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### PHL 464.01: 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 contemporary cultural significance, for the relation of physics and metaphysics in particular. 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 (coursepac)

Kant, Critique of Pure Reason (Cambridge ed.)

Kant, On the Proverb (coursepac)

### (3) TEXTS ON RESERVE IN THE MANSFIELD LIBRARY

Cambridge Companion to Kant

Gram, ed., Kant: Disputed Questions

Höffe, Immanuel Kant

Wolff, ed., Kant: A Collection of Critical Essays

Kleingeld, "The Problematic Status of Gender-Neutral Language" (also on ERes)

Zoeller, "Main Developments in Recent Scholarship on the Critique of Pure Reason" (also on ERes)

We will read the Critique from August 29 till roughly October 31 and On the Proverb from November 5 through November 21. The remaining sessions will be devoted to graduate student presentations. On the Tuesdays of September 3 through October 22, 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 (one third 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. In particular, everyone is to take careful notes and, when called on, to present, on the basis of those notes, a ten-minute summary of the preceding session's main points. It will be my obligation to make everyone feel welcome and encouraged to participate.

#### b. In-Class Examinations (one third of course grade)

There will be three in-class examinations --October 1, November 5, and on the day of the final, Thursday, December 12, at 10:10 am. Each exam will count for a ninth 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 (one third 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 an outline by October 15. 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 3000 words (12 pp.). Here too the emphasis is on original reflection. But there should also be consideration of 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 paper must be 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.

**Outline due: October 15**

**Paper due: December 3**

### (5) NOTE

Office Hours: TR, 11:05-11:30 am, W 11:05-12 noon, and by appointment in LA 149.

Phone and messages: 243-2792

E-mail: [Albert.Borgmann@umontana.edu](mailto:Albert.Borgmann@umontana.edu)

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