

UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR
Department of Philosophy

0134-472-1, 0134-572-1 Recent British Philosophy
ER 1115
T, R 10:00 - 11:20

Winter 2017
H. V. Hansen
CHN 2169

SYLLABUS

Outcomes: Students who follow the course itinerary and prepare for the lectures will receive an introduction to the main currents of analytical philosophy as it developed in Britain in the 20th century. Methods and categories of analysis are at the fore in these philosophical works and students will find that the approaches examined have considerable purchase in other fields of study. However, for philosophy students, aside from the intrinsic value of the material, the biggest benefit is that armed with these modern concepts of analysis, they can now re-read the history of philosophy with increased acumen, and position themselves to begin the study of modern American philosophy and/or the philosophy of science.

The course is offered both to advanced Philosophy undergraduate students and to graduate students in the Philosophy MA Programme. Graduate students will be held to a higher standard than undergraduate students. Those unfamiliar with formal logic will need to learn the basics. Irving Copi's *Symbolic Logic* or Howard Kahane's *Logic and Philosophy* are recommended as offering accessible introductions.

Course Requirements:

Jan 26	Test 1 (40 minutes)	15%
Feb 16	Essay 1	20%
March 21	Test 2 (40 minutes)	20%
April 10	Essay 2	35%
Preparedness		10%

Essay 1: Mainly expository; to explain and clarify some philosophical view and/or argument in one of the readings covered to date. (Undergrads 750 - 1000 words + references; Grads 1200-1500 words + references).

Essay 2: Mainly argumentative; taking up some comparative theme in two or more texts studied in this course. (Undergrads 1200 - 1500 words + references; Grads 1750 - 2000 words + references)

Every student is expected to do at least two (400-500 word) in-class summaries of material being studied.

<i>Course Itinerary</i>		
Wk 1 B	Jan 5	Introduction
Wk 2 A	Jan 10	Moore – A defence of common sense (1925)
Wk 2 B	Jan 12	Moore – <i>Principia Ethica</i> (1901). Ch 1, §1-14; Ch 3, §36-44.
Wk 3 A	Jan 17	Frege, ‘On sense and nominatum’
Wk 3 B	Jan 19	Frege, ‘On sense and nominatum’
Wk 4 A	Jan 24	Russell – Knowledge by acquaintance & knowledge by description (1910)
Wk 4 B	Jan 26	Russell and Test 1 (15%)
Wk 5 A	Jan 31	Russell – Knowledge by acquaintance & knowledge by description (1910)
Wk 5 B	Feb 2	Wittgenstein – <i>Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus</i> (1919)
Wk 6 A	Feb 7	Wittgenstein – <i>Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus</i> (1919)
Wk 6 B	Feb 9	Ayer – <i>Language, Truth and Logic</i> (1936 / 1946) – Metaphysics
Wk 7 A	Feb 14	Ayer – <i>Language, Truth and Logic</i> (1936 / 1946) – Meaning
Wk 7 B	Feb 16	Ayer – <i>Language, Truth and Logic</i> (1936 / 1946) – Ethics Essay 1 (20%)
Feb 18 - 26 READING WEEK		
Wk 8 A	Feb 28	Ryle – ‘Descartes myth’ in <i>The Concept of Mind</i> (1949)
Wk 8 B	Mar 2	Ryle – ‘Descartes myth’ in <i>The Concept of Mind</i> (1949)
Wk 9 A	Mar 7	Wittgenstein – <i>Philosophical Investigations</i>
Wk 9 B	Mar 9	Wittgenstein – <i>Philosophical Investigations</i>
Wk 10 A	Mar 14	Strawson – <i>Analysis and Metaphysics</i> (1992)
Wk 10 B	Mar 16	Strawson – <i>Analysis and Metaphysics</i> (1992)
Wk 11 A	Mar 21	Austin – Performative utterances (1961) Test 2 (20%)
Wk 11 B	Mar 23	Austin – Performative utterances (1961)
Wk 12 A	Mar 28	Grice – <i>Logic and Conversation</i> (1975)
Wk 12 B	Mar 30	Grice – <i>Logic and Conversation</i> (1975)
Wk 13 A	Apr 4	OPEN - make up day if needed, or discussion.
	Apr 10	Second Essay due

READINGS:

A. J. AYER (1936). *Language, Truth and Logic*. New York: Dover.

JOHN L. AUSTIN (1961). 'Performative utterances,' in *Philosophical Papers*. Oxford: OUP, 1979. 233-52. See also, *How to do Things with Words* (1962). New York: OUP.

GOTTLOB FREGE (1892). 'On sense and reference' translated from German by Max Black in *Translations from the Philosophical Writings of Gottlob Frege*, edited by Peter Geach and Max Black. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1966, pp. 56- 78. Widely reprinted in philosophy of language anthologies, and sometimes under the title 'On sense and nominatum' (trans. Herbert Feigl).

<http://philo.ruc.edu.cn/logic/reading/On%20sense%20and%20reference.pdf>

H. PAUL GRICE (1975). 'Logic and Conversation' in Paul Grice, *Studies in the Way of Words*. Cambridge Mass: Harvard University Press. pp. 22-40. Also widely reprinted in anthologies.

[http://www.ifbl.tu-](http://www.ifbl.tu-dresden.de/die_tu_dresden/fakultaeten/philosophische_fakultaet/iph/thph/braeuer/lehre/grice_ss_2009/LogicAndConversation.pdf)

[dresden.de/die_tu_dresden/fakultaeten/philosophische_fakultaet/iph/thph/braeuer/lehre/grice_ss_2009/LogicAndConversation.pdf](http://www.ifbl.tu-dresden.de/die_tu_dresden/fakultaeten/philosophische_fakultaet/iph/thph/braeuer/lehre/grice_ss_2009/LogicAndConversation.pdf)

G. E. MOORE (1903) *Principia Ethica*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

G. E. MOORE (1924). 'A Defence of Common Sense' in G. E. Moore, *Philosophical Papers*. London: George Allen & Unwin, 1959. pp. 32-59. <http://www.ditext.com/moore/common-sense.html><http://www.ditext.com/moore/common-sense.html>

BERTRAND RUSSELL (1910). 'Knowledge by acquaintance and knowledge by description.' in Bertrand Russell, *Logic and Mysticism and Other Essays*. London: Unwin Books, 1917. 152-67.

<http://selfpace.uconn.edu/class/percep/RussellKnowAcquaint.pdf> . See also (1919) *Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy*, ch. 16 ('Descriptions'). <http://people.umass.edu/klement/imp/imp-iphone.pdf>

GILBERT RYLE (1949) 'Descartes myth,' ch. 1 of *The Concept of Mind*.

PETER F. STRAWSON (1992) *Analysis and Metaphysics*. Oxford University Press. [ordered at the bookstore]

LUDWIG WITTGENSTEIN (1919). *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*.

<http://www.voidspace.org.uk/psychology/wittgenstein/tractatus.shtml>

LUDWIG WITTGENSTEIN (1953). *Philosophical Investigations*. <http://gormendizer.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/Ludwig.Wittgenstein.-.Philosophical.Investigations.pdf>