

Philosophy 108

Nineteenth Century Philosophy

Spring 2025

MWF 11:00-11:50 RWAC 426

Prof. Michael Hardimon
mhardimon@ucsd.edu
(858) 822-0473

Office Hours: M 2:00-3:00 & by appt.
RWAC 492

Schopenhauer's *The World as Will and Presentation*

1. First Book: The World as Presentation I

Schopenhauer's Transcendental Idealism

- The world presented in experience is the world of appearance
- Subject and object as *Ur* forms of representation
- Space, time, and causality

Wk 1	Mon	Mar 31	First Day of Class
	Wed	April 2	1 st & 2 nd ed. Prefaces
	Fri	April 4	§§ 1, 2, 7. Vol II, Chp. 1
Wk 2	Mon	April 7	Read again
	Wed	April 9	§ 3
	Fri	April 11	§ 4
Wk 3	Mon	April 14	§ 5
	Wed	April 16	§ 6
	Fri	April 18	§ 7
Wk 4	Mon	April 21	§§ 8 & 9
	Wed	April 23	§§ 10-15
	Fri	April 25	§ 16

First 3-page paper due Friday April 25

2. Second Book: The World as Will I

Schopenhauer's Metaphysics of will

- The will is the reality (thing in itself) behind the world of appearance
- The world of phenomena is the objectification of will
- The will in nature

Wk 5	Mon	April 28	§§ 17-18
	Wed	April 30	§ 19
	Fri	May 2	§ 20
Wk 6	Mon	May 5	§ 21
	Wed	May 7	§§ 22-23
	Fri	May 9	§ 24
Wk 7	Mon	May 12	§§ 25-26
	Wed	May 14	§ 27
	Fri	May 16	§§ 28-29

Second 3-page paper due Friday May 16

3. Third Book: The World as Presentation II

Schopenhauer's aesthetics

- Platonic Ideas
- Art as the presentation of Ideas
- Aesthetic experience as temporary escape from the domination of the will

Wk 8	Mon	May 19	§§ 30-33
	Wed	May 21	§§ 34-38
	Fri	May 23	§§ 39-41 No in-class meeting. Lecture on Zoom
Wk 9	Mon	May 26	Memorial Day
	Wed	May 28	§ 42
	Fri	May 30	§§ 43-52

4. Fourth Book: The World as Will II

Schopenhauer's ethics

- Life is suffering
- Wrong as the denial of the will of others
- Seeing through the *principium individuationis*
- Denial of the will-to-live as the path to salvation

Wk 10	Mon	June 2	§§ 53-60
	Wed	June 4	§§ 61-67
	Fri	June 6	§§ 68-71

6-page paper due Friday June 6

Final Exam: Tuesday June 10 11:30 am-2:30 pm

Required Text

Schopenhauer *The World as Will and Presentation* (Kolak ed. Aqlia, trans) Vol I Routledge Press
 The World as Will and Presentation (Kolak ed. Aqlia, trans) Vol II Routledge Press

Recommended Text

Kant *Critique of Pure Reason* (trans and ed Guyer and Wood) Cambridge U Press

Course Requirements

- Class attendance
- Class participation
- Two 3-page papers
- One 6-page paper
- Final Examination

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

Attendance

You need to attend class. If ill or otherwise unable to attend class, please contact me by email, preferably in advance. More than three **unexcused** absences will result in your final grade dropping a letter grade. Five or more **unexcused** absences will result in a failing final grade.

Papers

Topics will be assigned in class at least one week in advance.
Due dates subject to revision. Papers are to be turned in through 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. Except in unusual circumstances (e.g. medical emergencies, a disaster that strikes the student or the immediate family), *unexcused* late papers are subject to being dropped at least one letter grade e.g. B>C.

Citations

Interpretations or ideas borrowed, directly or indirectly, from secondary sources or other people (apart from the instructor but including fellow students) must be footnoted. All use of web-based material must also be footnoted. Anything else is plagiarism and will be treated as such. Students are encouraged to discuss paper topics with others in the class but must write the papers alone. **Any use of AI** to complete an assignment unless otherwise permitted by me is “considered use of an unauthorized aid according to the Extended Studies Academic Integrity Policy” and a violation of UC San Diego’s academic integrity policy.

Final Exam

Traditional 3-hour closed blue book. Final will be comprehensive. A study guide containing all the questions on the exam will be handed out the last week of class. Exam will consist of a selection of questions (3-5) from the study guide. No tricks. No surprises.

Grade Weights

3-Page Papers	30% (15% each)
6-Page Paper	30%
Final	40 %
Total	100%

Grade Range

Papers in Philosophy 108 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-

Class Participation

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

Screens

Computers may be used to refer to texts in class and with permission by students with special needs. Otherwise, the use of laptops and tablets in class is prohibited. Use of cell phones is always prohibited. Please speak to the instructor if you have special circumstances.

Academic Integrity

The Academic Integrity Policy must be observed in this course <https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/>. 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.

Office of Students with Disabilities

University policy requires students requesting academic accommodations due to a disability to provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter (paper or electronic) issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (link to OSD website). Students are required to discuss accommodation arrangements with instructors and OSD liaisons in the department IN ADVANCE of any exams or assignments.