

Phil 190: Hegel's Logic
Winter, 2026

Tuesday and Thursday, 5:20–6:55, Porter Acad 250

Contact Information

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Course Requirements

Attendance and participation in seminar (10%); two short (2-3 page) response/analysis papers, due Thursday, February 5 and Tuesday, February 24 (15% each); take home final exam, due Tuesday, March 17 (60%); optionally, students may choose to write a final paper (approximately 6–10 pages) in place of the take home final, on a topic to be discussed in advance with the instructor. Exams and papers are due, as an attachment, via the “Assignments” tool on Canvas (preferably in PDF or a format easily convertible to PDF).

Texts

G.W.F. Hegel, *The Encyclopaedia Logic*, tr. T.F. Geraets, W.A. Suchting, and H.S. Harris (Hackett) (ISBN: 0872200701).

This text can be ordered through the bookstore and will also be on reserve at McHenry.

Readings

Tuesday, January 6: no required reading, first class; but recommended: Translators' Introduction (by Geraets and Harris), pp. xiii–xxxii, and Suchting's objections, pp. xxxii–xlvi (this is very entertaining, as well as informative — at least, if you're as easily entertained as I am).

Thursday, January 8: Translators' Preface, pp. vii–ix; start of the Preliminary Conception (§§19–25), *without* Additions (*Zusätze*), pp. 45–65.

Tuesday, January 13: More Precise Conception and Division of the *Logic* (§§79–83), pp. 125–34.

The Doctrine of Being

Thursday, January 15: Intro. and Being (§§84–8), pp. 135–45.

Tuesday, January 20: Being-There and Being-for-Itself (§§89–98), pp. 145–57.

Thursday, January 22: Pure Quantity and Quantum (§§97–102), pp. 157–63.

Tuesday, January 27: Degree (§§103–6), pp. 163–9.

Thursday, January 29: Measure (§§107–11), pp. 170–74.

The Doctrine of Essence

Tuesday, February 3: Intro. and Pure Determinations of Reflection (§§112–22), pp. 175–92.

Thursday, February 5: Existence and Thing (§§123–30), pp. 192–9. **First short paper due.**

Tuesday, February 10: Appearance (§§131–41), pp. 199–213.

Thursday, February 12: first part of Actuality (§§142–49), pp. 213–25.¹

Tuesday, February 17: Relationships of Substantiality, Causality, and Reciprocal Action (§§150–59), pp. 225–35.

The Doctrine of the Concept

Thursday, February 19: Intro. and Concept as Such (§§160–65), pp. 236–43.

Tuesday, February 24: Judgment (§§166–80), pp. 243–56. **Second short paper due.**

Thursday, February 26: Syllogism (§§181–93) pp. 256–71.

Tuesday, March 3: Object (§§194–212), pp. 272–286.

Thursday, March 5: Intro. to Idea and Life (§§213–22), pp. 286–94.

Tuesday, March 10: Cognition (§§223–35), pp. 294–303.

Thursday, March 12: Absolute Idea (§§236–44), pp. 303–7.

Tuesday, March 17: **take home final exam (or final paper) due.**

¹Note it is not exactly clear that the end of this reading marks a natural stopping point in the text (the structure of the chapter on Actuality is confusing, as we will discuss).