The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Department of Philosophy
2025-26 Term 1

PHIL5180/ PHIL7180
Special Seminar on Selected Philosophical Issues

Course Outline

Teacher: Prof. Michael Forster
Schedule: Fridays 2:30-5:15pm
Venue: Li Dak Sum Building 218 (LDS_218)

1st session (12 September 2025)

Required Reading: Herder, "Philosophy of language" ("Fragments" & "Treatise")

Recommended Reading: Michael Forster, After Herder
Ian Hacking, Why Does language Matter to Philosophy?
Charles Taylor, The language Animal

2nd session (19 September 2025)

Required Reading: Schleiermacher, "General Hermeneutics"

Recommended Reading: Michael Forster, After Herder, chs. 1–5, 11
Michael Forster, German Philosophy of language, chs. 2, 9

3rd session (26 September 2025)

Required reading: Schleiermacher, "On the Different Methods of Translation"

Recommended readings: Michael Forster, After Herder, ch. 12

4th session (3 October 2025)

Required reading: Humboldt, "On language," sections §7-14

Recommended readings: Michael Forster, German Philosophy of language, ch. 4

Requirements:

Please advise. TBA

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

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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/

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.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools in Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Use of generative AI tools
(Teachers should include information relevant to the approach to be adopted in the course here. Elaboration of each approach could be found in the separate file p.3.)

Approach 1 - All use of AI tools is prohibited in assignments and assessment tasks or

Approach 2 - Use of some AI tools is allowed or

Approach 3 - Use of AI tools is allowed with explicit acknowledgement and proper citation or

Approach 4 - Use of some AI tools is allowed with no acknowledgement