



## Syllabus for PHIL 413.900 & 970: 18th Century Philosophy

Tuesday & Thursday: 8:00-9:15 (YMCA 109)

Spring 2014; Dr. Stephen H. Daniel



**Course Description and Objectives.** In 18<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy students learn to analyze and critically evaluate modern philosophers (e.g., Berkeley, Hume, Kant) who set the stage for later discussions of mind, nature, freedom, knowledge, and God. By interpreting their works in light of secondary literature, students also develop the ability to identify quality scholarship and incorporate it into their writing and speaking. This course has no prerequisites. Plus, it is a writing intensive course (as suggested below). Main texts for the course are available online and in many editions:

- George Berkeley, *Principles of Human Knowledge* and *Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous*
- David Hume, *An Enquiry concerning Human Understanding* and *Dialogues concerning Natural Religion*
- Immanuel Kant, *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*

Most readings are available in *Readings in Modern Philosophy*, ed. Roger Ariew and Eric Watkins [AW]; supplementary texts are in a packet available at Notes-n-Quotes (on University Blvd). Recommended background reading: Frederick Copleston, *History of Philosophy*, vols. 5-6.

<u>Jan.</u>	14	Themes of “modern” philosophy	<u>Mar.</u>	18	Hume: <i>Dialogues</i> IV-IX
	16	Writing techniques for modern philosophy		20	Hume: <i>Dialogues</i> X-XII
	[19	<b>Corrected <u>essay</u> turned in by midnight</b> *		[23	<b>Hume on the self: Inukai article</b> ]
	21	Berkeley: <i>Principles</i> Introduction		25	Hume: <i>Treatise</i> I.iv.6 & Appendix (AW 320-27)
	23	Berkeley: <i>Principles</i> I.1-49		27	Kant: Introduction, <i>Prolegomena</i> Preface pp. 1-8
	28	Berkeley: <i>Principles</i> I.50-100	<u>Apr.</u>	1	Kant: <i>Prolegomena</i> §§ 1-5
	30	Berkeley: <i>Principles</i> I.101-156		3	Kant: <i>Prolegomena</i> §§ 6-13 remark III
<u>Feb.</u>	[2	<b>Berkeley on God debate: Atherton and Stoneham articles]</b>		8	Kant: <i>Prolegomena</i> §§ 14-28 (skip 24-26)
	4	Berkeley: Preface, <i>Dialogues</i> I (AW 175-95)		10	Kant: <i>Prolegomena</i> §§ 29-39
	6	Berkeley: <i>Dialogues</i> II (AW 195-205)		[13	<b>Kant on reality: Langton and Allais articles]</b>
	11	Berkeley: <i>Dialogues</i> III (AW 205-23)		15	Kant: <i>Prolegomena</i> §§ 40-49
	13	Hume: <i>Enquiry</i> I-III		17	Kant: <i>Prolegomena</i> §§ 50-56
	18	Hume: <i>Enquiry</i> IV-V		22	Kant: <i>Prolegomena</i> §§ 57-60
	20	Hume: <i>Enquiry</i> VI-VII		24	Kant: <i>Prolegomena</i> , Solution/Appendix 99-116
	[23	<b>Hume causation debate: Strawson and Beebe articles]</b>		29	[No class: redefined Friday class]
	25	Hume: <i>Enquiry</i> VIII-IX	<u>May</u>	5	(Monday) <b>Final exam 1:00-3:00</b> (in class)
	27	Hume: <i>Enquiry</i> X-XII		7	(Wednesday) Research paper due*
<u>Mar.</u>	4	<b>Mid-semester exam</b> (in class)			
	6	Hume: <i>Dialogues</i> Preamble & <i>Dialogues</i> I-III			

\*See [Guidelines for Philosophy Research Papers](#)

- The **semester grade** is based on:
  - four 500-word essays that summarize and reconcile supplied articles (10 pts each): turned in at “Assignments” on [eCampus.tamu.edu](http://eCampus.tamu.edu) Sunday midnight.
  - mid-semester and final essay exams (20 pts each).
  - 10-page research paper (20 points). If you write a 20-page paper instead (for 30 pts), you can drop one of the two questions on the final exam.
- There is no separate grade for attendance or participation, but both can affect your mastery of the material. [Student Rule 7](#) notes that you are expected to attend all classes.
- You should outline readings before each class (based on the [questions](#) in the readings and on the [course website](#)) to prepare to discuss in class the main claims, arguments, and objections. If something in the reading puzzles you, consult with others (e.g., on the Discussion page of [eCampus](#)) *before class* so that you are prepared.
- If you miss the mid-semester or final exam, contact me immediately. My expectations of the quality of essays rise if essays are submitted past deadlines.
- Minimum grades: 88=A, 78=B, 68=C, 57=D.

**Office hours** (YMCA 417): Tues/Thurs 11:00-1:00, 2:00-3:30 (and by appt. after 5:00). **Phone:** 324-4199 (cell). [sdaniel@tamu.edu](mailto:sdaniel@tamu.edu). **Web:** [philosophy.tamu.edu/~sdaniel/](http://philosophy.tamu.edu/~sdaniel/).

Students with disabilities are guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Dept of Student Life, [Disability Services](#), Cain Hall B118, or call 845-1637.

Students are bound by the Aggie honor code not to lie, cheat, steal, or tolerate those who do. If you violate the code (e.g., by plagiarizing something from the Internet), you will fail the course. For information on cheating and plagiarism, go to <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu/>.