Course Title: Seminar on Contemporary Anglo-American Philosophy—Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations* (當代英美哲學專題研討—維根斯坦的《哲學研究》)

2021-22 Term 2

Instructor: Cheung, Kam Ching Leo (張錦青) (email: leokccheung@cuhk.edu.hk)

Tutors: TBD

Time / Venue: Friday 18:30-21:30 / WMY 301

BLACKBOARD LEARN will be used for this course.

Course description:

Ludwig Wittgenstein is widely regarded as one of the most important philosophers in the twentieth century. His early philosophy, represented by his *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, has influenced important philosophical schools in the early twentieth century, including that of the Vienna Circle. His later philosophy, to be found in his posthumously published book *Philosophical Investigations* (amongst his many writings, all unpublished during his lifetime), also influenced many prominent philosophical trends, including that of the Ordinary Language School. Nevertheless, Wittgenstein's philosophy has intrinsic values and importance in itself. This course aims to introduce Wittgenstein's philosophy presented in the *Philosophical Investigations*. It is intended to be a guided study of at least the first part of the *Philosophical Investigations* up to the entry PI 307.

Learning outcomes:

After taking this course, students should able to:

- understand the key concepts, major issues and prominent theses and positions in the first part of Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations*.

- critically discuss and evaluate the major issues and positions in the first part of Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations*.

- appreciate the main concerns and the nature of some of the major issues in Wittgenstein's later Philosophy.

- acquire skills in argumentative discussion and in writing about issues in Wittgenstein's Philosophy.

<u>Learning activities:</u>

Learning activities of this course include lectures, tutorials, reading essays, and writing a term paper:

1.   Lecture: TBD.

2.   Tutorial class: TBD.

3.   A term paper.

In this course, students are required to attend all the lectures and tutorials. Students are expected to read assigned essays before the lectures and study tutorial materials, consisting of assigned essays or book chapters, before the tutorial classes.

Students are also expected to devote sufficient time to the writing of a term paper throughout the whole course. Surveying and reading the relevant literature and analyzing the materials are essential to the production of a satisfactory term paper.

Students should be able to develop and enhance their analytical and argumentative skills through discussion in tutorials and lectures, and writing the term paper.

<u>Assessment:</u>

Tutorial presentation and performance	(30%)
Tutorial Report	(10%)
Term paper	(60%)

<u>Tutorial report:</u>

Deadline for tutorial report: Two weeks after presentation

<u>Term paper:</u>

Word limit of the term paper: 3000-5000

Deadline for term paper: TBD

<u>Attention:</u>

In your *term paper*, if there are any ideas, opinions and/or materials which are taken from others, no matter whether you quote them word by word or not, you MUST provide the sources. Otherwise, you would be considered as having committed Plagiarism. (Please also refer to http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/ for 'Honesty in Academic Work'.)

Students are required to submit their term papers to the **<u>VeriGuide</u>** system before handing them in. Please visit the following website for the VeriGuide system: http://veriguide1.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/portal/page/index.jsp

Outline content:

1.   Preliminaries and introduction
     (a)   The Life of Wittgenstein
     (b)   Frege and Russell
     (c)   Wittgenstein's *Tractatus*

2.   Language, language game and family resemblance (PI 1-88, 134-142)

3.   What is meaning? (PI 1-88, 134-142)

4.   What is Philosophy? (PI 89-133)

5.   What is understanding? (PI 143-184)

6.   Following a rule (PI 185-242)

7.   The private language argument (PI 243-280)

8.   The Inner and the Outer (PI 281-307)

The basic text:

**Wittgenstein, L. *Philosophical Investigations*. 3rd edn. G. E. M. Anscombe, trans. Oxford: Blackwell 2001.

The revised fourth edition of the translation, based on the Anscombe translation, by Peter Hacker *et al* will also be consulted:

Wittgenstein, L. *Philosophical Investigations*. G. E. M. Anscombe, P. M. S. Hacker and Joachim Schulte, tans., revised 4th edition by P. M. S. Hacker and Joachim Schulte, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell 2009.

References (selected):

**Baker, G. P. and Hacker P. M. S. (2005). *Wittgenstein: Understanding and Meaning, Volume 1 of an analytical commentary on the Philosophical Investigations.* Second and extensively revised edition by P. M. S. Hacker. Oxford: Blackwell.

**————. (2014). *Wittgenstein : Rules, Grammar, and Necessity, Volume 2 of an analytical commentary on the Philosophical Investigations.* Oxford: Blackwell. Second and extensively revised edition by P. M. S. Hacker. Oxford: Blackwell.

Glock, H.-J. (1996). *A Wittgenstein Dictionary*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Glock, H.-J. and John Hyman, J. eds. (2017). *A Companion to Wittgenstein*. Oxford: Blackwell-Wiley.

**Hacker, P. M. S. (1990). *Wittgenstein : Meaning and Mind, Volume 3 of an Analytical Commentary on the Philosophical Investigations.* Oxford:

Blackwell.

**———. (1990). *Wittgenstein: Mind and Will, Volume 4 of an Analytical Commentary on the Philosophical Investigations.* Oxford: Blackwell.

———. (1986). *Insight and Illusion*. revised edn. Oxford: Clarendon.

**Hallett, G. (1977). *A Companion to Wittgenstein's "Philosophical Investigations".* Ithaca: Connell University Press.

Kripke, S. (1982). *Wittgenstein on Rules and Private Language.* Oxford: Blackwell.

Lugg, A. (2000). *Wittgenstein's Investigations 1-133*. London: Routledge. [This book only comments on the first 133 entries of the PI.]

**McGinn, M. (1997). *Wittgenstein and the Philosophical Investigations.* London: Routledge.

Miller, A. and Wright, C. (2002). *Rule-Following and Meaning*. Chesham: Acumen.

**Monk, R. (1991). *Ludwig Wittgenstein: The Duty of a Genius.* London: Vintage.

Pitcher, P. (ed.) (1996). *Wittgenstein: The Philosophical Investigations*. Indiana: University of Notre Dame Press.

Rhees, R. (1996). *Discussions of Wittgenstein*. Bristol: Thoemmes.

Schulte, J. (1992). *Wittgenstein—An Introduction*. W. H. Brenner and J. F. Holley, trans., NY: SUNY.

Williams, M. (1999). *Wittgenstein, Mind and Meaning*. London: Routledge.

**.   These books will be reserved at the University Library (with 4 hours loan period).

Tutorial topics and materials:

1. **First tutorial**
    Topic: Ostensive definition, names, things named, use and meaning
    Basic Text: **PI 26-32, 37-47**

2. **Second tutorial**
    Topic: Family resemblance
    Basic Text: **PI 65-77**

3. **Third tutorial**
    Topic: Accords with a rule
    Basic Text: **PI 43, 185-202**

4. **Fourth tutorial**
    Topic: Rule-following, practice and form of life
    Basic Text: **PI 203-242**

5.   <u>**Fifth tutorial**</u>
Topic: Private language
Basic Text: **PI 243-275**

6.   <u>**Sixth tutorial**</u>
Topic: The inner and the outer
Basic Text: **PI 281-307**

<u>**Useful references:**</u> (detailed references are in the above "References")
Baker, G. P. and Hacker P. M. S. (2005). *Wittgenstein: Understanding and Meaning, Volume 1 of an analytical commentary on the Philosophical Investigations.*

Baker, G. P. and Hacker P. M. S. (2014). *Wittgenstein: Rules, Grammar, and Necessity, Volume 2 of an analytical commentary on the Philosophical Investigations.*

Hacker, P. M. S. (1990). *Wittgenstein: Meaning and Mind, Volume 3 of an Analytical Commentary on the Philosophical Investigations.*

Hallett, G. (1977). *A Companion to Wittgenstein's "Philosophical Investigations".*

Lugg, A. (2000). *Wittgenstein's Investigations 1-133.*

McGinn, M. (1997). *Wittgenstein and the Philosophical Investigations.*

<u>**Teaching Schedule:**</u> TBD

<u>**Academic honesty and plagiarism:**</u>

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/ .

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.