

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
Undergraduate Course Outline 2012-13
Philosophy 4045G/9*: Survey in 18th C German Philosophy**

Winter 2017/18

Day and Time Th 8:30-11:30

Classroom: StH 1145

Instructor: Corey W. Dyck

StH 4138, Office Hours TBA

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DESCRIPTION

Though overshadowed by contemporary developments in France and Britain, and indeed eclipsed by Kant's Critical revolution, there was an active and rich philosophical tradition in Germany in the 18th century. In this seminar, we will focus on many previously untranslated and largely overlooked thinkers, including such important figures as G. W. Leibniz, Christian Thomasius, Christian Wolff, Christian August Crusius, Georg Friedrich Meier, Martin Knutzen, J. H. Lambert, and J. N. Tetens. We will also consider how the early Kant engaged with and was influenced by many of these thinkers. Our readings will cover issues in metaphysics (substance, space and time, immortality, the principle of sufficient reason), epistemology (truth and scepticism), philosophy of religion (proofs of God's existence, theodicy), logic and the doctrine of prejudice, and the philosophy of mind (consciousness and identity).

TEXTS

Manuscript, *Early Modern German Philosophy (1690-1750)*, ed. and trans. C. W. Dyck
Background Source Materials to Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, ed. and trans. E Watkins
(Cambridge UP)

Kant, *Theoretical Philosophy (1755-1770)*, ed. and trans. R. Meerbote et al. (Cambridge UP)

OBJECTIVES

Students completing this course successfully will (1) be familiar with the key philosophical developments in early Modern German philosophy, (2) have demonstrated an ability to comprehend complex philosophical arguments and reflect critically upon them, and (3) be able to write concise argumentative papers exhibiting research competence.

REQUIREMENTS

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>% of Final Grade</i>	<i>Date Due</i>
Presentation	TBD	TBD
Short Papers	TBD	TBD
Participation	TBD	

ACADEMIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy,

specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

PLAGIARISM CHECKING

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

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Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. Immediate help in the event of a crisis can be had by phoning 519.661.3030 (during class hours) or 519.433.2023 after class hours and on weekends.