

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE**Course Code, Number, and Title:**

PHIL 2222: Early Modern Philosophy

Course Format:

[Course format may vary by instructor. The typical course format would be:]

Lecture 4 h + Seminar 0 h + Lab 0 h

Credits: 3

Transfer credit: For information, visit bctransferguide.ca

Course Description, Prerequisites, Corequisites:

Early Modern Philosophy responds to tumultuous times in Europe. Medieval scholasticism was in disrepute as the Scientific Revolution took hold. We focus on the distinctive character of this period as it wrestled with the metaphysical and epistemological problems raised by scientific developments. We evaluate critically the views and enduring influence of such thinkers as Descartes, Leibniz, Locke, Hume, and Kant, in regards to such questions as: What is the relationship between reality and our perception of reality? What is the nature of the mind and how is it related to the body? What is the nature of physical reality?

Prerequisites: Any first year philosophy course or permission of the instructor

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the sense in which Modern Philosophy marks a distinct turn from the scholasticism of the previous period.
- Explain why the change in perspective is often referred to as "the Epistemic Turn."
- Articulate a consistent and compelling narrative that links the various figures together in terms of their methods, goals, and thematic concerns.
- Explain the claim that particular philosophical doctrines of early modern philosophers continue to be important philosophical options for the 21st century.
- Reflect critically upon debates in early modern philosophy and the philosophical problems that continue to influence debates in metaphysics, epistemology, and philosophy of mind.
- Identify key philosophical concepts and show awareness of potential problems that led to the revision and refinement of these concepts in the historical debates.
- Write well-structured and well-argued essays that explain and critically assess philosophical views covered in this subject.

Instructor(s): TBA

Office: TBA **Phone:** 604 323 XXXX **Email:** TBA

Office Hours: TBA

Textbook and Course Materials:

[Textbook selection may vary by instructor. An example of texts and course materials for this course might be:]

Jeffrey Tlumak. "Classical Modern Philosophy: A Contemporary Introduction". Routledge. 2013.

W T Jones. "A History of Western Philosophy, volume 3: Hobbies to Hume". Cengage. 1969.

Note: This course may use an electronic (online) instructional resource that is located outside of Canada for mandatory graded class work. You may be required to enter personal information, such as your name and email address, to log in to this resource. This means that your personal information could be stored on servers located outside of Canada and may be accessed by U.S. authorities, subject to federal laws. Where possible, you may log in with an email pseudonym as long as you provide the pseudonym to me so I can identify you when reviewing your class work.

Assessments and Weighting:

Final Exam 35%

Other Assessments %

(An example of other assessments might be:) %

Midterm Exam: 25%

Assignments: 30%

Participation: 10%

Participation format: The grade for class participation is based on both the frequency and the quality of the student's comments, questions and observations, with the emphasis on quality. The quality is determined by, among other things, the relevance, insight and clarity of remarks.

Proportion of individual and group work:

Individual: 100%

Grading System: Letter grade

Specific grading schemes will be detailed in each course section outline.

Passing grade: D

This generic outline is for planning purposes only.

Topics Covered:

[Topics covered may vary by instructor. An example of topics covered might be:]

Week 1: Introduction to the course and historical context (the High Scholasticism of Thomas Aquinas)

Week 2: Rene Descartes: the project of pure inquiry

Week 3: Rene Descartes (continued)

Week 4: John Locke: the mind as Blank Slate

Week 5: John Locke (continued)

Week 6: Interlude: Robert Boyle, Francis Bacon and the emerging corpuscularianism

Week 7: The debate so far: where is God in all of this?

Week 8: Leibniz and Newton duke it out

Week 9: David Hume: Naturalism and the human mind

Week 10: David Hume: is this maximal scepticism?

Week 11: Immanuel Kant: the great reconciliation

Week 12: Immanuel Kant (continued)

Week 13: Concluding remarks

As a student at Langara, you are responsible for familiarizing yourself and complying with the following policies:

College Policies:

[E1003 - Student Code of Conduct](#)

[F1004 - Code of Academic Conduct](#)

[E2008 - Academic Standing - Academic Probation and Academic Suspension](#)

[E2006 - Appeal of Final Grade](#)

[F1002 - Concerns about Instruction](#)

[E2011 - Withdrawal from Courses](#)

Departmental/Course Policies:

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