COURSE GOALS:
As the subtitle indicates, this course is devoted to two of the most famous 18th-century philosophers: Hume and Kant. Hume is arguably the most sophisticated proponent of the English empiricist tradition he inherits and reinterprets from Shaftesbury, Locke, and Berkeley. We will study Hume as the arch skeptic of the rationalist tradition of modern philosophy (1600-1800). Rationalists modeled philosophy upon mathematical knowledge, which was, according to them, grounded in reason alone. Against the very idea of apriori knowledge — that is, knowledge based upon reason and hence not sensory experience — Hume launched a devastating skeptical attack. In its stead, Hume proposed to study humans just as Sir Isaac Newton had proposed to study nature: namely, through observation and experimentation. We will study Hume, then, as a distinctively modern thinker committed to the idea that humans are natural beings that should be studied by the “experimental method.” A central goal of the course is to examine Hume’s contribution to contemporary scientific or “naturalistic” approaches in the study of human life. Another goal of the course is to examine Kant’s remarkable inheritance and critical redeployment of both rationalist and empiricist traditions. Like Hume, Kant has both a negative program of criticizing the traditions he inherits and a positive program of placing the study of humans and nature on a secure footing. Accordingly, we will study Kant as a critic of “metaphysics” in all of its forms, whether rationalist, empiricist, or classical. More specifically, we will study the first of Kant’s famous “critiques” as a positive and critical response to Hume’s skepticism regarding mathematical and causal knowledge as well as the very idea of human freedom. We will examine Kant’s contribution, then, to contemporary criticism of both the empiricist and rationalist traditions as well as “naturalistic” approaches to the study of knowledge and morality. Although we will discuss Hume’s and Kant’s moral theories and, indeed, their systematic approach to philosophy as such, we will focus in this course upon their epistemological theories.

EVALUATION:
Students will be evaluated on the basis of class participation, quizzes, a midterm paper and a final paper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF EVALUATION</th>
<th>FREQUENCY</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation: Seminar presentations, classroom discussion and email correspondence</td>
<td>1 @ 20% =</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Paper</td>
<td>1 @ 20% =</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>6 @ 5% =</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper (10-15 pages)</td>
<td>1 @ 30% =</td>
<td>30%</td>
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POLICIES:
Open, respectful and critical discussion is crucial to the success of this seminar. Quizzes offer students and teacher the opportunity to identify and to clarify central terms/concepts. The midterm examinations test comprehension of key philosophical issues, and the final paper offers students the opportunity to respond in depth to a single topic. The final paper is due on the day scheduled for the final examination. 3 unexcused absences will result in a full grade reduction.

TEXTS:

RECOMMENDED SECONDARY READINGS:

GERMAN ACROSS THE CURRICULUM COMPONENT: Selected passages from Kant’s Kritik der reinen Vernunft may be read in the German original. GAC students will be given alternative assignments and weekly tutorials.

BRIDGE READING COMPONENT: Students interested in linking course material to their major course of study will be given special readings and assignments. Tutorial meetings are required, and the final paper must be completed in consultation with professor in home department.

Psychology: Students interested in exploring the philosophical foundations of learning theory and developmental psychology will be given readings that link course material to these prominent research traditions in psychology. See Psychology Bridge-Readings (Philosophy Homepage).

READING SCHEDULE

1. HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION: RATIONALISM, EMPIRICISM, AND THE KANTIAN REVOLUTION:

TUESDAY: WEEK ONE
1. Introductory Lecture: The Theory of Ideas & Kant’s Copernican Turn.

2. THE THEORY OF IDEAS; CLASSICAL RATIONALISM AND EMPIRICISM:
   THURSDAY:
   1. Introduction
   2. Descartes: The Method of Doubt and the Cogito (Thompson, 14-27)
   3. Leibniz: Truth and Reason (Thompson, 83-92)
   4. Locke: Ideas and Qualities (Thompson, 147-161)

3. HUME’S RADICALIZATION OF EMPIRICISM:
   TUESDAY: WEEK TWO
   1. Hume: Ideas and Impressions (Thompson, 211-218)
   2. Hume: Causation (Thompson, 218-230)
   3. Quiz #1.
   THURSDAY:
   1. Hume: Material Bodies and Identity (Thompson, 229-236)
   2. Part Two: Conclusion (Thompson, 237-244)
   3. Quiz #2.

4. KANT’S AWAKENING FROM DOGMATIC SLUMBERS:
   TUESDAY: WEEK THREE
   1. Preface to First Edition (Kant, 7-17)
   2. Preface to Second Edition (Kant, 17-39)
   3. Kant: Starting Points (Thompson, 244-246)
   4. Introduction: The Transcendental Method (Deleuze, 1-11)
   5. The Relationship of the Faculties in the Critique of Pure Reason (Deleuze, 11-27)
   THURSDAY:
   1. Introduction (Kant, 41-65)
   3. Quiz #3

5. KANT’S TRANSCENDENTAL AESTHETIC: THE SENSORY FORMS OF EXPERIENCE:
   TUESDAY: WEEK FOUR
   1. "Transcendental Aesthetic" (Kant, 65-92).
   2. Kant: The Transcendental Aesthetic (Thompson, 249-256)

WEDNESDAY EVENING MOVIE: Memento
   THURSDAY:
   1. "Transcendental Aesthetic" (Continued).
   2. Part Two: Human Knowledge and its Conditions (Allison, 63-130)
   3. Quiz #4

6. KANT’S TRANSCENDENTAL ANALYTIC: THE INTELLECTUAL FORMS OF EXPERIENCE:
   TUESDAY: WEEK FIVE
   1. “Transcendental Logic” (Kant, 92-102)
   2. “The Clue to the Discovery of all Pure Concepts of the Understanding” (Kant, 102-120)
   THURSDAY:
   1. “Transcendental Logic” (Continued).
   2. “The Clue to the Discovery of all Pure Concepts of the Understanding” (Continued).
   3. Quiz # 5.

8. THE TRANSCENDENTAL DEDUCTION:
   TUESDAY: WEEK SIX
   2. Objective Validity and Objective Reality: The Transcendental Deduction of the Categories (Allison, 133-173)

WEDNESDAY EVENING MOVIE: Bladerunner
   THURSDAY:
   2. Quiz # 6.
   TUESDAY: WEEK SEVEN

7. THE ANALYTIC OF PRINCIPLES: THE SCHEMATISM OF THE PURE CONCEPTS OF UNDERSTANDING
   THURSDAY:
   2. The Transcendental Schematism (Allison, 173-199)
   3. Schematism (Thompson, 267-269)
   TUESDAY: WEEK EIGHT
   1. System of all Principles of Pure Understanding (Kant, 188-207).

8. THE ANALOGIES OF EXPERIENCE:
THURSDAY:
1. Analogies of Experience (Kant 208-238)
2. Kant: The Analytic of Principles (Kant, 267-280)
3. The First Analogy (Allison, 199-216)
4. The Second Analogy (Allison, 216-235)

9. THE REFUTATION OF IDEALISM:

TUESDAY: WEEK NINE
1. Analogies of Experience (Continued)
2. The Refutation of Idealism (Kant, 244-256)
3. The Refutation of Idealism (Allison, 294-310)

10. THE GROUND OF THE DISTINCTION OF ALL OBJECTS IN GENERAL INTO PHENOMENA AND NOUMENA:

THURSDAY:
1. Chapter 111. The Ground of the Distinction of all Objects in general into phenomena and Noumena (Kant, 257-276)
2. The Thing in Itself and the Problem of Affection (Allison, 237-255)

11. THE TRANSCENDENTAL DIALECTIC:

TUESDAY: WEEK TEN
1. The Transcendental Dialectic (Kant, 297-322)
2. Kant: The Transcendental Dialectic (Thompson, 280-291)

THURSDAY:
1. The Transcendental Dialectic (Continued)
2. Student Evaluations

FINALS WEEK
FINALS WEEK