

Phil 106: Kant

Fall, 2022

Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30–3:05pm, Earth & Marine B210

Contact Information

Professor: Abe Stone (abestone@ucsc.edu)

Office: Cowell Annex A-106

Phone (office): 459-5723

Push notification: Notify Abe (<http://notifyabe1.appspot.com>)

Website: <https://people.ucsc.edu/~abestone/courses>

Zoom link for lectures: <https://ucsc.zoom.us/j/97605212320?pwd=NmFwdjhDQ3ZQb01SbXpwUTEw>

Office hours: Tuesday 11:30am–12:30pm (in person)

Zoom office hours: Mon. 2pm–3pm; Tues. 11:30am–12:30pm (or by appointment)

Course Description

We will read (large parts of) the fundamental text of Kant's philosophy, *The Critique of Pure Reason*.

Modality: I will lecture in person in our assigned classroom, but I intend also to live-stream every lecture over Zoom. Due to the very inconvenient Jewish holiday schedule this year, there will also be three lectures towards the beginning of the quarter via Zoom only: one on 11/4 at the normal class time and two on Wednesdays, 9/28 and 10/19. I will also make a recording of every lecture available on YouTube. Office hours will be via Zoom only.

Course Requirements

Two take home midterms exams, due Monday, October 24 and Monday, November 14 (a choice of essay questions) (each worth 20% of the grade); take home final (also a choice of essay questions), due Wednesday, December 7 (60% of the grade). Students who receive an A- or higher on the first two

exams may choose to write a final paper (approximately 8–10 pages) in place of the final, on a topic to be discussed in advance with me.

Papers are due as an attachment via the “Assignments” tool on Canvas. The assignments will be available online and there will be links to them from the online version of this syllabus as well as from my main course page.

Note that all three exams are due by 11:55pm on the due date.

You can find answers to some commonly asked questions about my assignments and grading in my FAQ (<https://people.ucsc.edu/~abestone/courses/faq.html>).

Attendance at lecture is *strongly* encouraged, but it is not a course requirement and I will not be taking attendance.

Texts

Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason*, tr. Norman Kemp Smith (Palgrave Macmillan; 2nd edition, 2007) (ISBN: 978-0230013384).

The above text is available via the Bay Tree Bookstore, and also on reserve at McHenry; it is also available as an e-book via the Library course reserves page.

If you want to use a different translation you are welcome to, but you should be aware that it may be confusing because translations can differ greatly. Of course, if you know German, you should read in the original.

We will be reading exclusively the text of the second (“B”) edition. Page numbers in both the first and second (“A”) editions are marked in the margin of Smith’s translation. In most cases where the two editions differ, it should be relatively easy to figure out what the text of the B edition says: Smith mostly either prints the B-edition text with A-edition difference in footnotes, or, where there are big differences, prints the two texts separately.

Readings

Thursday, September 22: (no reading, first class). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Preface, Introduction, Tr. Aesthetic, and Intro to Tr. Logic

Tuesday, September 27: **No class** due to the second day of Rosh Hashanah.

Wednesday, September 28: (1:30–3:05pm) Preface, through “philosophy into philodoxy” (Bvii–xxxvii) (via Zoom only). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, September 29: Introduction (B1–30). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, October 4: beginning of Transcendental Aesthetic, through end of §7 (B33–58) (via Zoom only). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, October 6: end of Transcendental Aesthetic, and Introduction to Transcendental Logic (B59–88). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Transcendental Analytic

Tuesday, October 11: **No class** due to the second day of Sukkot.

Thursday, October 13: Introduction to Transcendental Analytic, and Metaphysical Deduction (B89–116). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, October 18: **No class** due to Simchat Torah.

Wednesday, October 19: (1:30–3:05pm) beginning of Transcendental Deduction, through the end of §20 (B116–143) (via Zoom only). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, October 20: end of Transcendental Deduction (B144–69). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Monday, October 24: **First take home midterm due.**

Tuesday, October 25: Schematism (and various introductory material) (B169–202). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, October 27: Introduction to the Analogies, Second Analogy, Postulates of Empirical Thought, and Refutation of Idealism (B218–24, B232–47, B265–79). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, November 1: Phenomena and Noumena (B295–315). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, November 3: Amphiboly (B316–49). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Transcendental Dialectic

Tuesday, November 8: Introduction to the Dialectic, and beginning of the Concepts of Pure Reason (B349–77). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, November 10: end of the Concepts of Pure Reason, and beginning of the Inferences of Pure Reason (B377–406). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Monday, November 14: **Second take home exam due.**

Tuesday, November 15: Paralogisms (B406–32). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, November 17: Introduction to Antinomies, and Third Antinomy (B432–453, B472–79). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Tuesday, November 22: Concluding Note on the Solution of the Mathematical-Transcendental Ideas, and Solution to the Third Antinomy (B556–86). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, November 24: **No class (Thanksgiving)**

Tuesday, November 29: Ideal (B595–619). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Thursday, December 1: Impossibility of the Cosmological and Ontological Proofs (B620–42). (Lecture on YouTube.)

Wednesday, December 7: **Take home final (or final paper¹) due.**

¹There is no formal assignment for the final paper; if you would like to pursue this option and need guidelines or suggestions, please contact me.