

Spring 2-1-2003

PHIL 453.01: Kant

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KANT

(1) INTENT OF THE COURSE

The intent of the course is to provide students with a thorough knowledge of Kant's Critique of Pure Reason and of its philosophical and cultural contexts. In addition students' knowledge of Kantian ethics will be extended into Kant's social and international ethics.

(2) TEXTS

Brittan, Kant's Theory of Science (Fac-Pac)
Kant, Critique of Pure Reason
Kant, On the Proverb (Fac-Pac)

(3) TEXTS ON RESERVE IN THE MANSFIELD LIBRARY

Cambridge Companion to Kant
Gram, ed., Kant: Disputed Questions
Höffe, Immanuel Kant
Kant: A Collection of Critical Essays
Kleingeld, "The Problematic Status of Gender-Neutral Language"
(also on ERes)
Wolff, ed. Kant
Zoeller, "Main Developments in Recent Scholarship on the Critique of Pure Reason" (also on ERes)

We will read the Critique from January 30 till roughly April 22 and On the Proverb from April 24 through May 8. On the Tuesdays of February 4 through April 1, we will use the first part of each session to discuss one chapter each of Kant's Theory of Science.

(4) REQUIREMENTS

a. Classroom Participation (30% of course grade)

It will be your obligation to show through participation in the classroom discussion that you are keeping up with the reading assignments and are in command of the material presented in class. It will be my obligation to make everyone feel welcome and encouraged to participate.

b. In-Class Examinations

There will be three in-class examinations on
February 25,
April 8, and
May 15, the day of the final, at 8:00 a.m.

Each exam will count for 10% of the course grade and consist of four course content questions and one essay question on the course material of the preceding third of the semester.

c. Term Paper (40% of course grade)

The term paper should confront a topic of personal and general significance with appropriate themes in Kant, the goal being the mutual illumination of that topic and of Kant's thought. Please formulate a topic of your own and submit a draft that will be subject to revision. I will be glad to assist in the selection and formulation of the topic.

Undergraduates should aim at a paper of roughly 2500 words (10 pp.). Secondary material is neither required nor encouraged. The emphasis must be on independent reflection.

Graduates should write a paper of about 4000 words (16 pp.). Here too the emphasis is on original reflection. But there should also be consideration of at least some pieces of Kant scholarship: one or more books, chapters of a book, or articles. An oral report on that piece should be given in class. The report should be about ten minutes in length, giving an exposition and critique of the author's thesis.

The papers must be typewritten, double-spaced, paginated, paper-clipped, the notes at the end of the paper; no outline or bibliography. Follow any of the standard styles and formats.

Draft due: April 1

Final version due: May 6

(5) NOTE

February 14 is the last day to add or drop classes by CyberBear.
March 10 is the last day to drop classes or change the grading option (by paper form).

Office Hours: MWF 8:10-9:00 a.m. or by appointment in LA 149.

Phone and messages: 243-2792

E-mail: borgmann@selway.umt.edu

If you have a disability, please let me know so that we can provide accommodation.