

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
Undergraduate Course Outline 2016-17**

**Philosophy 2202G: Early Modern Philosophy**



accepted after midnight on Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup> per departmental and Senate policy. As of Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>, all students who have failed to submit a paper will be awarded a score of 0, unless they receive decanal approval for an accommodation. Papers failing to fall within the required word count will not be accepted and will not be considered submissions; they will be awarded a score of 0 for the assignment on Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>.

An analytic essay or paper differs from an exegetical paper because it *defends a thesis*, and in the case of a philosophical essay or paper the thesis should be a philosophically important and interesting one. *A defense of a thesis* is an argument that shows the truth

approved by the

**Attendance (10%)** Students are required to attend every class. A sign-in sheet will be distributed. Attendance does not connote mere physical presence in the classroom. It requires paying attention and not engaging in rude, disruptive, or disrespectful behavior during the class. Examples of such behavior include, but are not limited to: texting, checking email, reading the newspaper, reading material for another class, chatting or joking during class, surfing the internet, internet shopping, etc.. The instructor or GTA may strike any person's name from the attendance roll for engaging in the above, or any other such disruptive or disrespectful behavior. The instructor or GTA may also strike a person's name from the attendance roll for leaving class early without permission or an excuse. Students are awarded **2.70 points per hour** of class attended.

**Optional Book Review (Extra Credit, max +06%)** Students may write and submit a 1000 word book review for up to 06% extra credit (depending on the assessment of the review) to be added to their final course average. Reviews are due at midnight on **Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup>**. There is no grace period for submitting the book reviews; ***no late reviews will be accepted or assessed.*** The texts that may be reviewed are available on reserve at Weldon and via OWL. They are:

Anthony Gottlieb, *The Dream of Enlightenment: The Rise of Modern Philosophy* (New York: Liveright Publishing, 2016);

Jacqueline Broad, *Women Philosophers of the Seventeenth Century* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002);

Craig Martin *Subverting Aristotle: Religion, History and Philosophy in Early Modern Science* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014).

A book review should provide its target audience with an argument for (or against) the importance of reading the book being reviewed. Reviews are always directed at a particular readership — in this case your audience should be understood to be your peers, second-year honors students enrolled in a survey of early modern Western European philosophy. Reviews should always contain a clear presentation of the message, theme, and thesis of the book, a brief depiction of its argumentative structure, and a critical assessment of the significance and value of the book for the intended audience. Even negative reviews should be able to find positive and worthwhile features of the book to mention and positively glowing reviews should be able to find shortcomings and limitations worth noting. Reviews will not be graded on whether or not you recommend that the book be read. They will be graded on your presentation of the book and the expression and justification of your judgment of the book.

**By Feb. 28, students will have available their first exegetical essay grade (15% of their total grade), their current attendance grade (approximately 5% of their total grade), and their current quiz average (approximately 5% of their total grade).**

### **Accommodations**

Non-medical absences will be accommodated by the instructor with sufficient explanation and documentation for the absence. Late assignments and missed deadlines will also be accommodated by the instructor with sufficient explanation and documentation. Documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean's office and not to the

instructor. It will be the Dean's office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

The Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness is here:

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>

For accommodations of work worth less than 10% of the total course grade, with thmmti,

**TENTATIVE READING SCHEDULE:**

Readings from Ariew and Grene's *Montaigne: Apology for Raymond Sebond* are prefaced by [AG]; readings from Atherton's *Women Philosophers in the Early Modern Period* are prefaced by [A]; readings from Ariew and Watkins' *Modern Philosophy* are prefaced by [AW].

Date	Topic	Required Reading	Suggested Readings
Jan 5 (Thurs)	Intellectual Crises	[AG] pp. 1-48	
<b>The Rise of Skepticism</b>			
Jan 10 (Tues)	Montaigne: <i>Sebond</i>	[AG] pp.48-121.	
Jan 12 (Thurs)	Montaigne: <i>Sebond</i>	[AG] pp.121-164.	
Jan 17 (Tues)	Bacon: <i>Idols</i> Descartes: <i>Meditations</i>	[AW] pp. 16-20. [AW] pp. 35-43.	Descartes, [AW] 25-33.
Jan 19 (Thurs)	Descartes: <i>Meditations</i>	[AW] pp. 43-47.	
Jan 24 (Tues)	Descartes: <i>Meditations</i>	[AW] pp. 47-54.	Objections and Replies, [AW] 69-92.
Jan 26 (Thurs)	Descartes: <i>Meditations</i>	[AW] pp. 61-68.	Descartes, [AW] 33-34; Spinoza, [AW] 93-99.
Jan 31 (Tues)	Elisabeth: Corr. w/ Descartes	[A] pp. 9-21.	Malebranche, [AW] 212-223.
<b>Reactions to Descartes</b>			
Feb 2 (Thurs)	Cavendish: <i>Phil Letters</i>		

Mar 7 (Tues)	Locke: <i>Essay</i>	[AW] pp. 359-367 and 377-386.	Locke, [AW] 367-377; Trotter, [A] 126-146.
Mar 9 (Thurs)	Locke: <i>Essay</i>	[AW] pp.386-405 and 411-415.	
<b>Reactions to Locke</b>			
Mar 14 (Tues)	Berkeley: <i>Dialogues</i>	[AW] pp. 454-468.	Bayle, [AW] 512-516.
Mar 16 (Thurs)	Berkeley: <i>Dialogues</i>	[AW] pp. 468-474.	Shepherd, [A] 147-159; Berkeley, [AW] 438-446.
Mar 21 (Tues)	Berkeley: <i>Dialogues</i>	[AW] pp. 484-497.	Berkeley, [AW] 475-484.
Mar 23 (Thurs)	Hume: <i>Enquiry</i>	[AW] pp. 538-542.	
Mar 28 (Tues)	Hume: <i>Enquiry</i>	[AW] pp. 542-555.	Kant [AW] 661- 679.
Mar 30 (Thurs)	Hume: <i>Enquiry</i>	[AW] pp. 556-564.	Kant [AW] 679- 689.