

A. Course Specific Information

1. Course Information

History of Modern Philosophy

Philosophy 3171

M&W 3:30-5:10 (IH 101), 4 credits

2. Instructor Information

Mark Collier

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-4 or by appointment

3. Course Prerequisites

Introduction to Philosophy is strongly recommended.

4. Course Goals and Objectives

The main goals of this course are (a) to introduce students to the most prominent schools and thinkers of the modern period of philosophy, (b) to help students identify the main philosophical problems of this period, as well as the various solutions that have been offered to them (c)) to help students write, speak, and think clearly and critically about advanced topics in philosophy.

5. Required and Recommended Readings

The text for this course, *Modern Philosophy: An Anthology of Primary Sources*, is available at the UMM Bookstore. Supplementary readings will be available on e-reserve at Briggs Library. Students will be provided with the electronic password for these readings.

6. General Description of Assignments and Exams

There will be three exams; each of them is worth 25% of the final grade. These exams will cover the main arguments in the readings and lectures. They will include identifications, reading identifications, and short questions. The exams are not cumulative. There is no final exam. There is also a research paper, of approximately 7-8 pages, due at the end of the semester, which is worth 25%. Students will be provided with possible paper topics; you can also choose your own topic if you consult with me.

7. Attendance Requirements

Attendance is required at each class meeting. My expectation is that you will attend each class unless ill or dealing with serious personal emergencies. I will excuse any absence for which you can provide a health service excuse, a Chancellor's excuse, or other official excuse. I encourage you to come and talk with me if you would like me to excuse any other absence for serious personal emergencies. I will allow two unexcused absences for the whole semester. After these two unexcused absences, you will lose half a grade for the course for each additional unexcused absence.

B. Policy Statements

1. Student Conduct Code:

The University seeks an environment that promotes academic achievement and integrity, that is protective of free inquiry, and that serves the educational mission of the University. Similarly, the University seeks a community that is free from violence, threats, and intimidation; that is respectful of the rights, opportunities, and welfare of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the University; and that does not threaten the physical or mental health or safety of members of the University community.

As a student at the University you are expected adhere to Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code. To review the Student Conduct Code, please see:
http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/academic/Student_Conduct_Code.html.

Note that the conduct code specifically addresses disruptive classroom conduct, which means "engaging in behavior that substantially or repeatedly interrupts either the instructor's ability to teach or student learning. The classroom extends to any setting where a student is engaged in work toward academic credit or satisfaction of program-based requirements or related activities."

2. Use of Personal Electronic Devices in the Classroom:

Using personal electronic devices in the classroom setting can hinder instruction and learning, not only for the student using the device but also for other students in the class. To this end, the University establishes the right of each faculty member to determine if and how personal electronic devices are allowed to be used in the classroom. For complete information, please reference:
<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/CLASSROOMPED.html>.

3. Scholastic Dishonesty:

You are expected to do your own academic work and cite sources as necessary. Failing to do so is scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on

academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis. (Student Conduct Code:

http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/academic/Student_Conduct_Code.html) If it is determined that a student has cheated, he or she may be given an "F" or an "N" for the course, and may face additional sanctions from the University. For additional information, please see:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/INSTRUCTORRESP.html>.

The Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity has compiled a useful list of Frequently Asked Questions pertaining to scholastic dishonesty:

<http://www1.umn.edu/oscai/integrity/student/index.html>. If you have additional questions, please clarify with your instructor for the course. Your instructor can respond to your specific questions regarding what would constitute scholastic dishonesty in the context of a particular class-e.g., whether collaboration on assignments is permitted, requirements and methods for citing sources, if electronic aids are permitted or prohibited during an exam.

4. Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences:

Students will not be penalized for absence during the semester due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstances. Such circumstances include verified illness, participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoenas, jury duty, military service, bereavement, and religious observances. Such circumstances do not include voting in local, state, or national elections. For complete information, please see:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/MAKEUPWORK.html>.

5. Appropriate Student Use of Class Notes and Course Materials:

Taking notes is a means of recording information but more importantly of personally absorbing and integrating the educational experience. However, broadly disseminating class notes beyond the classroom community or accepting compensation for taking and distributing classroom notes undermines instructor interests in their intellectual work product while not substantially furthering instructor and student interests in effective learning. Such actions violate shared norms and standards of the academic community. For additional information, please see:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/CLASSNOTESSTUDENTS.html>.

6. Grading and Transcripts:

The University utilizes plus and minus grading on a 4.000 cumulative grade point scale in accordance with the following:

A 4.000 - Represents achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements

A- 3.667

B+ 3.333

B 3.000 - Represents achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements

B- 2.667

C+ 2.333

C 2.000 - Represents achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect

C- 1.667

D+ 1.333

D 1.000 - Represents achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements

S Represents achievement that is satisfactory, which is equivalent to a C- or better.

For additional information, please refer to:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/GRADINGTRANSCRIPTS.html>.

7. Sexual Harassment

"Sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment in any University activity or program. Such behavior is not acceptable in the University setting. For additional information, please consult Board of Regents Policy: <http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/humanresources/SexHarassment.html>

8. Equity, Diversity, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action:

The University will provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs and facilities, without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender

identity, or gender expression. For more information, please consult Board of Regents Policy:

http://www1.umn.edu/regents/policies/administrative/Equity_Diversity_EO_AA.html.

9. Disability Accommodations:

The University is committed to providing quality education to all students regardless of ability. Determining appropriate disability accommodations is a collaborative process. You as a student must register with Disability Services and provide documentation of your disability. The course instructor must provide information regarding a course's content, methods, and essential components. The combination of this information will be used by Disability Services to determine appropriate accommodations for a particular student in a particular course. For more information, please reference Disability Services: <http://ds.umn.edu/students/Enrolled/responsibilities.html>.

10. Mental Health Services:

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance and may reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Student Mental Health Website: <http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu>.