PHIL5340/PHIL7340 Seminar on Modern Western Philosophy:
Kant's Critique of Pure Reason

Course Outline

Mode of Teaching: Face-to-face Teaching

Term: 2026-27 Term 2

Time：Wednesday 18:30-21:30 **Location：YIA LT9**

Course overview (as shown on CUSIS)

This course aims at an in-depth discussion of selected works of major philosophers in modern Western philosophy such as Descartes, Hume, Kant and Hegel. The specific content of the course may vary from semester to semester. Students may repeat the course for credit, provided that two courses with identical course codes are not elected in the same semester.

Topics/Schedule (Tentative)

In-depth study of Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*

Learning outcomes (as shown on CUSIS)

1. Demonstrate a solid grasp of the issues discussed.

2. Analyze and critically interpret some significant primary texts in modern Western philosophy.

3. Demonstrate an enhanced ability to conduct independent research on the topics covered and related issues.

Learning activities

Lectures, Class Presentation, and Discussion

Course schedule

Week	***Topics***	***Required reading and Assignments***
1	Introductory Lectures	
2	Introductory Lectures	
3	Prefaces & Introductions	A vii–16; B vii–30 ([Pluhar*] 5–68)
4	Aesthetic	B 31–73 (71–104)
5	Logic & Categories I	B 74–129; A 95–130 (105–174)
6	Categories II & Schematism	B 129–187 (175–219)
7	Principles	B 187–294 (220–302)
8	Noumena & Reflection	B 294–349 (303–345)
9	Reason & Paralogism	B 349–432 (346–387; 424–441)

10	Antinomy	B 432–461; B 472–479; B 490–595 (442–464; 473–479; 486–559)
11	Theology	B 595–670 (560–616)
12	Regulative Use	B 670–732 (617–662)
13	Method	B 733–884 (663–774)

Assessment scheme

Task nature	**Description**	**Weight**
Term Paper		50%
Presentation		30%
In-Class Essay		20%

Remarks on Assessment Scheme (if any)

Grade Descriptor

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

Details of course website

Relevant announcements and course documents will be posted on Blackboard.

Recommended learning resources (Tentative)

- Text:
  1. *Kritik der reinen Vernunft*, ed. J. Timmermann, Hamburg: Meiner, 1998.
  2. *Critique of Pure Reason*, trans. W. Pluhar. Indianapolis: Hackett, 1996.
  3. *Critique of Pure Reason*, trans. P. Guyer & A. W. Wood. Cambridge UP, 1998.
  4. *Critique of Pure Reason*, trans. N. Kemp-Smith. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.
  5. 《純粹理性批判》，鄧曉芒譯，楊祖陶校。北京：人民出版社，2004。
  6. 《純粹理性批判》，李秋零譯。北京：中國人民出版社，2004。
- Literature:
  1. Allison, Henry E., *Kant's Transcendental Idealism: An Interpretation and Defense*, rev. and enl. ed. New Haven: Yale UP, 2004.
  2. Bird, Graham, *The Revolutionary Kant: A Commentary on the Critique of Pure Reason*. Chicago: Open Court Books, 2006.
  3. Caygill, Howard, *A Kant Dictionary*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1995.
  4. Guyer, Paul, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Kant and Modern Philosophy*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2006.
  5. Guyer, Paul, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Kant*. Cambridge UP, 1992.

6. Guyer, Paul, *Kant and the Claims of Knowledge*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1987.
7. Hanna, Robert, *Kant and the Foundations of Analytic Philosophy*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2001.
8. Höffe, Otfried, *Immanuel Kant*, trans. M. Farrier. Albany: SUNY Press, 1994.
9. Jauernig, Anja, *The World According to Kant: Appearances and Things in Themselves in Critical Idealism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021.
10. Kemp Smith, Norman, *A Commentary to Kant's 'Critique of Pure Reason'*. London: MacMillan, 1930.
11. Kuehn, Manfred, *Kant: A Biography*. New York: Cambridge UP, 2001.
12. Scruton, Roger, *Kant: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford UP, 2001.
13. Strawson, Peter F., *The Bounds of Sense: An Essay on Kant's Critique of Pure Reason*. London: Methuen, 1966.
14. 勞思光，《康德知識論要義新編》，關子尹編。香港：中文大學出版社，2001。
15. 包姆嘉特納，《康德「純粹理性批判」導讀》，李明輝譯。臺北：聯經出版事業公司，1988。

AI tools usage guide

Approach 3 – Use only with explicit acknowledgement

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

Teacher	
Name:	Prof. LAU Chong Fuk
Office location:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

TA	
Name:	
Office location:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

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.