

Department: Philosophy

Course number: PHIL 222W

Title: Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Philosophy

Credits: 3

Contact Person: Donald Baxter

Catalog Copy: - Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Philosophy

Either Semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: At least one of PHIL 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106. Open to sophomores or higher. *Troyer*

Central philosophical issues as discussed by philosophers such as Descartes, Locke, Berkeley, Hume and Kant.

W Criteria: -1) The best way to understand and appreciate a philosophical position is to engage with it. It is important for students not only to read the theories of great philosophers, but also to try to argue against those theories and to try to defend the theories against objections. Thus essays and papers in which the students work through a debate on an issue are essential to any philosophy course, including the 'W' courses. In PHIL 222W three 5-page papers, or sometimes two 8-page papers, will be assigned. The papers collectively count for 75% of the course grade.

2) Early in the course the professor devotes part of two different lectures to explaining how to write a philosophy paper: how to pick a topic, how to structure the paper, how to make one's prose clear. Students are given the opportunity to discuss their topics and are required to hand in drafts before the due date for each assignment. The professor either discusses the draft with the student in an individual conference or provides written comments, as the student prefers. Final drafts are given written comments which are expected to inform the student's approach to later papers.

3) Due dates are given for drafts of papers to allow time for comments or conferences and for the student to revise accordingly.

Role of Grad Students: -N/A