

# PHL 270/470: KANT'S *Critique of Pure Reason*

## FALL 2017

INSTRUCTOR: Alison Peterman

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OFFICE HOURS: M 12:00-1:00 pm, T 1:00-2:00 pm, Lattimore 520

TIME AND LOCATION: M/W 10:25-11:40 am, Lattimore 531

TEXTS:

Required texts:

- \* Kant, Immanuel. *Critique of Pure Reason* (CPR). Ed. and trans. Allen Wood and Paul Guyer. (Cambridge: CUP, 1997). (You should buy this.)
- \* Gardner, Sebastian. *Routledge Guidebook to Kant and the Critique of Pure Reason*. (London: Routledge, 2000). (This is available on e-reserve through the library; there is a link on Blackboard.)

Useful texts:

More introductory

- \* Buroker, J. *Kant's 'Critique of Pure Reason'* (Cambridge, 2006).
- \* Caygill, H. *A Kant Dictionary* (Blackwell, 1995). (on e-reserve).
- \* Dicker, G. *Kant's Theory of Knowledge: An analytical introduction* (Oxford, 2004).

More advanced

- \* Allison, H. *Kant's Transcendental Idealism* (Yale, 2004).
- \* Bennett, J. *Kant's Analytic and Kant's Dialectic* (Cambridge, 1966 and 1974).
- \* Guyer, P. *The Cambridge Companion to Kant* (Cambridge, 1992). (On e-reserve).
- \* Langton, R. *Kantian Humility* (Oxford, 1998).
- \* Strawson, P.F. *The Bounds of Sense* (Methuen, 1966).
- \* Van Cleve, J. *Problems from Kant* (Oxford, 1999).

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

Generally, PHL 270/470 is intended to provide you with a deeper understanding of one particular set of writers or issues in early modern philosophy. PHL 202 (or equivalent, for graduate students) is a prerequisite. This semester, we will be studying Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*, a kind of important philosophical text.

## POLICIES

Please let me know right away if you need special accommodations because of a documented condition that interferes with your learning. This includes if you require to use electronics of any kind in class.

Please email me at the beginning of the course letting me know your preferred gender pronoun: <https://www.gsafeweb.com/content/uploads/What-the-heck-is-a-PGP1.pdf>.

Please turn off your cell phones when you arrive; if you are texting I will ask you to leave. No laptops in class, except for students with a documented need for one.

Please review the class schedule sometime in the next week and let me know if there are any issues.

Please observe minimal email etiquette, beginning emails with “Hi Alison” or “Dear Alison” (or Professor Peterman), and ending them with an appropriate sign-off.

You must bring your book to every class!

Student success at the University of Rochester includes more than just academic performance. Please feel comfortable speaking with me about challenges you are experiencing within and outside of the classroom so that I may submit a CARE report on your behalf. A CARE report is submitted when the level of concern for a student necessitates inclusive, multi-layered support from the campus community. The CARE network administrator shares information only with staff who need to know it in order to help you.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students and faculty at the University must agree to adhere to high standards of academic honesty in all of the work that we do. As freshmen, students read and sign an academic honesty policy statement to indicate that they understand the general principles upon which our work is based. The College Board on Academic Honesty website gives further information on our policies and procedures: [www.rochester.edu/college/honesty](http://www.rochester.edu/college/honesty).

## ASSESSMENT

### RESPONSE PAPERS (12%):

You’ll hand in six response papers throughout the semester. They are worth 2% each. The due dates are marked on the syllabus; they are to be written on the reading for that day (or for related future readings, but not for past readings). The assignment is to write one critical page about the reading for the day, to be emailed to me at least one hour before class begins that day. For example, you might briefly outline the argument in the reading for that day, and then pose a question about or criticism of the argument or one of its premises. You should also make an attempt to answer the question or respond to the criticism. You should expect to be asked in class to talk about your response paper.

### PARTICIPATION (8%):

Coming to class on time and prepared, and asking questions and contributing to class discussion in a way that suggests that you have thoughtfully done the reading, will contribute 4% of your final grade. I will use the whole range of these four points; for example, if you miss four classes and never participate, you will receive a zero. You may take two unexcused absences; after that, your participation grade will be penalized unless there are extenuating circumstances. If participating will be a problem for you, please let me know right away and we can arrange an alternate method of assessment.

### ESSAYS (60%):

Undergraduates will write two essays of about 2500 words apiece, each worth 30% of your final grade. Graduate students will write one essay of about 5000 words.

## PRESENTATION (20%):

Each student will be required to present on one class day. Undergraduates will be paired up and graduate students will each give their own presentation. Auditors should give presentations. You are responsible for giving a thorough overview of the reading for that class and to explain its arguments clearly and carefully. You should also raise a few questions for discussion. You must provide a thoughtful handout. You will be graded on your mastery of the material for that day but especially on your ability to clearly and helpfully present it to your classmates. In the next three days, please email me with an ranked list of three days you would like to present on.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

The readings listed for each day are to be read *before* the lecture on that day.

Week 1: Prefaces

### **August 30**

#### Required

- \* Letter to Herz (1772)
- \* CPR A-preface (Avii-Axxii, CPR 99-105)
- \* CPR B-preface (Bvii-Bxliv, CPR 106-124)
- \* Gardner, Chapter 1

#### For your edification

- \* Schönfeld, “Kant’s philosophical development.” In SEP
- \* Beiser, “Kant’s intellectual development 1746-1781.” In *CC to Kant*
- \* Hogan, “Kant’s Copernican Turn and the Rationalist Tradition.” In *CC to Kant’s CPR*
- \* Mensch, “Kant’s letter to Herz”

Week 2: Introduction

### **September 6:** Introduction

#### Required

- \* Preface and Preamble to the *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*, and General Questions (Blackboard).
- \* CPR B-Introduction (B1-B30) (CPR 136-152)
- \* Gardner, Chapter 3.

#### For your edification

- \* A-Introduction (A1-16)
- \* Anderson, “Introduction to the *Critique*”, in CC to CPR.
- \* Dicker, Chapter 1
- \* Gardner, Chapter 2.
- \* Van Cleve, *Problems* Chapter 2

#### *Presentation*

Week 3: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental aesthetic

### **September 11:** Space and time

Required

- \* B33-B58 (CPR 172-184) \*CAREFUL to note the CPR page numbers
- \* RP #1 due

For your edification

- \* Gardner, Chapter 4.
- \* Van Cleve, Chapter 3.
- \* Warren, "Kant and the Apriority of Space"
- \* Falkenstein, "Kant's Transcendental Aesthetic." In CC to Kant.

*Presentation*

**September 13:** Transcendental idealism

Required

- \* B59-73 (CPR 185-192)
- \* Shabel, "The Transcendental Aesthetic." In CC to Kant's CPR.

For your edification

- \* Gardner, Chapter 5.
- \* Van Cleve, Chapters 1&10
- \* Allias, "Kant's Arguments for Transcendental Idealism in the Transcendental Aesthetic."
- \* Janiak, "Kant's Views on Space and Time"
- \* Wood, "Transcendental Idealism"

Week 4: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental logic and transcendental analytic

**September 18:** The transcendental logic and the metaphysical deduction of the categories

Required

- \* B74-B116 (CPR 193-218)
- \* RP #2 due

For your edification

- \* Strawson, Part 2, Chapter 2, Sections 1-2.

*Presentation* (on metaphysical deduction)

**September 20:** The metaphysical deduction of the categories

Required

- \* Longuenesse, "Kant on a priori concepts: the metaphysical deduction" (BB).

For your edification

- \* Gardner, Chapter 6, pp. 115-135.
- \* Allison, Chapter 6
- \* Förster, "How are transcendental arguments possible?"

Week 5: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental analytic

**September 25:** The transcendental deduction of the categories (B-deduction)

Required

- \* B116-B169 (245-266)

For your edification

- \* Gardner, Chapter 6, pp. 135-164.
- \* Dicker, Chapter 4.
- \* Pereboom, “Kant’s Transcendental Arguments”, SEP
- \* Stroud, “Transcendental Arguments”

*Presentation*

**September 27:** The transcendental deduction of the categories

Required

- \* Henrich, “The Proof Structure of the B-Deduction”
- \* RP #3 due

For your edification

- \* Van Cleve, Chapter 7
- \* Grüne, “Is there a gap in Kant’s B-Deduction?”
- \* Strawson part 2, section II.
- \* Allison, Chapter 7
- \* Cassam, “Transcendental Arguments, Transcendental Synthesis and Transcendental Idealism,” *Philosophical Quarterly*
- \* First undergraduate paper assigned

Week 6: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental analytic

**October 2:** The transcendental deduction of the categories

Required

- \* Engstrom, “The Transcendental Deduction and Skepticism”

For your edification

- \* Ameriks, “Kant’s Transcendental Deduction as a Regressive Argument”
- \* Lewis White Beck: ”Did the Sage of Königsberg Have No Dreams?”

**October 4:** The transcendental deduction of the categories

Required

- \* Kern, “Spontaneity and Receptivity in Kant’s Theory of Knowledge.”

Week 7: Fall Break

**October 9:** FALL BREAK, NO CLASS

**October 11:** NO CLASS, BUT READ THE ANALYTIC OF PRINCIPLES

- \* B169-218 (CPR 267-295)
- \* Gardner, pp. 165-173

Week 8: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental analytic

**October 16:** The analogies of experience

Required

- \* B218-B265 (CPR 295-320)
- \* RP #4 due

For your edification

- \* Gardner, pp. 173-179.

\* Van Cleve, *Problems from Kant*, Chapter 8 (“Substance and the First Analogy”)

\* Strawson, Part 2, Chapter 3

*Presentation*

**October 18:** The analogies of experience

Required

\* Guyer, “Kant’s Second Analogy” from *Kant and the Claims of Knowledge*

For your edification

\* Dicker, Chapter 7

\* Van Cleve, Chapter 9

Week 9: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental analytic

**October 23:** The postulates of pure reason and the refutation of idealism

Required

\* B266-B294 (CPR 321-354).

For your edification

\* Gardner, pp. 179-195..

\* Mensch, “Kant and the Problem of Idealism”

\* Van Cleve Chapter 10, chapter 1,2,10

\* First undergraduate paper due

*Presentation*

**October 25:**

Required

\* B294-B315 (CPR 354-365)

\* Guyer, “Kant’s Intentions in the Refutation of Idealism”

For your edification

\* Langton, Kantian Humility,

\* Cassam, “Inner sense, body sense, and Kant’s Refutation of Idealism,” *European Journal of Philosophy*.”

\* Turbayne, “Kant’s Refutation of Dogmatic Idealism,?” *The Philosophical Quarterly*

Week 10: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental analytic

**October 30:** Phenomena and noumena

Required

\* Emundts, “The Refutation of Idealism and the Distinction between Phenomena and Noumena,” CC to CPR.

For your edification

\* Aquila, “Personal identity and Kant’s ‘Refutation of Idealism’”, *Kant-Studien*.

*Presentation*

**November 1:** The amphiboly

Required

\* The Amphiboly B316-349

For your edification

- \* Gardner, pp.195-207.
- \* Parkinson, “Kant as a Critic of Leibniz”
- \* Garber, Leibniz and Kant

Week 11: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental dialectic

**November 6:** Introduction to the transcendental dialectic

Required

- \* B349-396 (CPR 384-410)

For your edification

- \* Gardner, pp.209-224.

**November 8:** Paralogisms

Required

- \* B399-B406 (CPR 411-415) and B406-B410 (CPR 445-447) CAREFUL with page numbers (two editions)

For your edification

- \* Second undergraduate paper assigned.

Week 12: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental dialectic

**November 13:** Paralogisms

Required

- \* B411-B432 (CPR 447-458) CAREFUL with page numbers
- \* RP #5 due

For your edification

- \* Gardner, pp. 225-230, 243-245.

*Presentation*

**November 15:** Paralogisms

Required

- \*

For your edification

- \*

*Presentation*

Week 13: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental dialectic

**November 20:** Mathematical antinomies

Required

- \* B432-472 (CPR 459-483)
- \* C.D. Broad, “Kant’s Mathematical Antinomies”
- \* RP #6 due

For your edification

- \* Wood. “The Antinomies of Pure Reason.”
- \* Bennett, “The Age and Size of the World”, *Synthese*

*Presentation*

**November 22:** Dynamical antinomies

Required

\* B472-518 (CPR 459-510)

\* Strawson, pp. 131-140

For your edification

\* Gardner, pp. 231-237, 245-256

Week 14: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental dialectic

**November 27:** Resolution of the antinomies

Required

\* B518-594 (CPR 511-550)

For your edification

\* Gardner, pp. 257-264

\* Van Cleve, pp. 67-72

**November 29:** Resolution of the antinomies

Required

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For your edification

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Week 15: Transcendental doctrine of elements: transcendental dialectic

**December 4:** The ideal of pure reason

Required

\* B595-670 (CPR 551-589)

For your edification

\* Gardner, pp. 237-243, 264-266.

*Presentation*

**December 6:**

Required

\* Grier, "The Ideal of Pure Reason," CC to Kant

For your edification

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Week 16: Transcendental doctrine of method

**December 11:** The canon, architectonic and history of pure reason

Required

\* B823-883 (CPR 672-704)

For your edification

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**December 13:**

Required

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For your edification

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