Humanities 117: Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities
Section no. 1. Mon. and Wed., 1:30–2:50pm, Cobb 104.

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Office hours: Mon., 11–12; Tues., 1:30–2:30; or by appointment.

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Course Requirements
Classroom participation, including attendance at and participation in writing seminars. One 4–6 page paper, due in class Mon., May 2, and one 8–12 page paper, due Wed., June 8. (Note: there will probably be one rescheduled class, during the week of Apr. 25. Stay tuned for details.)

Texts
Emerson, Self-Reliance and Other Essays (Dover).
Hume, An Enquiry concerning the Principles of Morals, ed. Schneewind (Hackett).
Kant, Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals, tr. Wood (Yale).
Nietzsche, Beyond Good and Evil, tr. W. Kaufmann (Vintage).
Gene Wolfe, Shadow and Claw (Tor).
Gene Wolfe, Sword and Citadel (Tor).

All texts should be available at the Seminary Coop. (However, there are apparently some problems with Nietzsche’s Untimely Meditations, which we’ll deal with as necessary when the time comes.) Readings not on the above list will be made available as photocopies. (As was the case last quarter, you can use a different translation/edition at your own risk.)

Readings
Mon., Mar. 28: first meeting (no reading).

Mon., Apr. 4: Hume, *Enquiry*, §§III and IV.


Wed., Apr. 13: Kant, *Groundwork*, sect. 2, pp. 22–40, end of no. 4 (Ak. 406–near end of Ak. 423) (ending “of all the hope of the assistance that he wishes for himself”).

Mon., Apr. 18: Kant, *Groundwork*, sect. 2, pp. 40–55, end of first paragraph (Ak. 423–beginning of Ak. 437) (ending “as far as may be done, to bring the action nearer to intuition”).

Wed., Apr. 20: Kant, *Groundwork*, sect. 2, pp. 55–8, until just before the heading “Autonomy of the will” (Ak. 437–40) (ending “itself subject to this legislation”); sect. 3, pp. 63–71, through the end of the subsection titled "How is a categorical imperative possible?” (Ak. 446–55).

Mon., Apr. 25: **no class** (second day of Passover).

Wed., Apr. 27: Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason* and *Critique of Practical Reason* (short selections) (a total of about eight pages, but, warning, very rough going).


Mon., May 2: Emerson, “History” (in your book); “Circles” (handout) (and first paper due).


Mon., May 9: Nietzsche, “Schopenhauer as Educator” §§1–2 (pp. 127–36); §§4–5 (pp. 146–161); from §6, the description of the scholar (p. 169, 2nd par.—beginning “Science is related to wisdom”—through p. 174, 2nd par.—ending “cannot be found in him either.”); §8 (pp. 182–94).

Tues., May 10 (evening) (and/or other nights this week): screening of *The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai: Across the Eighth Dimension*. 


(Note: please do read p. 7, the page before the first page.)


Mon., May 30: no class (Memorial Day).

Tues., May 31 (evening) (and/or other nights this week): screening of *The Big Lebowski*.


Wed., June 8: final paper due.