

UWG PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM

PHIL 4150
ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY (3 hours)
Fall Semester 2016
TR 11am-12:15pm
Humanities 205
Prerequisites: PHIL 2010 or permission of instructor
All online course content available through CourseDen
Email: rlane@westga.edu *

Instructor: **Dr. Robert Lane**
Office: TLC 2247
Office Hours:
T: 8:45-9:15am; 12:30-1:45pm
W: 8:30am-12:15pm; 1:15-4pm
R: 8:45-9:15am; 12:30-1:45pm
and also by appointment
My office telephone: (678) 839-4745
English/Philosophy telephone: (678) 839-4848

**All email communication must be conducted from your official UWG email account. Students are obligated to check their UWG email accounts on a regular basis and to ensure that their mailboxes do not become full.
N.b., I am not allowed to disclose your grades over email.*

This is a **Discipline Specific Writing (DSW)** course, fulfilling one of two DSW requirements for the College of Arts and Humanities. All DSW courses require that students write a minimum of 4,000 words across multiple assignments, not including revisions. There will be multiple written assignments that will be evaluated for subject matter, grammar, punctuation, spelling, accuracy, and organization, among other things.

DESCRIPTION: This course is an historical overview of analytic philosophy, the most widespread and influential movement among Anglo-American philosophers during the 20th century. We will consider how the most important members of this tradition, including Gottlob Frege, Bertrand Russell, Ludwig Wittgenstein, A. J. Ayer, and W. V. O. Quine, attempted to answer questions within metaphysics, epistemology, and the philosophy of language. We will also consider how some contemporary analytic philosophers have responded to the work of those earlier, "classical" philosophers.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: By the end of the semester, each student will be able to explain and critically discuss the following:

- Frege's distinction between sense and reference and the problems that that distinction was intended to solve
- Russell's theory of descriptions and the problems that that theory was intended to solve
- Wittgenstein's earlier and later views on language and metaphysics
- the approaches to metaphysics and ontology taken by the Logical Positivists, especially Ayer
- Quine's attack on the analytic/synthetic distinction and reductionism
- Quine's defense of nominalism and criticism of Platonic realism

These course-specific learning outcomes contribute to the learning outcomes of the Philosophy Program by enabling students better to

- discuss the general historical development of the discipline of philosophy and selected major historical figures in philosophy
- ask philosophical questions
- incorporate philosophical positions in oral and written communications
- outline critically and analyze philosophical questions

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: The typical class session will consist of about 75% lecture and 25% class discussion. Lectures are intended to elucidate and provide supplementary information relevant to the reading assignments and to form the basis for a vigorous class discussion of the arguments and theories at hand. Reading assignments will be made on a regular basis. In order to benefit fully from lectures and to participate meaningfully in class discussion, **it is a must** that you do the reading when it is assigned.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: *Analytic Philosophy: An Anthology*, edited by A. P. Martinich and David Sosa, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012. Other assigned readings will be made available online.

TIME REQUIREMENTS: UWG grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of (approximately) one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately sixteen weeks. For this three credit-hour course, students are required to spend two and a half hours (150 minutes) in class each week and to conduct *at least* an additional 6 hours of work relevant to this course outside of class each week. You should expect to work more hours than this outside of class during periods when you are preparing for an exam or a working on a major writing assignment.

CONVERSION TO HONORS CREDIT: Any student wishing to receive honors credit for this course must get the approval of the professor and complete all the necessary paperwork during **the first week of class**. No honors forms will be signed after this point.

METHODS OF ASSESSING LEARNING IN THIS CLASS

- **Short papers (80 pts = 5 papers worth 16 points each).** Minimum length: 1000 words per response paper. See "Instructions for Writing Short Papers" in CourseDen.
- **Term paper (60 pts).** Length: 2,500-3,000 words. You must submit a draft by no later than **Thursday November 3**. You may give me the draft at any earlier date. Your draft must be at least 2,000 words long. Both the draft and the final version must be submitted to the appropriate DropBoxes in CourseDen.
- **Comprehensive final examination (60 points).** Essays and short answer questions. This will cover nearly all of the material we will consider throughout the entire semester.
- **Class participation** does not contribute to your final grade in any fixed way, but I will consider giving borderline students the next highest grade if their in-class questions and contributions to class discussions warrant my doing so.

GRADING SCALE:	A	200 – 180 pts	D	139 – 120 pts
	B	179 – 160 pts	F	119 – 0 pts
	C	159 – 140 pts		

For the Americans with Disabilities Act, UWG Email, Credit Hour, and UWG Honor Code policies as well as information on Academic Tutoring, Student Services, and Technical Requirements, Privacy Policy, and Accessibility Statements, please see the **Common Language for Syllabus** document: <http://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/>

EXTRA CREDIT and WORK FROM OTHER COURSES.

- Extra-credit work will not be given under any circumstances.
- Work completed for other courses will not be accepted in this course.

MISSED FINAL EXAM DATE. If you know that you will need to miss the final exam (for example, due to a UWG sponsored event), you must let me know about your absence as far in advance as possible so that we can schedule another day and time for you to take the test. If you miss the exam without receiving my explicit permission beforehand and making arrangements for a make-up test, you will be permitted to take a make-up test if and only if one of the following conditions applies: (a) Your absence was due to illness or injury serious enough to require professional medical care and which prevented you from contacting me before the test; or (b) Your absence was due to other extenuating circumstances beyond your control. I will determine on a case-by-case basis what constitutes "extenuating circumstances beyond your control." You may be required to provide documentation pertaining to your absence before you are allowed to take a make-up test. **A make-up exam will be longer and potentially more difficult than the original exam.**

ATTENDANCE, LATE ARRIVAL, EARLY DEPARTURE

- **You may miss four class meetings (two weeks of class) with no effect on your grade. Beginning with your fifth absence, you will lose six points (out of 200) from your final grade for every class meeting you miss. This policy takes effect on the day of our second class meeting (Tuesday August 16).** I will make exceptions for absences necessitated by UWG-sponsored events or by other circumstances that were absolutely outside your control. However, I will make these exceptions **only if ALL of your absences can be accounted for in one of these ways** (e.g., if you miss five classes and you have documented, acceptable reasons for missing only four classes, then your fifth absence will still count against your grade). Documentation will be required in all cases in which I make an exception to this attendance policy.
- **Students who miss 8 or more class meetings (four weeks, or one month, worth of classes) will not earn a passing grade in this course.** In this case the reason for your absences is irrelevant. If you are unable to attend class for a month due to medical reasons, a family emergency, or any other reason, you should withdraw from the course; if the withdrawal date has passed, you should apply for a hardship withdrawal.
- An early departure or late arrival may be counted as an absence, depending on the circumstances. I will decide in each case whether an early departure or a late arrival counts as an absence. If you know before class that you will not be able to stay for the entire class session, please inform me of this before class and sit as close to the door as possible, so as to cause as small a distraction as possible when you leave.

From the *UWG Undergraduate Catalog*:

- “Instruction begins the first day of class. In face-to-face courses, if students fail to attend the first day and have not contacted the instructor to explain their absence, they may be dropped during the Drop/Add Period to make room for other students.”
- “Class attendance policies are determined by each instructor for his or her courses and may be found in the syllabus. Since course policies differ, students are responsible for understanding attendance requirements for each course. Failure to comply with those requirements may significantly affect grades.”
- **“Students are expected to attend each class meeting.** Students absent from class while officially representing the University or observing religious holidays should generally not be penalized in the calculation of final grades, as long as they provide advance notice and expeditiously make arrangements to complete any missed work.
- “University-sponsored activities include but are not limited to the following: intercollegiate athletic competitions; musical/theatrical/art performances or exhibitions associated with a degree program; debate competitions; and research conferences. Activities not considered to be university-sponsored include participation in clubs, even if they are affiliated with UWG, or events associated with social organizations such as fraternities or sororities.
- “Regardless of the reason for the absence, each student is responsible for the material covered in class, for completing any assignments, and for making specific arrangements with the instructor for any work missed. The degree to which missed work can be made up will depend upon the nature of the work and its intended purpose. Make-up is at the discretion of the instructor.
- “Any student who must be absent for more than one week of class should notify the Patient Advocates in Health Services, telephone 678-839-6452. The student should also notify the instructor or department.”

COMMON COURTESY

- **You may use a laptop or tablet during class, but ONLY for the purpose of taking notes. You are not permitted to access the Internet while class is in session.** If you will be using an electronic device to take notes, **you must DISABLE YOUR WI-FI at the start of class.**
- **You may not use smart phones while class is in session, for any reason** (talking, texting, Tweeting, capturing Pokemons, etc.). All phones must be turned off and put away at the beginning of each class.
- **Do not leave the room during class unless it is absolutely essential that you do so.** Leaving the classroom while class is in session (e.g., to visit the restroom) is both disrespectful and distracting. So when you come to class, be prepared to remain in the classroom for the full duration of the class period.
- **Do not study material from other classes while this class is in session.** While you are in this class, I expect your attention to be focused on it rather than on your other courses.
- **Students may be dismissed from any class meeting at which they exhibit behavior that disrupts the learning environment of others.** Such behavior includes – but is not limited to – arriving late for class, allowing cell phones to ring, speaking disrespectfully to the instructor and/or to other students, and using personal audio or visual devices. **Each dismissal of this kind will count as an absence and will be applied toward the attendance policy above.**

COURSE SCHEDULE: ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY (PHIL 4150). THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE IS **TENTATIVE** AND MAY CHANGE AS THE SEMESTER PROGRESSES. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to keep up with test dates, due dates, and reading assignments. **“M&S” refers to your textbook.**

Aug.	Topic	reading due	papers due/tests
R 11	Introduction to the course	--	
T 16	“Analytic” vs. “continental” philosophy	1. M&S 1-5 2. Brian Leiter, “‘Analytic’ and ‘Continental’ Philosophy”: http://www.philosophicalgourmet.com/analytic.asp	
R 18	“Analytic” vs. “continental” philosophy; introduction to Frege	William Blattner, “Some Thoughts about ‘Continental’ and ‘Analytic’ Philosophy”: http://www9.georgetown.edu/faculty/blattnew/contanalytic.html	
T 23	Frege, “On Sense and Reference”	M&S 9-10	
R 25	Frege, “On Sense and Reference”	M&S 10-13	
T 30	Russell, “On Denoting”	M&S 35-37	Short Paper: Frege

Sep.	Topic	reading due	papers due/tests
R 1	Russell, “On Denoting”	M&S 38-41	
T 6	Russell, “On Denoting”	M&S 41-42	
R 8	Taylor, “The Things We Do with Empty Names”	(CourseDen) 183-193	
T 13	Taylor, “The Things We Do with Empty Names”	(CourseDen) 193-212	Short Paper on Russell
R 15	The Early Wittgenstein: the <i>Tractatus</i>	M&S 118-120 [1 – 2.063]	
T 20	The Early Wittgenstein: the <i>Tractatus</i>	M&S 120-124 [2.1 – 4.0031]	
R 22	The Early Wittgenstein: the <i>Tractatus</i>	M&S 124-128 [4.01 – 7]	
T 27	Logical Positivism	--	Short Paper on Early Wittgenstein
R 29	Ayer, “The Elimination of Metaphysics”	M&S 499-502	
F 30: Last Day to Withdraw with a Grade of “W”			

Oct.	Topic	reading due	papers due/tests
T 4	Ayer, “The Elimination of Metaphysics”	M&S 502-505	
R 6	FALL BREAK		
T 11	Wittgenstein, <i>Blue and Brown Books</i>	M&S 567-577	Short Paper on Ayer
R 13	Wittgenstein, <i>Blue and Brown Books</i>	M&S 577-581	
T 18	Wittgenstein, <i>Blue and Brown Books</i>	--	
R 20	Quine, “Two Dogmas of Empiricism”	M&S 518-520	
T 25	Quine, “Two Dogmas of Empiricism”	M&S 520-526	Short Paper on Later Wittgenstein
R 27	Quine, “Two Dogmas of Empiricism”	M&S 526-528	

Nov.	Topic	reading due	tests
T 1	Quine, “Two Dogmas of Empiricism”	M&S 528-530	
R 3	Quine, “On What There Is”	M&S 143-144	TERM PAPER DRAFT
T 8	Quine, “On What There Is”	M&S 144-147	
R 10	Quine, “On What There Is”	M&S 147-152	
T 15	Moody-Adams, “On the Alleged Methodological Infirmity of Ethics”	(JSTOR) 225-228	Short Paper on Quine
R 17	Moody-Adams, “On the Alleged Methodological Infirmity of Ethics”	(JSTOR) 228-230	
T 22	THANKSGIVING BREAK: THIS CLASS DOES NOT MEET		
R 24	THANKSGIVING BREAK: THIS CLASS DOES NOT MEET		
T 29	Moody-Adams, “On the Alleged Methodological Infirmity of Ethics”	(JSTOR) 230-234	

Dec.	Topic	reading due	papers due/tests
R 1	Review / Course Evaluations	--	TERM PAPER
Final Exam: Tuesday December 6, 11am-1pm			