189-207 (§51-54)
- 11.** 209-220 (§55-57)
- 12.** 220-232 (§58-60)
- 13.** 235-247 (§61-63)
- 14.** 248-264 (§64-68)
- 15.** 265-279 (§69-74)
- 16.** 280-300 (§75-78)

6 Assessments

6.1 Assessment Details

Midterm exam (30%)

Date: Mon, Feb 22 - Thu, Feb 25, 11:59 PM

There will be a take-home midterm exam on Kant's *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*, distributed Feb. 22, due Feb. 25 by 11:59 pm in the dropbox.

Essay (30%)

A (minimum) 2500 word essay on Kant's *Grounding for the Metaphysic of Morals*, submitted to the Turnitin dropbox on Courselink. It should be a general discussion, like a book review, but since the main discussion in the book is the categorical imperative, that should be your main focus too. The due date is March 15. One mark (out of 100) will be deducted for each day late. There is a sample essay on Courselink.

Final Exam (40%)

The final exam will be a take-home exam composed of essay questions about the *Critique of Judgment*, chosen by me from a list of study questions handed out at the final class. I'll send you the exam April 21 and it will be due at the end of the day April 24.

6.2 Essay Guidelines

Note: All essays must be submitted to the Turnitin dropbox on Courselink.

1. **Deadline:** Monday, March 15th. Late essays will be penalized one mark (out of 100) per day. No essay will be accepted after **9 a.m.** the day the take-home final exam is due. Students won't normally be required to answer questions about their essay, but may in some cases. After the last class meeting I'll email you if any questions arise, so check your email daily since I won't be able to grade it if I can't reach you.

2. **Content.** Combine scholarship and creativity, i.e. both attentiveness to the text and a personal response of your own. Your creativity can take the form of considering objections to Kant's views and how Kant might reply to them; explain why you think Kant can or cannot withstand the criticisms. The more challenging you can make these issues, the better: treating answers as obvious isn't worth as much as seeing how they are controversial and difficult.

3. **Format.** The five paragraph model you learned in high school was training wheels to teach discipline. People don't really write essays like that. Just organize your ideas to be as clear as possible. Use double spaced full sized font (12 point). Also use page numbers. 2500 words is the minimum length. **Essays may be longer if justified by the content.**

4. **Style.** Use "I" rather than awkward and outdated circumlocutions like "the author." And use inclusive language like "humankind" instead of "mankind", "people ... they" instead of "a person ... he." Other possibilities: "he or she", "she or he", "s/he", etc.

5. References. Give references to all information and ideas taken from someone else, even if they aren't direct quotations. Otherwise it may be plagiarism (when in doubt ask). Listing your sources in a bibliography isn't enough since it doesn't show where you make use of them. References should list the **author that you're citing** first. For example, if you use a book called John Green (editor), *The Philosophy of Kant*, and your reference is to something Kant wrote, it should say, "Kant, Green 12" (**you must give page numbers**), not "Green 12". If you use the latter format I'll assume you're citing only a secondary source (what John Green wrote). The bibliography should give the complete title and publication data of the book.

There is a sample essay on Courselink.

7 University Statements

7.1 Email Communication

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

7.2 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. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

7.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

7.4 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.

7.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website

<https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

7.6 Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of 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. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse

students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

7.7 Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

7.8 Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

7.9 Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

7.10 Illness

The University will not normally require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for fall 2020 or winter 2021 semester courses. However, requests for Academic Consideration may still require medical documentation as appropriate.
