

Spring 2022  
17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy  
Philosophy 326—01

**Professor:**

Charles Joshua Horn, Ph.D.

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Office Location: CCC 418

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, 1:30pm—2:00pm; Friday, 10:00am—11:00am; By Appointment

Zoom Office Hours: Tuesday, 9:30am—10:30am; By Appointment

<http://charlesjhorn.webstarts.com/index.html>

**Course Information:**

Class Time: MW, 2:00pm—3:15pm

Class Location: CCC 126

**Course Description:**

This course will examine some of the most important metaphysical and epistemological questions prevalent during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century. We will focus on differing conceptions of substance, the limits of knowledge, the existence of God, the nature of the self, the relationship between the mind and body, and the notions of causality, space, and time. We will devote the vast majority of our attention to several major figures in this period including Descartes, Elisabeth of Bohemia, Spinoza, Leibniz, Conway, Locke, Cavendish, Berkeley, Hume, and Kant. Less time will be spent examining some “minor” figures such as Montaigne, Bacon, Malebranche, Newton, and Reid. The overarching theme of the class will be how and whether these figures attempted to reconcile the new sciences with views in classical theism.

**Text:**Rental:

1. *Modern Philosophy: An Anthology of Primary Sources (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.)*  
Eds. Roger Ariew and Eric Watkins  
Hackett Publishing  
ISBN: 978-1624668050
2. *Correspondence Between Princess Elisabeth of Bohemia and Rene Descartes*  
Elisabeth of Bohemia and Rene Descartes  
University of Chicago Press  
ISBN: 978-0226204420
3. *Philosophical Letters*  
Margaret Cavendish  
Hackett Publishing  
ISBN: 978-1-62466-973-6
4. *Principles of the Most Ancient and Modern Philosophy*  
Anne Conway  
Cambridge University Press  
ISBN: 9780521479042

**Course Goals:**

By carefully examining metaphysics and epistemology in modern philosophy, students will develop critical thinking skills by engaging, analyzing, and evaluating texts in order to write well, speak articulately, and argue persuasively.

**Expectations:**

Students are expected to check into Canvas daily in order to check for class announcements, complete assignments, use the discussion board, etc. Students are expected to attend every class and remain for the entire time. Do not come late or leave early. Students must complete the necessary readings prior to class and be prepared for discussion and participation. Students will treat other students with respect. This means, turning off all electrical equipment, including cell phones, laptops, and tablets. Students must also address their peers in a respectful tone. It is important to note that the nature of this class will inevitably result in disagreements among colleagues; however, it is essential to maintain respect toward one another despite disagreement.

*Face Coverings:* At all UW-Stevens Point campus locations, the wearing of face coverings is mandatory in all buildings, including classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other instructional spaces. Any student with a condition that impacts their use of a face covering should contact the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](#) to discuss accommodations in classes. Please note that unless everyone is wearing a face covering, in-person classes cannot take place. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors. Failure to adhere to this requirement could result in formal withdrawal from the course.

*Other Guidance:* Please monitor your own health each day using [this screening tool](#). If you are not feeling well or believe you have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to class; email your instructor and contact Student Health Service (715-346-4646). As with any type of absence, students are expected to communicate their need to be absent and complete the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus.

- Maintain a minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from others whenever possible.
- Do not congregate in groups before or after class; stagger your arrival and departure from the classroom, lab, or meeting room.
- Wash your hands or use appropriate hand sanitizer regularly and avoid touching your face.
- Please maintain these same healthy practices outside the classroom.

Please follow the checklist to best increase the chances for success in the class.

1. All quizzes are set on a weekly schedule (Sunday—Saturday) and they can be submitted at any point during this period. Be sure to complete the reading assignment, quizzes, essays, and exams during the week specified on the course schedule.
2. Take advantage of office hours. There are in-person office hours, as well as virtual office hours on Zoom. See Canvas “Announcements” tab for full invitation URL and password to join. Please note that a waiting room is enabled so you may have to wait to join in case I am with another student.

### Grading Criteria:

To provide a great deal of flexibility for students, assignments can be submitted at any point during the week that they are due (Sunday—Saturday). Assignments can be made up beyond the due dates for both unexcused and excused absences. For unexcused absences, a late penalty may be imposed. Late work must be complete within one week of the assignment due date.

Canvas will automatically calculate and update grades as the semester progresses. To calculate your grade, take your score in the “Total” column on Canvas and divide by 100. Then use the scale below. The goal for the class is to try to earn as many points as possible. Any points earned over these 100 points will count as extra credit. Assignments can be completed at any point during the week they are assigned (Sunday—Saturday).

- 1) Two Exams: 40 Points Total (20 Points Each)
  - a) Exams will be constituted by short answer questions.
- 2) 20 Reading Quizzes: 40 Points Total (2 Points Each)
  - a) There are quizzes associated with most of the readings in the class. Students will have 5 minutes to answer questions on the readings designated on the course schedule (look for Q# on the schedule to see which quiz is associated with each reading). Students will have 5 minutes to answer questions on each reading. Since there are 25 quizzes, students can earn up to 10 extra credit points.
- 3) One Essay 20 Points Total (20 Points Each)
  - a) The final essay must be submitted to Canvas by May 15, 2022 by 11:59pm. Essays turned in after the deadline will *not* be accepted. The essay should be between 1,250—1,750 words (5—7 pages). Additional requirements will be provided on the prompt.
- 4) One “Philosophy at UWSP” Quiz 5 Points Total (5 Points Each)
  - a) There will be a short quiz on the advantages of studying philosophy at UWSP!
- 5) One Extra Credit Essay 5 Points Total (5 Points Each)
  - a) Students may submit an essay on *Debates in Modern Philosophy*. The prompt and all the readings can be found on Canvas.

Final grades in the course will be based on the following scale.

| “Pass” Range    |            |            | “Fail” Range |           |
|-----------------|------------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| (70—100 Points) |            |            | (<70 Points) |           |
| “A” Range       | “B” Range  | “C” Range  | “D” Range    | “F” Range |
|                 | B+ (87—89) | C+ (77—79) | D+ (67—69)   | F (<60)   |
| A (94—100)      | B (84—86)  | C (74—76)  | D (60—66)    |           |
| A- (90—93)      | B- (80—83) | C- (70—73) |              |           |

**Academic Integrity:**

Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism or helping others to commit these acts will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty will result in severe disciplinary action including, but not limited to, failure of the student assessment item or course, and/or dismissal from the University.

Academic integrity violations include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise. This definition includes unauthorized communication of information during an academic exercise.
- 2) Fabrication and Falsification: Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.
- 3) Multiple Submissions: The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work for credit (including oral reports) more than once without authorization.
- 4) Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source). The sole exception to the requirement is when the ideas, information, etc., is common knowledge.
- 5) Complicity in Academic Dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespos/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>

**Disability Information:**

Students with disabilities should register with the ADA coordinator on campus and let me know at the beginning of the semester. I would be happy to accommodate you in any way that I can. Just let me know. More information can be found at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespos/ADA/rightsADAPolicyInfo.pdf>

**Intellectual Property Notice:**

Lecture materials and recordings for Philosophy 326 are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

**Course Schedule:****UNIT I: CONTINENTAL RATIONALISM**

|               |     |  |                |
|---------------|-----|--|----------------|
| <b>Week 1</b> |     | <b>(January 23—January 29)</b>                     |                |
| January 24    |     | Syllabus/Course Introduction                       |                |
|               |     | Teleology and the Scholastic Tradition             |                |
| January 26    | Q1  | Descartes, Discourse on Method 1, 2, 5             | 25—34          |
|               |     | Descartes, Meditation I                            | 40—43          |
| Online Tasks  |     | Q1   |                |
| <b>Week 2</b> |     | <b>(January 30—February 5)</b>                     |                |
| January 31    | Q2  | Descartes, Meditations II—III                      | 43—54          |
| February 2    | Q3  | Descartes, Meditations IV—V                        | 54—61          |
| Online Tasks  |     | Q2, Q3   |                |
| <b>Week 3</b> |     | <b>(February 6—February 12)</b>                    |                |
| February 7    | Q4  | Descartes, Meditations VI, Objections and Replies  | 61—68, 76—92   |
| February 9    | Q5  | Cavendish, Section 1, Letter 30, 35, 36            | 62—65, 70—72   |
|               |     | Descartes and Elisabeth Correspondence,            | 61—73, 114—132 |
| Online Tasks  |     | Q4, Q5   |                |
| <b>Week 4</b> |     | <b>(February 13—February 19)</b>                   |                |
| February 14   | Q6  | Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part I                | 172—183        |
| February 16   | Q7  | Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part I                | 183—192        |
| Online Tasks  |     | Q6, Q7   |                |
| <b>Week 5</b> |     | <b>(February 20—February 26)</b>                   |                |
| February 21   | Q8  | Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part II               | 192—215        |
| February 23   | Q9  | Spinoza, <i>The Ethics</i> , Part V                | 216—223        |
|               |     | Conway, Chapters VIII, IX                          |                |
| Online Tasks  |     | Q8, Q9   |                |
| <b>Week 6</b> |     | <b>(February 27—March 5)</b>                       |                |
| February 28   | Q10 | Leibniz, <i>Primary Truths</i>                     | 293—296        |
| March 2       | Q11 | Leibniz, <i>Discourse on Metaphysics</i>           | 252—275        |
| Online Tasks  |     | Q10, Q11   |                |
| <b>Week 7</b> |     | <b>(March 6—March 12)</b>                          |                |
| March 7       | Q12 | Leibniz, <i>A New System of Nature, Monadology</i> | 297—311        |
| March 9       | Q13 | Lady Masham and Leibniz, Correspondence            | 452—462        |
| Online Tasks  |     | Q12, Q13   |                |
| <b>Week 8</b> |     | <b>(March 13—March 19)</b>                         |                |
| March 14      | Q14 | Leibniz, <i>Correspondence with Clarke</i>         | 322—331        |
| March 16      |     | Exam I Review                                      |                |
| Online Tasks  |     | Q14, Exam I  |                |
| <b>Week 9</b> |     | <b>(March 20—March 26)</b>                         |                |
|               |     | Spring Break                                       |                |

**UNIT II: BRITISH EMPIRICISM**

|                |     |   |                    |
|----------------|-----|---|--------------------|
| <b>Week 10</b> |     | <b>(March 27—April 2)</b>   |                    |
| March 28       | Q15 | Conway, <i>Principles</i> , Chapter VI, VII   | 28—56              |
| March 30       | Q16 | Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i><br>Leibniz, <i>Preface to the New Essays</i> | 346—352<br>463—474 |
| Online Tasks   |     | Q15, Q16  |                    |
| <b>Week 11</b> |     | <b>(April 3—April 9)</b>  |                    |
| April 4        | Q17 | Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i>  | 352—378            |
| April 6        | Q18 | Locke, <i>Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i>  | 378—406            |
| Online Tasks   |     | Q17, Q18  |                    |
| <b>Week 12</b> |     | <b>(April 10—April 16)</b>  |                    |
| April 11       | Q19 | Berkeley, <i>Principles of Human Knowledge</i><br>Preface, Introduction, Part I Section 1—33    | 478—493            |
| April 13       |     | Berkeley, <i>Three Dialogues Between Hylas and Philonous</i>                                    | 494—543            |
| Online Tasks   |     | Q19   |                    |
| <b>Week 13</b> |     | <b>(April 17—April 23)</b>  |                    |
| April 18       | Q20 | Hume, <i>Treatise of Human Nature</i> , Introduction, I.4.5—6                                   | 563—577            |
| April 20       | Q21 | Hume, <i>An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding</i>  | 584—602            |
| Online Tasks   |     | Q20, Q21  |                    |
| <b>Week 14</b> |     | <b>(April 24—April 30)</b>  |                    |
| April 25       | Q22 | Hume, <i>An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding</i>  | 623—638            |
| April 27       |     | Exam II Review  |                    |
| Online Tasks   |     | Exam II   |                    |

**UNIT III: KANT'S COPERNICAN REVOLUTION**

|                |     |  |         |
|----------------|-----|--|---------|
| <b>Week 15</b> |     | <b>(May 1—May 7)</b>   |         |
| May 2          | Q23 | Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Preface and Introduction            | 775—788 |
| May 4          | Q24 | Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Transcendental Aesthetic            | 788—795 |
| Online Tasks   |     | Q23  |         |
| <b>Week 16</b> |     | <b>(May 8—May 14)</b>  |         |
| May 9          |     | Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Analytic of Concepts,<br>Principles | 795—814 |
| May 11         | Q25 | Kant, <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> , Transcendental Dialectic            | 846—858 |
| Online Tasks   |     | Q24, Q25   |         |

**FINALS WEEK**

|                |  |   |  |
|----------------|--|---|--|
| <b>Week 17</b> |  | <b>(May 15—May 21)</b>  |  |
| Online Tasks   |  | “Philosophy at UWSP” Quiz<br>Extra Credit Essay<br>Course Evaluations<br>Final Essay Due (Thursday 5/19/22, 2:30pm) |  |