



## PHIL 413.500: 18<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy

Tuesday & Thursday: 11:10-12:25

Spring 2023: Dr. Stephen H. Daniel

Email: [sdaniel@tamu.edu](mailto:sdaniel@tamu.edu); phone: 979-324-4199

Office (YMCA 417) hours: Tues/Thurs 12:30-2:00; Tues 3:45-5:00



**Catalog Description:** Significant eighteenth-century texts from philosophers such as Berkeley, Rousseau, Hume, and Kant. **Prerequisite:** Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

**Course Description:** In **18th Century Philosophy** students examine early modern discussions on mind, nature, freedom, God, knowledge, morality, and political obligations. Interpreting those discussions in their historical context, students enhance their critical writing and speaking abilities and learn how to identify their own assumptions more clearly.

**Course Learning Outcomes:** By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- identify and explain leading debates in 18<sup>th</sup> Century philosophy
- interpret and analyze the argumentative structure of philosophical material
- critically evaluate theories and arguments

**Course Materials:** Readings are linked to this syllabus.

Jan. <a href="#">17</a>	<a href="#">Introduction</a> 1-5	Mar. <a href="#">9</a>	Rousseau, <a href="#">Social Contract</a>
<a href="#">19</a>	Locke <a href="#">Essay Bk 1 Innate Ideas</a> 6-15	<a href="#">21</a>	Du Châtelet, <a href="#">"Discourse on Happiness"</a>
<a href="#">24</a>	Locke <a href="#">Essay Bk 2 Ideas</a> 16-24	<a href="#">23</a>	Hume Intro, <a href="#">Treatise I.iv.6 &amp; App 128-41</a>
<a href="#">26</a>	Locke <a href="#">Essay Bk 3-4 Words/Knowledge</a> 25-30	<a href="#">28</a>	Hume <a href="#">Enquiry I-III</a>
<a href="#">31</a>	Leibniz, <a href="#">New Essays</a> 31-39	<a href="#">30</a>	Hume <a href="#">Enquiry IV-VI</a>
Feb. <a href="#">2</a>	Berkeley <a href="#">Principles Intro</a> 40-46	Apr. <a href="#">4</a>	Hume <a href="#">Enquiry VII-VIII</a>
<a href="#">7</a>	Berkeley <a href="#">Principles §1-§55</a> 47-57	<a href="#">6</a>	Hume <a href="#">Enquiry IX-X</a>
<a href="#">9</a>	Berkeley <a href="#">Principles §56-§107</a> 58-71	<a href="#">11</a>	Hume <a href="#">Enquiry XI-XII</a>
<a href="#">14</a>	Berkeley <a href="#">Principles §108-§156</a> 72-76	<a href="#">13</a>	Kant <a href="#">Critique Pure Reason I</a>
<a href="#">16</a>	Shaftesbury, <a href="#">Characteristicks</a> 77-81	<a href="#">18</a>	Kant <a href="#">Critique Pure Reason II</a> (Q-drop deadline)
<a href="#">21</a>	Mandeville, <a href="#">Fable of the Bees</a> 82-88	<a href="#">20</a>	Kant <a href="#">Critique Pure Reason III</a>
<a href="#">23</a>	Trotter Cockburn <a href="#">Readings</a> 89-93	<a href="#">25</a>	Kant <a href="#">Critique Pure Reason IV</a>
<a href="#">28</a>	<b>Mid-semester exam (in class)</b>	<a href="#">27</a>	Kant <a href="#">Critique Pure Reason V</a>
Mar. <a href="#">2</a>	Rousseau, <a href="#">"Discourse on Inequality" pt. 1</a>	May 4	<b>Thursday: Final exam 3:00-5:00</b>
<a href="#">7</a>	Rousseau, <a href="#">"Discourse on Inequality" pt. 2</a>		

### General Comments

- *You should definitely turn in late work (though my expectations are higher for late work).*

### Grades

- *The mid-semester and final exams are each worth 30 pts; twenty-three three-minute quizzes at end of each class (each with two true/false, two multiple-choice questions): quiz value total 46 pts. Overall total pts: 106. Graded quizzes begin in third week of class (Jan. 31).*
- *Minimum semester grades: 90=A, 80=B, 70=C, 60=D.*
- *Student Rule 7: you are expected to attend all classes and read assigned readings. Please notify me if you have a legitimate reason for missing a class.*
- *If you violate the Aggie Honor Code (e.g., by plagiarizing from the Internet), you fail the course.*

## University Policies

### Academic Integrity Statement and Policy

An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do. Texas A&M University students are responsible for authenticating all work submitted to an instructor. If asked, students must be able to produce proof that the item submitted is indeed the work of that student. Students must keep appropriate records at all times. The inability to authenticate one's work, should the instructor request it, may be sufficient grounds to initiate an academic misconduct case" ([Sect. 20.1.2.3, Student Rule 20](#)). You can learn more about the Aggie Honor System Office Rules and Procedures, academic integrity, and your rights and responsibilities at [aggiehonor.tamu.edu](http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu).

### Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy

Texas A&M University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact Disability Resources in the Student Services Building or at (979) 845-1637 or visit [disability.tamu.edu](http://disability.tamu.edu). Disabilities may include, but are not limited to attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability related needs with Disability Resources and their instructors as soon as possible.

### Title IX and Statement on Limits to Confidentiality

Texas A&M University is committed to fostering a learning environment that is safe and productive for all. University policies and federal and state laws prohibit gender-based discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

With the exception of some medical and mental health providers, all university employees (including full and part-time faculty, staff, paid graduate assistants, student workers, etc.) are Mandatory Reporters and must report to the Title IX Office if the employee experiences, observes, or becomes aware of an incident that meets the following conditions (see [University Rule 08.01.01.M1](#)):

- The incident is reasonably believed to be discrimination or harassment.
- The incident is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who, at the time of the incident, was (1) a student enrolled at the University or (2) an employee of the University.

Mandatory Reporters must file a report regardless of how the information comes to their attention – including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Although Mandatory Reporters must file a report, in most instances, a person who is subjected to the alleged conduct will be able to control how the report is handled, including whether or not to pursue a formal investigation. The University's goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and to ensure access to the resources you need.

Students wishing to discuss concerns in a confidential setting are encouraged to make an appointment with [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) (CAPS).

Students can learn more about filing a report, accessing supportive resources, and navigating the Title IX investigation and resolution process on the University's [Title IX webpage](#).

### Statement on Mental Health and Wellness

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student's academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in healthy self-care by utilizing the resources and services available from Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS). Students who need someone to talk to can call the TAMU Helpline (979-845-2700) from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. 24-hour emergency help is also available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-273-8255) or at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](https://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org).