

## **Kant's Critique of Pure Reason**

Philosophy 3251  
Spring 2011

Patricia Kitcher

Required texts:

Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Pure Reason*, Werner Pluhar, trans., Hackett Publishing

Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Practical Reason*, Werner Pluhar, trans., Hackett Publishing

Patricia Kitcher, ed., *Kant's Critique of Pure Reason: Critical Essays*. Rowman and Littlefield.

**Course requirements:** Four 2-3 page papers, one dealing with some topic in the Introduction or Transcendental Aesthetic, one dealing with a topic in the Transcendental Analytic, one on a topic in the Transcendental Dialectic, (or you can do 2 on the Analytic and one on the Dialectic), one dealing with a topic in the ethics. These papers will be worth 45% of the grade; a final paper, which could extend the discussion of one of the four short papers, will be due finals week and will be worth 55% of the grade.

Due dates: Short paper 1: by February 14, short paper 2: by March 21, short paper 3: by April 20, short paper 4: by May 2nd.

**Schedule of topics and readings:**

1. January 19, *Introduction: How are Knowledge and Morality Possible?*  
no reading.

**Week 2 - Introduction, pp. xxv-xxxii, and CPR Prefaces and Introduction, 5-68 [Avii-A16/B30], 679-681 [A727/B755-A730/B758], Philip Kitcher, "Kant's A Priori Framework" in Critical Essays.**

2. January 24, *The Problem of the "a priori," The Analytic/Synthetic Distinction*, focus: pp. 5-55, 679-681 [Avii-A10/B14; A727/B755-A730/B758].

3. January 26, *The "Problem" with Math, Science, and Metaphysics, Kant's "Copernican Revolution,"*  
focus: pp. 55-68 [A10/B14-A16/B30].

**Week 3- Introduction, pp. xxxii-xxxix, and CPR, The Transcendental Aesthetic, 71-104 [A19/B33-A49, B73], Lorne Falkenstein, "Was Kant a Nativist?" in Critical Essays.**

4. January 31, *Forms of Intuition*, focus: pp. 76-79 [A22/B37-A25/B40].

5. February 2, *How to solve the problem of mathematics, How to resolve the Newton-Leibniz debate about space, Transcendental Aesthetic: Conclusions*, focus: pp. 80-104 [A25/B40-A49, B73].

**Week 4 - CPR, The Transcendental Analytic, 105-140 [A50/B74-A83, B116].**

6. February 7, *Transcendental Logic*, focus: pp. 105-111 [A50/B74-A57/B82].

7. February 9, *Concepts, Categories and 'Synthesis'*, focus: pp. 117-140 [A64/B89-A83/B116].

**Week 5 - Introduction, pp. xxxix- xlix, CPR, The Transcendental Analytic, 141-174, 718-719 [A84/B116-B129, A130; A782/B810-A785/A812], Karl Ameriks, "Kant's Transcendental Deduction as a Regressive Argument" in Critical Essays .**

8. February 14, *What is a Transcendental Deduction?* focus: pp. 141-150 [A84/B116-A95/B129], (see also 718-19 [A782/B810/-A785/B812]).

9. February 16, *Constructing Cognition: The Three Syntheses*, focus: pp. 153-163 [A98-A114].

**Week 6- Introduction, xlii-xlix, CPR, The Transcendental Deduction in A and B, 150-74 [A95-A130], 174-82 [B129-B139], Lewis White Beck, “Did the Sage of Königsburg Have No Dreams? and Patricia Kitcher, “Kant’s Theory of the Cognitive Mind,” first in Critical Essays, second on Courseworks.**

10. February 21, *The Puzzle of the Unity of the Self*, focus: pp. 158-59 [A107-108], 164-70A115-A124].

11. February 23, *Requirements of Cognition*, focus: pp. 175-82 [B129-139].

**Week 7-CPR-Continuation of B Deduction, 182-203 [B139-B169]**

12. February 28, *Self-Consciousness and Object Cognition*, focus: re-read from last week, pp. 177-182 [B132-36]; *The Figurative Synthesis*, focus: pp.190-195, [B150-156].

13. March 2, *Judgments*, focus: pp. 182-85, [B139-142]; *Perceiving and Conceiving*, focus: pp. 197-203, [B159-B169].

**Week 8- Introduction, pp. xlix-lxiii, CPR, Analytic of Principles, 204-19, 247-276 [A130/B169-A147/B187; A176/B218-A211/B256]).**

14. March 7, *The Schematism*, focus: pp. 204-219 [A130/B169-A147/B187].

15. March 9, *Must there be Substances? Hume and the Problem of Causation*, focus: pp. 247-58 [A176/B217-A189/B232], pp. 247-76 [A176/B218-A211/B256].

**Week 9- CPR, Analytic of Principles Cont: Causation, 247-76 [A176/B218-A211/B256], Refutation of Idealism 288-292, 303-322 [B274-79]; Paul Guyer, “Kant’s Second Analogy” in Critical Essays.**

16. March 21, *Kant’s Reply to Hume*, focus: re-read previous assignment.

17. March 23, *The Refutation of Idealism*, focus: pp. 288-298 [B274-79].

**Week 10, CPR, Phenomena-Noumena and Introduction to the Transcendental Dialectic; pp. 303-22 [A235/B294-A260/B315]; pp. 346-379, 458-472, 510-517 [A293/B349-A338/B396, A426/B454-A433/B461, A497/B525-A507/B535], Peter Strawson, “The Metaphysics of Transcendental Idealism” in Critical Essays.**

18. March 28, *Transcendental Idealism: Phenomena and Noumena*, focus: pp. 303-322 [A235/B294-A260/B315]

19. March 30, *What is the “critique of pure reason”?* Example of 1<sup>st</sup> Antinomy, focus: pp. 346-79, 458-467, 510-517 [A293/B349-A338/B396; A426/B454-A433/B461, A497/B525-A507/B535].

**Week 11, Introduction, pp. liii-lix , CPR The Paralogisms and The 3<sup>rd</sup> Antinomy: Freedom, 382-441, , [A341/B399-A405, B432,]; 473-485, 535-52 [A444/B472-A452/B480; A532/B560-A558/B586], Allen Wood, “Kant’s Compatibilism” in Critical Essays.**

20. April 4, *The Limits of Self-Knowledge*, focus: pp. 382-441 [A341/B399-A405, B428].

21. April 6, *The Problem of Freedom and Causation*, focus: pp. 473-479 [A444/B472-A452/B480].

**Week 12- CPR, re-read 473-479 [A444/B472-A452/B480], 535-53 [A532/B560-A558/B586]; Ideal of Pure Reason, 560-616 [A567/B595-A642/B670], Allen Wood “Kant’s Critique of The Three Theistic Proofs” in Critical Essays.**

22. April 11, *Transcendental Compatibilism*, focus: 473-479 [A444/B472-A452/B480], 535-53 [A532/B560-A558/B586].

23. April 13, *The impossibility of proving the existence of God*, focus: pp. 560-616. [A567/B595-A642/B670]/

**Week 13, CPR, 617-38, A642/B670-A668/N697, and Philip Kitcher, “Projecting the Order of Nature” in Critical Essays. CPR, Transition to Ethics 730-46 [A797/B826-A819/B847] CPrR, Maxims and Laws (5.3-32).**

24. April 18, *How humans understand nature*, focus: 617-38 [A642/B670-A668/B697].

25. April 20, Subjective Maxims and Moral Laws, focus: CPR 730-46 [A797/B826-A819/B847], CPrR 5.19-32.

**Week 14, CPrR 5.31-106**

26. April 26, The Fact of Reason and Good and Evil, focus: CPrR 5.31-71.)

27. April 28, Feelings and Metaphysics, focus: CPrR 5.71-106.

**Week 15- CPrR, Dialectic of Practical Reason 5. 107-148.**

28. May 2, The Highest Good, focus: CPrR 5.107-148.

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