

COURSE OUTLINE: PHIL 3002
17th CENTURY PHILOSOPHY
Fall 2011: Tues-Thurs, 10:05 – 11:25 AM

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

Course description:

European philosophy of the 17th century. Representative works of writers such as Francis Bacon, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, and Locke.

Prerequisite: enrolment in Honours or Combined Honours Philosophy programs, or in Philosophy, Ethics and Public Affairs, or permission of the department.

Required texts (available at the Carleton bookstore):

1. Rene Descartes, *The Philosophical Writings of Descartes*, Volume 2, ed. and trans. J. Cottingham, R. Stoothoff, and D. Murdoch (Cambridge University Press.) Referred to in the course calendar as 'CSM2.'
2. Benedict de Spinoza, *A Spinoza Reader*, ed. and trans. E. Curley (Princeton University Press)
3. Gottfried Leibniz, *Philosophical Essays*, ed. and trans. R. Ariew and D. Garber (Hackett)

Note: Most of these texts can be found in some form or other online. However, many online sources are abridged or otherwise altered. If you wish to consult an online source, you *must* discuss this with me, so that I can help you to evaluate whether or not the source is appropriate.

Course material will sometimes include some readings that are not in the required texts. These readings will typically be available through the Carleton library website.

Optional texts:

1. Rene Descartes, *The Philosophical Writings of Descartes*, Volumes 1 and 3, ed. and trans. J. Cottingham, R. Stoothoff, D. Murdoch, and A. Kenny (vol. 3) (Cambridge University Press.)
2. Nicolas Malebranche, *The Search After Truth*, ed. T. Lennon and P.J. Olscamp (CUP.)

Some of the readings that we look at will be drawn from these texts. You are not required to purchase these texts; all of the readings from these texts will be made available to you. If you are, however, interested in purchasing them, then these are the editions that I recommend.

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.* A variety of resources will be made available through the WebCT site, including some required readings for the course. You must activate your WebCT account by going to the following page: <http://webct.carleton.ca> and following the links from the “Student Resources” site on the left hand side.

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. Tests – There will be two in-class tests, each worth **25%** of your final grade.
2. Examination – There will be one take-home examination, due at the end of final exam period (**Dec 21st, 2011.**) The exam will be essay-based and will count towards **50%** of your final grade.

Course policies:

1. Lateness/extensions – The take-home exam is due on the final day of exam period. It is university policy that no student work may be accepted after the final day of exam period. As such, *I will not be accepting late take-homes, and no extensions will be granted.*

Philosophy department and university policies: see final page of course outline.

Tentative Course Calendar, weeks 1- 5 (subject to revision) (seriously)

* readings marked with an asterisk are from outside of your required texts

Week one

9/8 Introduction

Week two

9/13 *Descartes: knowledge and the methodology of doubt*

Readings: **Discourse on Method*, Discourses 1 and 2 (CSM1, pp.111-122)

Meditation 1

09/15 *Descartes: knowledge, the external world, and the cogito*

Readings: Meditation 2

From the second set of replies, first paragraph of third reply: CSM2, p.100

From the third set of objections and replies, second objection and reply: CSM2, pp.122-123

Week three

09/20 *Descartes: ontological categories: substances and modes; the existence of God*

Readings: **Principles of Philosophy* Part 1, §§51, 56: CSM1, pp.210-212

Meditations 3, 5

From the second set of objections, the second objection: CSM2, p.88

From the second set of objections, the sixth objection: CSM2, p.91

From the second set of replies, the second reply: CSM2, pp.96-100

09/22 *Descartes: clear and distinct perceptions; the 'Cartesian Circle'*

Readings: Meditation 3

From the second set of objections, the third and fourth objections: CSM2, pp.89-90

From the second set of replies, the third and fourth replies: CSM2, pp.100-105

From the fourth set of objections: CSM2 p.150 (from "I have one further worry")

Week four

09/27 *Descartes' theory of distinctions; the real distinction between mind and body*

Readings: **Principles* Part 1, §§53-54; 60-62: CSM1, pp.210-211, 213-215

Reread Meditation 2

Meditation 6

From the fifth set of objections, objections to the Second Meditation, §8: CSM2, pp. 189-191

From the fourth set of objections, from "The Nature of the Human Mind:" CSM2, pp.139-143

From the fourth set of replies, from "Reply to Part One:" pp. 154-160

09/29 **CLASS CANCELLED**

Week five

10/4 *The real distinction between mind and body, continued*

10/6 **TEST 1**

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies

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.

Deferrals 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:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/>

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/>

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD),

psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that I receive your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the deadlines published on the PMC website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

Important Dates:

Sept. 8	Classes start (after Orientation events).
Sept. 21	Last day for registration and course changes in Fall term and two-term courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from fall term or two-term courses.
Oct. 7	University Day – no classes.
Oct. 10	Thanksgiving Day – university closed.
Nov. 21	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000 level before the Final Examination period.
Dec. 5	Last day of classes, Fall term. Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline.
Dec. 5	Last day to withdraw from Fall term courses (academic purposes only).
Dec. 8-21	Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses.
Jan. 4	Winter term classes begin.
Jan. 17	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. 20	Family Day – university closed
Feb. 20-24	Winter Break, classes suspended.
Mar. 22	Last day for tests or examinations in courses below 4000 level before the Final Examination period.
Apr. 5	Last day of Fall/Winter and Winter term classes. Last day for handing in term assignments, subject to any earlier course deadline.
Apr. 5	Last day to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses (academic purposes only).
Apr. 6	Good Friday – university closed.
Apr. 11-24	Final Examinations.

Addresses:

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