HUMA 11600 - 1

Philosophical Perspectives

Winter 2021

TR 9:40–11:00

Course Instructor: Malte Willer
Email: willer@uchicago.edu
Office hours: M 3–5 [Zoom]

Writing Instructor: Alex Montag
Email: montag@uchicago.edu
Office hours: T 11:30–1:30 [Zoom]

Books

The following texts are required for the course, available for purchase at the Seminary Coop Bookstore (5751 S. Woodlawn Avenue):

— Atherton (ed.), *Women Philosophers of the Early Modern Period*. Hackett. ISBN: 978-0872202597

— Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy, with Selections from Objections and Replies*, Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-0521558181

— Hume, *An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, Hackett, ISBN: 978-0872202290

— Shelley, *Frankenstein: The 1818 Text*. Penguin. ISBN: 978-0143131847

There are numerous translations or versions in print of each of the texts we will discuss. Make sure you use the translations/versions found in the (fairly inexpensive) books listed above.

Course Requirements

There are three components of the work required of you:

— come to class prepared and participate through thoughtful comments and questions

— attend all writing seminars

— complete all writing assignments (see below)

Grades

There will be three writing assignments of various length; please email them to both instructors by 5 pm on the day they due:

First paper	due January 28$^{\text{th}}$	worth 20%
Second paper	due Februrary 18$^{\text{th}}$	worth 25%
Third paper	draft due March 4$^{\text{th}}$	worth 35%
	final version due March 18$^{\text{th}}$	

The remaining 20% will be determined by your class participation.

Late papers will be docked a grade per day (e.g., B+ to B) unless you have received approval ahead of time.

Format

The plan is to meet in person on Thursdays (except in Week 1), with the exact location to be announced. All other meetings will be synchronous over Zoom. The default expectation for Zoom meetings is that you should be actively engaged, with camera on. If you require an exception, reach out to me and let me know. The meeting format for Thursdays may change as the quarter proceeds.

UChicago Health Pact

All students on campus are required to adhere to the guidelines in the UChicago Health Pact in order to promote a safe environment in the classroom.

— Secure face coverings must be worn appropriately at all times while in University buildings

— Maintain a distance of 6 feet from others

— Do not attend an in-person class if you feel unwell or are experiencing COVID-19 related symptoms

The complete text of the UChicago Health Pact along with additional information about COVID-19 protocols can be found here.

Reporting COVID-19 Related Concerns

Any concerns over inappropriate PPE usage, physical distancing, cleaning/disinfection, or other COVID-19 related public health concerns should be directed to UCAIR.

Reporting COVID-19 Exposure or a Confirmed Case

If you were potentially exposed to COVID-19 or your COVID-19 test results come back positive, reach out immediately to C19HealthReport@uchicago.edu.

Recording and Deletion Policies for Academic Year 2020-1

The Recording and Deletion Policies for the current academic year can be found in the Student Manual under Petitions, Audio & Video Recording on Campus.

— Do not record, share, or disseminate any course sessions, videos, transcripts, audio, or chats.

— Do not share links for the course to those not currently enrolled.

— Any Zoom cloud recordings will be automatically deleted 90 days after the completion of the recording.

Attendance

Students who have been exposed to or who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should immediately contact UChicago Wellness to be tested, and reach out to their area Dean of Students to request accommodations for classes until:

— At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared and;

— At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery — defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath).

Accessibility

The University of Chicago is committed to ensuring equitable access to our academic programs and services. Students with disabilities who have been approved for the use of academic accommodations by Student Disability Services (SDS) and need a reasonable accommodation(s) to participate fully in this course should follow the procedures established by SDS for using accommodations. Timely notifications are required in order to ensure that your accommodations can be implemented. Please meet with me to discuss your access needs in this class after you have completed the SDS procedures for requesting accommodations.

Phone: (773) 702-6000
Email: disabilities@uchicago.edu

The following schedule provides an overview over the assigned readings. Readings may be slightly adjusted as the quarter goes on. Updated versions of this syllabus will be posted on Canvas as changes are made.

Week 1	January 12	Aristotle, *Physics*, Books 1–2
	January 14	Bacon, *Novum Organum* (selections)
		Galileo, *Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina*
Week 2	January 19	Descartes, *Meditations*, Meditation 1
	January 21	Descartes, *Meditations*, Meditation 2
		Augustine, *De Trinitate* 15.12.21
Week 3	January 26	Descartes, *Meditations*, Meditation 3
	January 28	Descartes, *Meditations*, Meditations 4–5
		Anselm, *Proslogion* 2
Week 4	February 2	Descartes, *Meditations*, Meditation 6
	February 4	Princess Elizabeth, *Correspondence with Descartes*
Week 5	February 9	Malebranche, *Search After Truth* 6.2.3
		Cavendish, *Philosophical Letters* Letter 32
	February 11	Conway, *The Principles of the Most Ancient and Modern Philosophy*
Week 6	February 16	Hume, *Enquiry*, Chapters 1–3
		Keller, *The World I Live In* (selections)
	February 18	Hume, *Enquiry*, Chapters 4–6
Week 7	February 23	Hume, *Enquiry*, Chapter 7
	February 25	Hume, *Enquiry*, Chapter 10
Week 8	March 2	Hume, *Enquiry*, Chapter 12
		Hume, *Treatise* (selections)
	March 4	Mary Shepherd on Hume
Week 9	March 9	Shelley, *Frankenstein*
	March 11	Shelley, *Frankenstein* (continued)