

Philosophy 3912: Senior Seminar
Section 2: Hume's Treatise

Fall 2009

Patricia Kitcher

Required texts:

David Hume, *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*

David Hume, *Treatise of Human Nature* (abbreviated below as **T**)

Don Garrett, *Cognition and Commitment in Hume's Philosophy*. (**G**)

REQUIREMENTS: Seminar paper (or two shorter papers); seminar presentation strongly recommended.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND TOPICS:

1. September 14, Introduction to the Seminar; Are Miracles Possible? (you can get Hume's essay on the topic by Googling Hume on Miracles, and then following the link: David Hume, *Enquiry concerning Human Understanding*, section X, Of Miracles.) **G**, Chapter 7.
2. September 21, God and Evil. *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*, complete.
3. September 28, Sources of Knowledge. **T**: Book One, Part I; **G**, Chapters 1 and 2.
4. October 5, Knowledge of Space, Time and Objects in Space and Time; Belief and Probability **T**: Book One, Part II and Part III, sections 1-13. **G**, Chapter 3.
5. October 12, The Problem of Causation I. **T**: Book One, Part III, sections 3-14. **G**, Chapter 5.
6. October 19, Rules for Judging Causes; Induction and Skepticism. **T**: Book One, Part III, section 15-16, Book One, Part IV, section 1, **G**, Chapter 4.
7. October 26, Skepticism about the External World. **T**: Book One, Part IV, section 2, **G**, Chapter 10.
8. November 9, The No-Self Theory of Personal Identity. **T**: Book One, Part IV., sections 5-6, **G**, Chapter 8.
9. November 16, Psychological Sources of Morality **T**: Book Two, Part I, sections 1-9, 11.
10. November 23, Freedom and Determinism. **T**: Book Two, Part III, sections 1-2, **G**, Chapter 6.
11. November 30, Calm and Violent Passions. **T**: Book Two, Part III, sections 3-10, Book Three, Part III, sections 1-5.
12. December 7, Values versus Facts **T**: Book Three, Part I, section 1, **G**, Chapter 9.
13. December 14, The Ultimate Foundations of Morality; Hume's Theory of Justice. **T**: Book Three, Part I, section 2, Book Three, Part II, sections 1-3, 5-7, re-read Book Three, Part III, sections 1-5.

Office hours: Wed 4-6 and by appointment. 718 Philosophy Hall