



PHIL 3600 – Modern Philosophy	Dr. Todd Janke
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T/R 12.45-2.00	Office Hours:
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Individuals with disabilities who need to request accommodations should contact the Disability Services Coordinator, Student Center 255, 678-466-5445, disabilityservices@mail.clayton.edu.

Catalog Description: An introduction to modern philosophy through the study of representative texts of major philosophers of the 16th to 18th centuries. Critical thinking and communication skills are emphasized.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites: Prerequisite: ENGL 1102 (C). Completion of CRIT 1101 and Area C recommended.

Computer Requirement:

Each CSU student is required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. Students will sign a statement attesting to such access. For further information on CSU's Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to <http://itpchoice.clayton.edu/policy.htm>.

Computer Skill Prerequisites: Able to use the Windows™ operating system Able to use Microsoft Word™ word processing Able to send and receive e-mail using Outlook™ or Outlook Express™ Able to attach and retrieve attached files via email Able to use a Web browser Able to use WebCT

In-class Use of Student Notebook Computers: Computers will be required to access course materials, communicate with your instructor, and participate in classroom research activities.

Course Learning Outcomes: To familiarize students with the central modern philosophical views. To enhance communication skills, oral and written. To teach analysis of complex concepts, ideas, definitions, and arguments.

Texts:

Descartes, Meditations and Replies
Hume, Enquiry
Kant, Prolegomena
Kierkegaard, The Present Age

Grading:

ASSIGNMENT	VALUE	SCALE
Homework	30%	A 90 to 100
Midterm Exam	20%	B 80 to 89
Final Exam	20%	C 70 to 79
Paper/Bibliography	30%	D 60 to 69
		F 0 to 59

Requirements Explained:

1. 30% Homework: You will be writing a 1 to 1 ½ page commentary on the assigned reading each week. These commentaries must be posted (emailed to the class listserv address – see above) PRIOR TO the first class meeting of the week. Your paper may be either (1), a report in your own words of what the author is saying in the selection, ending with 1-2 paragraphs of personal comment or criticism, or (2) an analysis based on your own formulation of an issue addressed in or posed by the reading. In a given paper, stay on the track you begin on; do not mix up the methods. Also, stay focused and do not ramble over multiple issues or topics. If you choose the second method, you must “close your eyes” to the editor’s introduction and summary; a repetition of what the editor has written is, in this context, tantamount to plagiarism. As you engage what are challenging and difficult readings, keep in mind that *Understanding* is the objective and not criticism for criticism's sake. In addition to submitting papers to the class listserv, you are expected to read papers submitted by your classmates. You may demonstrate that you are doing so by commenting on these papers by email response to the listserv.
2. On the day of the Midterm Exam and on the day of the Final Exam you **must** turn in a one page typed hard copy report assessing the overall quality of your journal/discussion list contribution, giving primary consideration to such factors as number of postings, timeliness of postings, length of papers, and quality of the writings themselves. Assign a rating to your assessment, based on a ten-point scale. The self assessment **must** be turned in **at the time of the exam (not after)** or you will not receive credit. I will not accept emailed self-assessments, so plan ahead. Homework grades will be marked down 10% without a self assessment.
3. Paper with Bibliography (see class handouts for details)

Mid-term Progress Report:

The mid-term grade in this course, which will be issued by October 6, reflects approximately 30% of the entire course grade. Based on this grade, students may choose to withdraw from the course and receive a grade of "W." Students pursuing this option must fill out an official withdrawal form, available in the Office of the Registrar, by mid-term, which occurs on October 7. The last day to withdraw without academic accountability is Friday, October 7.

Course Policies:

General Policy Students must abide by policies in the Clayton State University Student Handbook, and the Basic Undergraduate Student Responsibilities.

University Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend and participate in every class meeting. Instructors establish specific policies relating to absences in their courses and communicate these policies to the students through the course syllabi. Individual instructors, based upon the nature of the course, determine what effect excused and unexcused absences have in determining grades and upon students' ability to remain enrolled in their courses. The university reserves the right to determine that excessive absences, whether justified or not, are sufficient cause for institutional withdrawals or failing grades.

Missed Work

Without excuse, missed work cannot be submitted. An excuse for missed work must be accompanied with documentation from a doctor or other competent authority that explains why the student was unable to submit the assignment on time. With a valid excuse:

- Make-up tests will be scheduled at a time chosen by the instructor. Note, the make-up exam may be different from the scheduled examination that the student missed.
- The final examination must be taken. If you know you cannot make the scheduled time, consult at least two weeks in advance with the instructor and a new exam date may be arranged, if the instructor believes conditions warrant rescheduling. To reschedule an exam, you must submit a change of final examination date form to the instructor several days prior to the examination. It is your responsibility to submit this form and, if you do not, then you will not be allowed to reschedule your exam. Forms may be obtained from the secretary in the College of Arts and Sciences. Note, should you reschedule, the exam you take may be different from the regularly scheduled examination.

Academic Dishonesty

Any type of activity that is considered dishonest by reasonable standards may constitute academic misconduct. The most common forms of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism. Plagiarism occurs when you use someone else's words or ideas in your presentation or writing without giving that person credit. Even paraphrase is plagiarism if you do not properly cite your source. All instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the work involved, and will be reported to the Office of Student Life/Judicial Affairs. Judicial procedures are described at: <http://adminservices.clayton.edu/judicial/>.

Disruption of the Learning Environment

Behavior which disrupts the teaching-learning process during class activities will not be tolerated. While a variety of behaviors can be disruptive in a classroom setting, more serious examples include belligerent, abusive, profane, and/or threatening behavior. A student who fails to respond to reasonable faculty direction regarding classroom behavior and/or behavior while participating in classroom activities may be dismissed from class. A student who is dismissed is entitled to due process and will be afforded such rights as soon as possible following dismissal. If found in violation, a student may be administratively withdrawn and may receive a grade of WF. A more detailed description of examples of disruptive behavior and appeal procedures is provided at:

<http://a-s.clayton.edu/DisruptiveClassroomBehavior.htm>

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Week of	READINGS	IMPORTANT DATES
8.15	Introduction Descartes	
8.22	Descartes Descartes	
8.29	Descartes Descartes	
9.5	NO CLASS 9/6 Hume	
9.12	Hume Hume	
9.19	Hume Hume	
9.26	Hume Review	
10.3	Midterm Exam Kant	LAST DAY FOR 'W' IS 10/7
10.10	Kant Kant	
10.17	No Class Kant	
10.24	Kant	
10.31	Kierkegaard Kierkegaard	
11.7	Kierkegaard Kierkegaard	
11.14	Kierkegaard Kierkegaard	Bibliography Due
11.21	Kierkegaard NO CLASS THURSDAY 11/24 THANKSGIVING	
11.28	REVIEW	Paper Due
Final Exam Period	Final Exam Tuesday, Dec. 6, 12.45pm	