



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Philosophy

PHIL 405.5 Lec 01
A 17th or 18th century philosopher (Locke and Leibniz)

Winter Term 2019

Course Outline

Lectures: M 17:00 - 19:45; SS 010

Instructor: J. J. MacIntosh

Office: SS 1249

Office Phone: 403-220-3164

Email: macintos@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: 13:00 - 14:50 every Tuesday from January 15 to April 9 apart from February 19 (Reading Week) OR: by appointment

Course Description

John Locke's *Essay Concerning Humane Understanding*, was probably started around 1671, rewritten and revised several times, and first published in December 1689, or in 1690; it subsequently went through further various changes in a series of editions. The views Locke offers in it profoundly affected subsequent philosophy. Leibniz's basic metaphysical outlook was strongly at variance with Locke's. Unsurprisingly he disagreed with many of Locke's views, but felt them important enough to be publicly discussed and, indeed, disagreed with. He wrote, in the form of a dialogue, a detailed commentary, *Nouveaux essais sur l'entendement humain (New Essays)* on Locke's *Essay*. Leibniz had the *New Essays* ready for publication in 1704, when the news of Locke's death reached him. He then decided not to publish since Locke was unable to reply. The work was published posthumously in 1765. In this course we shall be looking at a variety of philosophically important topics on which these two eminent philosophers disagreed. A detailed list will be posted on D2L. Of course we shall also discuss the views of various other important philosophers of the period such as René Descartes and Anne Conway.

Prerequisites:

Two previous courses in Philosophy, one of which must be Philosophy 301, 303, 305, 307, 309 or 311.

Course Learning Outcomes

Improving your assumed current ability to read works in the history of philosophy critically and competently. As with every philosophy course, this one will attempt to foster the ability to think, discuss, and write critically and with intellectual integrity, looking clearly at the strengths and weaknesses of the positions and arguments under discussion. Such positions and arguments of philosophers of course include *your* positions and arguments.

Required Texts (including electronic resources):

We shall be using the modernized version of Locke's *Essay* by Jonathan Bennett, and the excellent translation of Leibniz's *New Essays*, by Jonathan Bennett and Peter Remnant. Both these are freely available on earlymoderntexts.com. The various editions of Locke's *Essay* are available on line through EEBO or Eighteenth Century Collections On-Line. Should you wish to have printed copies of these works, the definitive edition Locke's *Essay* is the Clarendon edition:

Locke, John, *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*, ed. P. H. Nidditch (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1975).

An on-line resource you should be (and probably already are) aware of: The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (<https://plato.stanford.edu>). Articles are peer reviewed, and updated regularly.

Course Assessment

- Marks will be based on two take home tests (40% each) and class contribution (20%). There will be no Registrar scheduled final exam. The combined grades for the two tests and class presentation (averaged according to the GPA values of the letter grades) will make up the final grade in the course.
- Tests: The first take home test is due by 23:59, March 1. The second take home test is due by 23:59, April 12. Electronic submissions are strongly preferred. (If this is impossible let me know and I will arrange for a hard copy submission.) Please make the subject line of your emailed submission *405 Your Last Name T1* (or *T2*, as appropriate). If possible, please send your test as an MS Word (preferred) or PDF attachment. The take home test questions will be posted two weeks before the test is due. If you wish, you may submit a rough draft of your answer at least one week before the test is due and I will, usually within 24 hours, reply with suggestions for improvement. Your answer should not be longer than 3,000 words (it's a test, not a term paper). Please ensure that your name is on your test as well as in the accompanying email. No late submissions. There will be no Registrar-scheduled final examination. There is no particular component of the course for which a passing grade is required for the student to pass the course as a whole.
- The University requires us to state whether 'writing and the grading thereof is a factor in the evaluation of a student's work.' It is.
- In-class work: At this level, and with our class size, every member is expected to contribute each week to the discussion of that week's topic. We will begin each week with a presentation by the instructor on the topic for which notes will have been posted and readings suggested; after the first 2-3 weeks, three class members will respond to the presentation and the posted paper, opening the class discussion. Your presentation, and participation in class discussion, will be worth 20% of the final mark. After your presentation, please let me have any slides or notes you have used in your presentation. If you wish to discuss your presentation we can of course meet beforehand

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which will be an F on the assignment or an F in the course, and possibly a disciplinary sanction such as probation, suspension, or expulsion. See the relevant section K.5 on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>.

Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it> for help.

General Academic Concerns and Program Planning

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS102, call 403-220-3580, or email ascarts@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising> for detailed information on common academic concerns

Advice on Philosophy Courses

You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy's website <http://phil.ucalgary.ca>, or contact one of Philosophy's Undergraduate Advisors. David Dick – Undergraduate Program Director (dgdick@ucalgary.ca), Megan Delehanty – Honors Advisor (mdelehan@ucalgary.ca) or Allen Habib (anhabib@ucalgary.ca).

Registration Overload/Prerequisite Waivers

If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prerequisites for a course, email the Philosophy Department Undergraduate Program Administrator (UPA), Rebecca Lesser (rebecca.lesser@ucalgary.ca). Include the specific course information and your UCID number in your request.

Writing

All written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Protection of Privacy

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor or teaching assistant.

Internet and Electronic Communication Devices

The instructor reserves the right to establish course policies regarding the use of devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartbooks. If allowed, these devices must be used exclusively for instructional purposes and must not cause disruption to the instructor or to fellow students. Cell phones and paging devices should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy

Emergency Evacuation:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints> . Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Other Helpful Contacts

- Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.
- Faculty of Arts Student Representatives: 403-220-6552, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca , arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
- Student Union: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>; 403-220-6551.
- Student Ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>
- Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>