

Spring 2021
17th and 18th Century Philosophy
Philosophy 326—01

Professor:

Charles Joshua Horn, Ph.D.

Joshua.Horn@uwsp.edu

Individual Office Hours: Tuesday, 10:00am—11:00am, Friday, 9:00am—10:00am; By Appointment

<http://charlesjhorn.webstarts.com/index.html>

Course Information:

Asynchronous and Fully Online, Administered on Canvas

Course Description:

This course will examine some of the most important metaphysical and epistemological questions prevalent during the 17th and 18th century. We will focus on differing conceptions of substance, the limits of knowledge, the existence of God, the nature of the self, the relationship between the mind and body, and the notions of causality, space, and time. We will devote the vast majority of our attention to several major figures in this period including Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, and Kant. Less time will be spent examining some “minor” figures such as Montaigne, Bacon, Malebranche, Newton, and Reid.

Text:**Rental:**

1. *Modern Philosophy: An Anthology of Primary Sources (3rd Ed.)*
Eds. Roger Ariew and Eric Watkins
Hackett Publishing
ISBN: 978-1624668050

Course Goals:

By carefully examining metaphysics and epistemology in modern philosophy, students will develop critical thinking skills by engaging, analyzing, and evaluating texts in order to write well, speak articulately, and argue persuasively.

Critical Thinking is purposeful, reflective reasoning about what conclusions to draw or actions to take. With diligent effort on their part, students will:

1. Recognize critical thinking as a process of identifying, analyzing, evaluation, and constructing reasoning in deciding what conclusions to draw or actions to take.
2. Construct reasoning as it applies to philosophical questions and issues.

Expectations:

Students are expected to check into Canvas daily in order to check for class announcements, complete assignments, use the discussion board, etc. Please follow the checklist to best increase the chances for success in the class.

1. All assignments are set on a weekly schedule. Be sure to complete the reading assignment, quizzes, essays, and exams during the week specified on the course schedule.
2. In order to provide maximum flexibility to student schedules, all lectures have been pre-recorded and uploaded to Canvas. Please do not share these with anyone outside of the class. See the “Intellectual Property Notice” in the syllabus.
3. Take advantage of individual office hours. See Canvas “Announcements” tab for full invitation URL and password to join. Please note that a waiting room is enabled so you may have to wait to join in case I am with another student.

Grading Criteria:

Late work will never be accepted unless an extension has been granted by Dr. Horn prior to the due date or a university approved excuse is given. Late work must be complete within one week of returning to the class. Extensions will only be granted in extreme circumstances. Additionally, this course will utilize the Canvas online system to facilitate certain aspects of the class.

Canvas will automatically calculate and update grades as the semester progresses. To calculate your grade, take your score in the “Total” column on Canvas and divide by 100. Then use the scale below. The goal for the class is to try to earn as many points as possible. Any points earned over these 100 points will count as extra credit. Assignments can be completed at any point during the week they are assigned (Sunday—Saturday).

- 1) Two Exams: 40 Points Total (20 Points Each)
 - a) Exams will be constituted by short answer questions.
- 2) 20 Reading Quizzes: 40 Points Total (2 Points Each)
 - a) There are quizzes associated with most of the readings in the class. Students will have 5 minutes to answer questions on the readings designated on the course schedule (look for Q# on the schedule to see which quiz is associated with each reading). Students will have 5 minutes to answer questions on each reading. Since there are *more* than 20 readings, students can earn *more* than the 20 points total.
- 3) One Essay 20 Points Total (20 Points Each)
 - a) The final essay must be submitted to Canvas by May 22, 2021 by 11:59pm. Essays turned in after the deadline will *not* be accepted. The essay should be between 1,250—1,750 words (5—7 pages). Additional requirements will be provided on the prompt.
- 4) One “Philosophy at UWSP” Quiz 5 Points Total (5 Points Each)
 - a) There will be a short quiz on the advantages of studying philosophy at UWSP!

Final grades in the course will be based on the following scale.

| “Pass” Range | | | “Fail” Range | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| (70—100 Points) | | | (<70 Points) | |
| “A” Range | “B” Range | “C” Range | “D” Range | “F” Range |
| | B+ (87—89) | C+ (77—79) | D+ (67—69) | F (<60) |
| A (94—100) | B (84—86) | C (74—76) | D (60—66) | |
| A- (90—93) | B- (80—83) | C- (70—73) | | |

Academic Integrity:

Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism or helping others to commit these acts will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty will result in severe disciplinary action including, but not limited to, failure of the student assessment item or course, and/or dismissal from the University.

Academic integrity violations include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise. This definition includes unauthorized communication of information during an academic exercise.
- 2) Fabrication and Falsification: Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.
- 3) Multiple Submissions: The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work for credit (including oral reports) more than once without authorization.
- 4) Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one’s own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source). The sole exception to the requirement is when the ideas, information, etc., is common knowledge.
- 5) Complicity in Academic Dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>

Disability Information:

Students with disabilities should register with the ADA coordinator on campus and let me know at the beginning of the semester. I would be happy to accommodate you in any way that I can. Just let me know. More information can be found at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADA/rightsADAPolicyInfo.pdf>

Intellectual Property Notice:

Lecture materials and recordings for Philosophy 326 are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

Course Schedule:**PREFACE TO A REVOLUTION**

| | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| Week 1 | (January 24—January 30) Syllabus/Course Introduction Teleology and the Scholastic Tradition | |
|---------------|--|--|

THE FATHER OF MODERN PHILOSOPHY

| | | |
|---------------|--|--------------|
| Week 2 | (January 31—February 6) | |
| | Q1 Descartes, Discourse on Method 1, 2, 5 | 25—34 |
| | Descartes, Meditations I—II | 35—47 |
| Week 3 | (February 7—February 13) | |
| | Q2 Descartes, Meditations III—V | 47—61 |
| | Q3 Descartes, Meditations VI, Objections and Replies | 61—68, 76—92 |

THE MOST DANGEROUS PHILOSOPHER

| | | |
|---------------|---|---------|
| Week 4 | (February 14—February 20) | |
| | Q4 Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part I | 172—183 |
| | Q5 Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part I | 183—192 |
| Week 5 | (February 21—February 27) | |
| | Q6 Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part II | 192—215 |
| | Q7 Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part V | 216—223 |

THE ECLECTIC COURTIER

| | | |
|---------------|--|---------|
| Week 6 | (February 28—March 6) | |
| | Q8 Leibniz, <i>Primary Truths</i> | 293—296 |
| | Q9 Leibniz, <i>Discourse on Metaphysics</i> | 252—275 |
| Week 7 | (March 7—March 13) | |
| | Q10 Leibniz, <i>A New System of Nature, Monadology</i> | 297—311 |
| | Q11 Leibniz, <i>Correspondence with Clarke</i> | 322—331 |

EXAM I

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Week 8 | (March 14—March 20) Exam I Review Exam I | |
|---------------|---|--|

| | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| Week 9 | (March 21—March 27) Spring Break | |
|---------------|--|--|

THE CLASSICAL EMPIRICIST

| | | |
|----------------|--|---------|
| Week 10 | (March 28—April 3) | |
| | Q12 Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> | 346—352 |
| | Leibniz, <i>Preface to the New Essays</i> | 463—474 |
| | Q13 Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> | 352—378 |
| Week 11 | (April 4—April 10) | |
| | Q14 Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> | 378—406 |

COMMON SENSE UNDONE

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|---------|
| Week 12 | (April 11—April 17) | | |
| | Q15 | Berkeley, <i>Principles of Human Knowledge</i> Preface, Introduction, Part I Section 1—33 | 478—493 |
| | Q16 | Berkeley, <i>Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous</i> | 494—543 |

THE UNRELENTING SKEPTIC

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|---|---------|
| Week 13 | (April 18—April 24) | | |
| | Q17 | Hume, <i>Treatise of Human Nature</i> , Introduction, I.4.5—6 | 563—577 |
| | Q18 | Hume, <i>An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding</i> | 584—602 |
| | Q19 | Hume, <i>An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding</i> | 623—638 |

EXAM II

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|--|
| Week 14 | (April 25—May 1) | | |
| | | Exam II Review | |
| | | Exam II | |

THE NEW REVOLUTION

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|---|---------|
| Week 15 | (May 2—May 8) | | |
| | Q20 | Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Preface and Introduction | 775—788 |
| | Q21 | Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Transcendental Aesthetic | 788—795 |
| Week 16 | (May 9—May 15) | | |
| | Q22 | Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Analytic of Concepts, Principles | 795—814 |
| | Q23 | Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Transcendental Dialectic | 846—858 |

WRAP UP

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Week 17 | (May 16—May 22) | | |
| | | Final Essay Preparation | |
| | | “Philosophy at UWSP” Quiz | |
| | | Course Evaluations | |