

PHIL40017 Early Modern Philosophy

Credit Points:	12.5
Level:	4 (Undergraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2015, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 2, Parkville - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: A 2-hour seminar each week for 12 weeks Total Time Commitment: 170 hours
Prerequisites:	Admission to fourth year Honours or the Postgraduate Diploma in the discipline of Philosophy
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements of this entry. The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements. Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/
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Subject Overview:	<p>This subject focuses on a careful study of one or more major works in the history of 17 th and 18 th century Continental European or British philosophy, such as Spinoza's <i>Ethics</i>, Locke's <i>Essay concerning Human Understanding</i>, Leibniz's <i>New Essays on Human Understanding</i>, Hume's <i>Treatise of Human Nature</i>, Kant's <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i>.</p> <p>Many of these texts aim to develop a systematic philosophical theory of the mind, the world, human understanding and/or the limitations of human understanding, human actions and passions. Through a close study of these texts we will be studying influential 17 th and/or 18 th century approaches to philosophy of mind, metaphysics, epistemology, moral psychology and/or ethics.</p> <p>Our approach will be both philosophical and interpretive: our chief aim will be to understand the philosophical motivations the thinker(s) had, and to assess them. We will draw attention to responses by other 17 th and 18 th century philosophers and use comparisons to present-day philosophy wherever helpful.</p>
Learning Outcomes:	<p>Students who successfully complete this subject will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # reflect critically upon early modern philosophy and influential 17 th and/or 18 th century approaches to philosophy of mind, metaphysics, epistemology, moral psychology and/or ethics; # identify and analyze philosophical arguments in historical texts; # interpret philosophical texts that were written 17 th and/or 18 th century, show awareness of different possible interpretations and learn to assess the strengths and weaknesses of different interpretations;

	<p># write well-structured and well-argued research essays that explain and critically assess the relevant philosophical views and critically position their own interpretation in relation to other interpretations in the literature;</p> <p># articulate own responses to philosophical views, support them by reasons, and defend them in light of criticisms.</p>
Assessment:	A short 1000 words essay, 10% (due mid semester), a final 4000 words research essay, 90% (due at the end of the semester) Hurdle Requirement: Students are required to attend a minimum of 75% of classes in order to pass this subject. Regular participation in class is required. Assessment submitted late without an approved extension will be penalised at 2% per working day. In-class tasks missed without approval will not be marked. All pieces of written work must be submitted to pass this subject.
Prescribed Texts:	All texts will be available online, a list of acceptable published versions will also be made available.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Links to further information:	http://philosophy.unimelb.edu.au/
Related Majors/Minors/Specialisations:	<p>Philosophy</p> <p>Philosophy</p> <p>Philosophy</p> <p>Philosophy</p> <p>Philosophy</p>