

Philosophy 33

Philosophy between Reason and Despair

Spring 2024

Theme: The Fate of Morality in 18th and 19th European Philosophy

Peterson 102: TTH 11:00-12:20

Instructor: Prof. Michael Hardimon
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Office Hour: TH 12:00-1:00 pm or by appointment
 RWAC 0492

Teaching Assistant: Imani Howard
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Office Hours: W 5:00-6:00
 RWAC 0454

Class Schedule (Subject to adjustment)

1. Kant: *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*

1	Tuesday	April 2	Introduction
2	Thursday	April 4	387-405,393-395*
3	Tuesday	April 9	393-394
4	Thursday	April 11	395-405
5	Tuesday	April 16	406-417
6	Thursday	April 18	417-426
7	Tuesday	April 23	426-431
			*Academy Page Numbers (in margins)

First five-page Paper due at the beginning of class Thursday April 25

2. Kierkegaard: *Fear and Trembling*

8	Thursday	April 25	3-20, Genesis 21
9	Tuesday	April 30	21-30
10	Thursday	May 2	30-46
11	Tuesday	May 7	46-59
12	Thursday	May 9	59-71
13	Tuesday	May 14	71-106
15111111 14	Thursday	May 16	Ditto

Second five-page paper due at the beginning of class Tuesday May 21

3. Nietzsche: *On the Genealogy of Morality*

15	Tuesday	May 21	1-33
16	Thursday	May 23	Ditto
17	Tuesday	May 28	35-66
18	Thursday	May 30	Ditto
19	Tuesday	June 4	67-82
20	Thursday	June 6	83-108
21	Tuesday	June 11	108-115
22s	Thursday	June 13	115-118

Third five-page paper due at the beginning of class Thursday June 13

Texts

Texts are available from the UCSD Bookstore

Be sure to get the editions chosen for the class. Do not use other translations.

1. *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals* (Cambridge University Press)
2. *Fear and Trembling* (Cambridge University Press)
3. *On the Genealogy of Morality* (Hackett Press)

Requirements

- Regular attendance in class and section
- Class participation
- Three 5-page papers

All work must be completed to receive a passing final grade.

Three or more unexcused absences from class will result in your final mark dropping one letter grade. If you are taking the class P/NP three or more unexcused absences will result in your final mark being NP. Section attendance is also required and three or more unexcused absences will result in your final mark dropping one half grade.

For an excused absence you must email the instructor by email, preferably in advance.

This is a philosophy course which by its nature requires active participation — listening and discussion—on the part of students. The probability of your success depends heavily on regular attendance. The texts we will be discussing (by Kant, Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche) are difficult and no undergraduate can be expected to understand them adequately without in-class instruction and guidance. Sections provide an unrivaled opportunity to discuss the texts and issues in detail and to analyze precisely what it is that the prompts are asking for. This requirement is a measure intended to help you do well in the course.

No Screens

Use of laptops, tablets, and smart phones in class is prohibited. Please speak to the instructor if you have special circumstances. Policy exception: Electronics may be used to refer to texts in class.

Papers

Topics will be assigned in class. Due dates subject to revision. Students are to submit papers to Canvas

Extensions will be granted when circumstances warrant *provided arrangements are made with the instructor at least 24 hours in advance*. There are no automatic extensions. It is better to ask for an extension sooner rather than later.

Interpretations or ideas borrowed, directly or indirectly, from secondary sources or other people (apart from the instructor but including fellow students) must be footnoted. Any use of web-based material must be footnoted. Anything else is plagiarism and will be treated as such. Students are encouraged to discuss paper topics but must write the papers **alone**. **Any use of AI must be noted.**

Participation

10 possible bonus points. Class participation can only bring grades *up*, never down
Bonus points kick in at the half-grade margin (e.g. between a C+ and B-)

Grade Range

Papers in Philosophy 33 are not graded on a curve. Each student can in principle receive an A. The same holds true for less desirable grades.

The minimal standard of performance for a grade of P shall be the same as that for a grade of C- (including a C- on the final).

Other Information

Students are expected to have read the material in advance.

The Academic Honor Code must be observed in this course. Cheating will not be tolerated. Anyone caught cheating will receive an automatic F for the course and be referred to the ADHB for disciplinary action.