

Phil 4970.001

Capstone Seminar

Dr. Hargrove
323 Curry
565-2266

Office Hours: TTR 3:30-5 p.m.
and by appointment in EESAT 225C



Purpose

This course will develop skills in writing philosophical papers and critiquing philosophical arguments. In addition, it will examine similarities and differences in the writings of Aristotle, Berkeley, Hume, Kant, and Wittgenstein.

Books

Aristotle, *Containing Selections from Seven Books*
Berkeley, Hume, *The Empiricists*
Kant, *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*
Kant, *Fundamental Principles of the Metaphysics of Morals*
Moore, Handouts
Ludwig Wittgenstein, *On Certainty* plus some handouts from other books

Schedule

The first part of the course will be devoted to an examination of the views of Aristotle, Berkeley, Hume, Kant, Moore, and Wittgenstein. The second part of the course will focus on presentations by the members of the class dealing comparatively with the history of philosophy: Ancient, Modern (including Nineteenth Century), or Contemporary. A paper comparing two or more philosophers is required at the end of the semester. The philosophers must be from different periods. Medieval and Comparative Philosophy are not options.

Grading

Students will be expected to turn in a written comment on each reading assignment and make a presentation in class. The presentation will be the basis for a paper due by 1:30 p.m. on December 12. There are no tests. The paper roughly will be 50% of the grade, the presentation 25%, and class discussion and the written comments 25%. The comments should not be simply a summary of the readings. Improvement will be taken into consideration. Students found guilty of plagiarisms or of inappropriate behavior will receive an F in the course.