PHIL3302
Analytic Philosophy 分析哲學

Course Outline

Time：T 10:30am-1:15pm	**Location： LHC 106**

Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)

This course reflectively introduces analytic philosophy as arguably the most influential tradition of contemporary philosophy, in its origins as well as some of its most representative fruits. The course not only depicts seminal contributions from founders of this tradition such as Frege, Russell, Moore, Wittgenstein and Stebbing, but also highlights certain influential figures such as Quine, Davidson, Sellars, and Lewis. A comparative look will also be taken at certain overlooked similarities between Frege and Husserl, the founder of phenomenology (on the 'opposite' side of continental philosophy). Some of the distinctive ideas of these philosophers will be delivered in an interconnected way that at the end of the course, students can hopefully get some holistic picture about what had happened and achieved in this most exciting period of the entire history of western (to some extent, world) philosophy.

Advisory to Majors: to be taken in year 2 or above.

Learning outcomes (as shown on CUSIS)

1. Understand the characteristics and development of major ideas in the analytic tradition.

2. Grasp the broadly logical method and conceptual analysis in this tradition.

3. More motivation to appreciate the systematic nature of doing philosophy exemplified by this tradition.

4. Make sense of the so-called 'linguistic turn' characterizing the 20th century analytic movement and beyond.

Topics (in question forms)

1. How many (kinds of) things are there?
2. How can we speak of what does not exist?
3. Do you know what I mean?
4. Are there limits to what we can say or think?
5. How can we think more clearly?
6. Why should thought be extruded from the mind?
7. Why is truth important to meaning?
8. Can there be sense (or noema) without reference?
9. What is the linguistic turn? (A return of naturalistic metaphysics?)
10. Is analytic philosophy a methodology or a subject-matter?

Learning activities

Reading of required texts is essential and compulsory while further readings are optional (but recommended for those who are interested in certain respective subject-matters).

Free discussions (or Q&A's) are always and highly encouraged during lectures as well as tutorial sessions.

Each student will present, in a tutorial, on one chosen topic among a given list (or comparable topic outside that list).

A (relatively short) essay is required of everybody before the final exam.

Assessment scheme as prescribed on CUSIS (revise if necessary)

Task nature	***Description***	***Weight***
Essays		20%
Essay test or exam		50%
Others		30%

Remarks on Assessment Scheme (if any)

Grade Descriptor

Please refer to: http://phil.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~phidept/UG/Grade_descriptors.pdf

Recommended learning resources

M. Beaney, Analytic Philosophy: A very short introduction, Oxford University Press, 2017. [Compulsory reading]

M. Dummett, Origins of Analytical Philosophy, Harvard University Press, 1993.

Further readings (mainly in forms of articles) will be provided later.

Course schedule

Week	***Topics***	***Teaching Mode*** ***Online / in-campus***	***Required reading***	***Tutorials***	***Remarks***
1	Introduction (partially 9 & 10)				
2	1				
3	2				
4	3				
5	4				
6	5				
7	6 (& partially 9)				
8	7				
9	8				
10	9				
11	10				
12	Case study I (Davidson)				
13	Case study II (Lewis)				
14	Wrap-up (or Back-up)				

Details of course website

Contact details for teacher(s) or TA(s)

Teacher	
Name:	Zheng Yujian
Office location:	G26B, Fung King Hey Building
Telephone:	
Email:	Zhengyj95@gmail.com

TA	
Name:	
Office location:	
Telephone:	
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Academic honesty and plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.