Humanities 117: Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities

Section no. 4. Mon. and Wed., 1:30–2:50pm, Cobb 207.

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Course Requirements

Classroom participation. One 4–6 page paper, due in class Mon., Apr. 29, and one 8–12 page paper, due Wed., June 5.

Texts

Emerson, *Self-Reliance and Other Essays* (Dover).


Gene Wolfe, *Shadow and Claw* (Tor).

Gene Wolfe, *Sword and Citadel* (Tor).

(As before, you can use a different translation/edition at your own risk.)
Readings

Mon., Mar. 25: first meeting (no reading).


Mon., Apr. 15: Kant, *Grounding*, sect. 2, pp. 32–42, end of first paragraph (Ak. 423–beginning of Ak. 437) (ending “as far as possible, to bring the moral law nearer to intuition”).

Wed., Apr. 17: Kant, *Grounding*, sect. 2, pp. 42–4, until just before the heading “Autonomy of the Will” (Ak. 437–40) (ending “itself subject to this very same legislation”); sect. 3, pp. 49–55, i.e. through the end of the subsection titled ”How Is a Categorical Imperative Possible?” (Ak. 446–55).

Mon., Apr. 22: Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason* and *Critique of Practical Reason* (short selections) (a total of about eight pages, but very rough going).

Wed., Apr. 24: Goethe, *Faust*, lines 1–2072 (pp. 1–52); lines 2065–3834 (pp. 67–98); “An Expanse of Open Country” and lines 4399–4612 (pp. 112–19).*

Mon., Apr. 29: Goethe, *Faust*, lines 8488–10,344 (pp. 216–61); lines 11,045–12,111 (pp. 279–305) (and first paper due).

Wed., May 1: Emerson, “Self-Reliance” (in your book) and “Circles” (handout).


*Note that this is quite a bit of reading. You may want to begin it early (before we finish reading Kant).
Wed., May 8: Nietzsche, “Schopenhauer as Educator” §§4–5 (pp. 146–151); 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).

Mon., May 13: Nietzsche, Beyond Good and Evil, Preface and pt. 1–2 (pp. 1–56); also §§54, 61–2, 186–8, and 202–3 (about 62 pages total).


Mon., May 27: no class (Memorial Day).
