COURSE OVERVIEW

This course offers an advanced introduction to Immanuel Kant's theoretical philosophy (his epistemology and metaphysics), with a special eye toward how his theories apply to natural science and moral philosophy.

LEARNING GOALS

Students enrolled in this course can expect to develop an understanding of Kant's theoretical philosophy, and how this relates to natural science and moral philosophy. Students will also develop an understanding of how Kant's theories fit in to broader themes in the history of philosophy. Students will further develop their skills in philosophical reading, analysis, and discussion.

EXPECTATIONS

Attendance is essential to your success in this course. In past semesters there has been a direct correlation between students' attendance and their course grade.

Students are expected to come to class having done the reading carefully and, at a minimum, ready to ask well-formulated questions about the text in class.

Students should always have the required readings for that class session with them in class. It is typical for students in philosophy seminars to annotate their readings with comments and questions before class and during class discussion.

Success in this 4 credit hour course is based on the expectation that students will spend a minimum of 9 hours of study time per week in preparation for class (readings, papers, discussion sections, preparation for exams, etc.).

EVALUATION

Five reading reflections (5% each) – On the Tuesday of any full week of class that is not dedicated to quizzes or quiz review, you may turn in a reading reflection of no fewer than 200 words on that week's reading. You will complete five of these during the semester, and they will be graded on a scale of 1–5.

Three quizzes (15% each) – there will be three in-class quizzes over the course of the semester.

Final Exam (30%) – will be held during the exam period, date and time TBD
Graduate Students – if the course enrollment allows it, we will meet once a week to read one or two recent books that relate to the course. Your attendance at these weekly sessions will replace the reading reflection requirement.

Texts
Required readings marked with an (L) on the course schedule below will be available on the course’s LATTE page. Other texts are available in the university bookstore.

Required Texts

Recommended Text:

Communication
Please make sure that you check the email associated with your LATTE registration on a regular basis. This is how I will send messages about the class, including any messages about late starts or canceled classes.

Disabilities
If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis University and wish to have a reasonable accommodation made for you in this class, please see Prof. Moran immediately.

Academic Integrity
Never represent work or ideas that are not your own as your own. Always use proper citation techniques, even when you are not quoting another author directly. All instances of suspected academic dishonesty will be forwarded immediately to the Director of Academic Integrity.
**Course Schedule**

**September 31:** Introduction to Kant  
*Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, "Immanuel Kant", sections 1 and 2.*

**September 4 & 7:** Kant's Puzzle: The Antinomies  
*Critique of Pure Reason, A426/B454 – A460/B488*

**September 14:** Kant's Strategy: The Prefaces  
*Critique of Pure Reason, Prefaces (A and B)  
Prolegomena, Preface  
Gardner, chapters 1 and 2*

**September 18 & 21:** Synthetic A Priori Cognition  
*Critique of Pure Reason, B Introduction  
Prolegomena, sections 1–5  
Gardner, chapter 3*

**September 28:** Quiz #1

**October 2 & 5:** Space and Time  
*Critique of Pure Reason, Transcendental Aesthetic B33–B49 and Doctrine of Method A708/B736 –A738/B766  
Prolegomena, sections 6–13  
Gardner, chapter 4*

**October 9 & 12:** Transcendental Idealism  
*Critique of Pure Reason, B40–B73  
Prolegomena, Notes I–III after section 13 (4:287–294)  
Gardner, chapter 5*

**October 16:** Catch-up/Quiz Review

**October 19:** Quiz #2
October 23 & 26:  **Transcendental Logic: Judgment**
*Critique of Pure Reason, A50/B74 – B116*
*Prolegomena, sections 21–23*
Gardner, pp. 135–165

October 30 & November 2:  **The Transcendental Deduction (B)**
*Critique of Pure Reason, B129 – B169*
*Prolegomena, sections 14–20*

November 6:  **Catch Up and Quiz Review**

November 9:  **Quiz #3**

November 13 & 16:  **Analogies of Experience**
*Critique of Pure Reason, B218–265*
*Prolegomena, sections 25–31 and 36–39*

November 20:  **Refutation of Idealism**
*Critique of Pure Reason, B274–279*

November 27 & 30:  **Regulative Ideals and the System of Science**
*Critique of Pure Reason, A624/B670 – A705/B732*
Selections - *Metaphysical Foundations of Natural Science (L)*

December 4 & 7:  **Transcendental Idealism and Morality**
Review third Antinomy from first week of class
Selections from *Critique of Practical Reason (L)*

December 11:  **Exam Review**

Final Exam:  **TBD**