

COURSE OUTLINE: PHIL 5600X

Topics in the History of Philosophy: Women and Early Modern Philosophy Fall 2012: Mondays, 11:35-13:25, Paterson Hall 3A36

Professor Melissa Frankel
Office: Paterson Hall 3A53
Office Hours: TBA
Email: WebCT (see below)

Course description:

In this seminar we will reconsider the standard early modern canon in two different ways. First, we will examine feminist critiques of canonical figures in early modern philosophy, and also responses to those critiques. This may also involve looking at some of the ways in which early modern philosophers might have presaged later feminist thought in their work. Second, we will consider whether the canon might be limited and limiting: we will look at some of the writings of early modern women philosophers to think about the ways in which their work might have contributed to significant philosophical debates in the period.

Required texts (available at the Carleton bookstore):

1. Margaret Atherton, "Women Philosophers of the Early Modern Period" (Hackett 1994)

You can also purchase this volume online in a number of places, e.g., on amazon.ca.

We will also be consulting a variety of primary and secondary sources, most of which can be accessed through the Carleton library website. I will typically make such readings available on WebCT by linking to the library's e-resources. When possible, I will also place texts on reserve in the library so that you can read them in hard copy, if this is your preference.

Graduate students will also be asked to read some supplemental secondary sources. These will be made available through WebCT.

Many early modern texts are available online in a variety of locations. Note however that many such sources are abridged or otherwise altered. If you wish to consult an online source outside of Carleton's e-resources, you must discuss this with me, so that I can help you to evaluate whether or not the source is appropriate.

The early modern philosophical canon includes Descartes, Spinoza, Locke, Leibniz, Berkeley, Hume, and sometimes Malebranche. We will be looking at some texts from these canonical figures (again, these will be linked on WebCT). You will not be required to purchase any of these texts, but if you want to do so, let me know and I will recommend to you particular editions.

WebCT:

Please note that this course will be supported by the WebCT Course Management System. *All correspondence with the professor regarding this course should be carried out through the WebCT e-mail system only.*

Students will be fully responsible for reading and responding appropriately to all information distributed to students through the WebCT Course Page. Information provided on this page will be considered to have been provided to all registered students within 24 hours of posting.

Evaluation:

1. Response papers – over the course of the semester, I will ask you to write five (5) short response papers of 1-2 pages each. Papers will be due in class at the beginning of class and should be on the topic of the previous week's reading / class discussion. You should also be prepared to be called upon to briefly discuss your response paper in class.

Response papers might involve a brief reconstruction or summary of at least one aspect of the previous week's reading, as well as (the following list is not exclusive):

- A clarification of a difficult issue addressed in the reading, or
- A question raised by the previous week's reading, along with the author's answer to that question, or your answer on behalf of the author, or
- An objection to the previous week's reading, along with the author's answer to the objection, or your answer on behalf of the author, or
- An issue addressed by the author that was not raised in the previous class discussion, and that you think ought to be addressed

Each response paper will be worth **10%** of your final grade for a total of **50%**.

2. Final paper – A mid-length paper (**12-15 pages**) on a topic of your choosing, due on the last day of class for the Fall Semester (**December 3rd, 2012**.) You must consult with me on your topic at least two weeks before final papers are due. Topics *must be approved*. This paper will be worth **50%** of your grade.

Paper submission: I will ask you to submit all assignments both in hard copy and also through WebCT.

Late papers: I will not accept response papers late, as we will be discussing them in class. Additionally, no extensions will be granted for final papers, as it is university policy that the last day for handing in course assignments is the last day of classes (in this case, December 3rd, 2012.)

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (2012-13)

Assignments:

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips
- must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box)
- must include the following in the lower right corner of the cover sheet:
student name
student number
course number and section
instructor's name
- The Philosophy Department does not accept assignments by FAX. You may send them by courier, if necessary.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates in next column.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

Referrals for Term Work:

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a final assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral of examination/assignment. For deferred examinations, you must apply within 5 working days after the scheduled date of your exam. To apply for deferral of a final assignment, you must apply within 5 working days of the last scheduled day of classes. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information.

Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. (Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations, section 14.3, or <http://www4.carleton.ca/calendars//ugrad/current/regulations/acadregsuniv14.html#14.3>

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation>.

Important Dates:

Sept. 6	Classes start (after Orientation events).
Sept. 19	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall and Fall/Winter courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from Fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 5	University Day – no classes.
Oct. 8	Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
Nov. 19	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 3	Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for Fall term courses.
Dec. 3	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 4-5	No classes take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Dec. 6-19	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
Dec. 19	Take-home exams are due.
Jan. 7	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 18	Last day for registration and course changes in Winter term classes.
Jan. 31	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter courses or winter portion of two-term courses.
Feb. 18	Family Day – university closed
Feb. 18-22	Winter Break, classes suspended.
Mar. 27	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000-level before the Final Examination period.
Mar. 29	Good Friday – university closed
Apr. 10	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for Fall/Winter and Winter term courses. NOTE: On this day all classes follow a Friday schedule.
Apr. 10	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 11-12	No classes take place. Review classes may be held, but no new material may be introduced.
Apr. 13-27	Final Examinations.
Apr. 27	Take-home exams are due.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A46 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy
Registrar's Office:	520-2110 300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500
Student Academic Success Centre:	302 Tory www.carleton.ca/sasc 520-7850
Paul Menton Centre:	500 University Centre www.carleton.ca/pmc 520-6608 520-6632
Writing Tutorial Service:	4 th Floor, Library www.carleton.ca/wts 520-6632
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735