

Spring 2023
17th and 18th Century Philosophy
Philosophy 326—01

Professor:

Charles Joshua Horn, Ph.D.

Joshua.Horn@uwsp.edu

Office Location: CCC 418

Drop-In Hours: TR, 9:00am—9:30am; MW, 11:00am—12:00pm; By Appointment

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

Course Information:

Class Time: TR, 11:00am—12:15pm

Class Location: CCC 226

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, Elisabeth of Bohemia, Spinoza, Leibniz, Conway, Locke, Cavendish, Berkeley, Hume, and Kant. Less time will be spent examining some “minor” figures such as Montaigne, Bacon, Malebranche, Newton, and Reid. The overarching theme of the class will be how and whether these figures attempted to reconcile the new sciences with views in classical theism.

Text:Rental:

1. *Modern Philosophy: An Anthology of Primary Sources (3rd Ed.)*
Eds. Roger Ariew and Eric Watkins
Hackett Publishing
ISBN: 978-1624668050
2. *Correspondence Between Princess Elisabeth of Bohemia and Rene Descartes*
Elisabeth of Bohemia and Rene Descartes
University of Chicago Press
ISBN: 978-0226204420
3. *Philosophical Letters*
Margaret Cavendish
Hackett Publishing
ISBN: 978-1-62466-973-6
4. *Principles of the Most Ancient and Modern Philosophy*
Anne Conway
Cambridge University Press
ISBN: 9780521479042

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.

Expectations:

Students are expected to check into Canvas daily in order to check for class announcements, complete assignments, use the discussion board, etc. Students are expected to attend every class and remain for the entire time. Do not come late or leave early. Students must complete the necessary readings prior to class and be prepared for discussion and participation. Students will treat other students with respect. This means turning off all electrical equipment, including cell phones, laptops, and tablets. Students must also address their peers in a respectful tone. It is important to note that the nature of this class will inevitably result in disagreements among colleagues; however, it is essential to maintain respect toward one another despite disagreement.

Please follow the checklist to best increase the chances for success in the class.

1. All quizzes are set on a weekly schedule (Sunday—Saturday) and they can be submitted at any point during this period. Be sure to complete all assignments (except the Final Exam) during the week specified on the course schedule.
2. Take advantage of office hours. There are in-person office hours, as well as virtual office hours on Zoom. 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:

To provide a great deal of flexibility for students, assignments can be submitted at any point during the week that they are due (Sunday—Saturday). Assignments may be completed beyond the due dates for both unexcused and excused absences. For unexcused absences, a late penalty may be imposed. Late work must be complete within one week of the assignment due date.

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) Three Exams: 60 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 25 quizzes, students can earn up to 10 extra credit points.

- 3) 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!

- 4) One Extra Credit Essay 5 Points Total (5 Points Each)
 - a) Students may submit an essay on *Debates in Modern Philosophy*. The prompt and all the readings can be found on Canvas.

- 5) Engagement

Engagement comes in many forms. I reserve the right to raise or lower final grades up to 10 points based on engagement, meaning that it is also possible for engagement points to remain at 0. There is no hard and fast rule for raising or lowering the 10 points. While the grade is subjective, it is not arbitrary. Taken together, engagement includes, but is not limited to:

 - a) Preparation: reviewing readings and materials before class.
 - b) Focus: avoiding distractions during class.
 - c) Presence: responsive during class.
 - d) Asking Questions: in class, out of class, on the discussion board, through email, etc.
 - e) Listening: hearing what others say, and what they are not saying.
 - f) Specificity: referring to specific ideas from readings and discussions.
 - g) Synthesis: making connections between readings and discussions.

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

“Pass” Range			“Fail” Range	
(70—100 Points)				

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/RightsRespos/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/RightsRespos/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:**UNIT I: CONTINENTAL RATIONALISM**

Week 1		(January 22—January 28)	
January 24		Syllabus/Course Introduction	
		Teleology and the Scholastic Tradition	
January 26	Q1	Descartes, Discourse on Method 1, 2, 5	25—34
		Descartes, Meditation I	40—43
Online Tasks		Q1	
Week 2		(January 29—February 4)	
January 31	Q2	Descartes, Meditations II—III	43—54
February 2	Q3	Descartes, Meditations IV—V	54—61
Online Tasks		Q2, Q3	
Week 3		(February 5—February 11)	
February 7	Q4	Descartes, Meditations VI, Objections and Replies	61—68, 76—92
February 9	Q5	Cavendish, Section 1, Letter 30, 35, 36	62—65, 70—72
		Descartes and Elisabeth Correspondence,	61—73, 114—132
Online Tasks		Q4, Q5	
Week 4		(February 12—February 18)	
February 14	Q6	Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part I	172—183
February 16	Q7	Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part I	183—192
Online Tasks		Q6, Q7	
Week 5		(February 19—February 25)	
February 21	Q8	Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part II	192—215
February 23		No Class	
Online Tasks		Q8	
Week 6		(February 26—March 4)	
February 28	Q9	Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part V	216—223
		Conway, Chapters VIII, IX	
March 2	Q10	Leibniz, <i>Primary Truths</i>	293—296
Online Tasks		Q9, Q10	
Week 7		(March 5—March 11)	
March 7	Q11	Leibniz, <i>Discourse on Metaphysics</i>	252—275
	Q12	Leibniz, <i>A New System of Nature, Monadology</i>	297—311
March 9	Q13	Lady Masham and Leibniz, Correspondence	452—462
Online Tasks		Q11, Q12, Q13	
Week 8		(March 12—March 18)	
March 14	Q14	Leibniz, <i>Correspondence with Clarke</i>	322—331
March 16		Exam I Review	
Online Tasks		Q14, Exam I	
		(March 19—March 25)	
		Spring Break	

UNIT II: BRITISH EMPIRICISM

Week 9		(March 26—April 1)	
March 28	Q15	Conway, <i>Principles</i> , Chapter VI, VII	28—56
March 30	Q16	Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> Leibniz, <i>Preface to the New Essays</i>	346—352 463—474
Online Tasks		Q15, Q16	
Week 10		(April 2—April 8)	
April 4	Q17	Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i>	352—378
April 6	Q18	Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i>	378—406
Online Tasks		Q17, Q18	
Week 11		(April 9—April 15)	
April 11	Q19	Berkeley, <i>Principles of Human Knowledge</i> Preface, Introduction, Part I Section 1—33	478—493
April 13		Berkeley, <i>Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous</i>	494—543
Online Tasks		Q19	
Week 12		(April 16—April 22)	
April 18	Q20	Hume, <i>Treatise of Human Nature</i> , Introduction, I.4.5—6	563—577
April 20	Q21	Hume, <i>An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding</i>	584—602
Online Tasks		Q20, Q21	
Week 13		(April 23—April 29)	
April 25	Q22	Hume, <i>An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding</i>	623—638
April 27		Exam II Review	
Online Tasks		Exam II	

UNIT III: KANT'S COPERNICAN REVOLUTION

Week 14		(April 30—May 6)	
May 2	Q23	Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Preface and Introduction	775—788
May 4	Q24	Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Transcendental Aesthetic	788—795
Online Tasks		Q23	
Week 15		(May 7—May 13)	
May 9		Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Analytic of Concepts, Principles	795—814
May 11	Q25	Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Transcendental Dialectic	846—858
Online Tasks		Q24, Q25	

FINALS WEEK

Week 16		(May 14—May 20)	
Online Tasks		“Philosophy at UWSP” Quiz Extra Credit Essay Course Evaluations Final Exam Due— (Complete on Canvas, 5/17/2023 from 8:00am—10:00am)	