Textbooks

The texts that we will be using in this course are as follows:


Two useful sources of (generally) good overview articles for many of the central topics in this course are the *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Paul Edwards (eight volumes, plus a 1996 Supplement, edited by Donald M. Borchert; call number: B41 .E5), and the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Edward Craig (ten volumes; call number: B51 .R68). Copies of both of these encyclopedias are available in the Reference room of Norlin Library.

The *Encyclopedia of Philosophy* now has a second edition, edited by Donald M. Borchert, and published in 2006. Unfortunately, a copy of it is not yet available in the University library.

Another useful source, though it is still in a rather incomplete state, since many of the articles have not yet been written, is the *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, found online at http://plato.stanford.edu

Required Work

The required work for the course can take the form either of two shorter essay-writing exercises, of about 7 or 8 double-spaced, typewritten pages in length, or of one longer essay-writing exercise, of about 16 to 20 pages in length.

In each case, the essay-writing exercise will consist of two parts:

**Part One:** A clear outline, of about 400-600 words, in which you briefly describe:

1. The problem that you are going to consider.
2. The basic thesis that you will be defending.
3. One or two central supporting arguments.
4. One or two important objections that you will address.

**Part Two:** The completed essay.

Course Grade

The outline (or outlines) will count for 10% of your grade for the course.

The paper (or papers) will count for 90% of your grade for the course.
Due Dates for the Two, Shorter Papers Option:

First Paper
Outline Due: Monday, February 22
Completed Essay Due: Monday, March 15

Second Paper
Outline Due: Monday, April 5
Completed Essay Due: Monday, April 26

Due Dates for the One, Longer Paper Option:
Outline Due: Monday, April 5
Completed Essay Due: Monday, April 26

Detailed instructions for the essays, together with a list of possible topics, can be found online at http://spot.colorado.edu/~tooley/EssayTopics5340.html.

If you want to write on a slightly different topic than those listed, talk to me about that, so that I can alert you to possible problems that may arise.

Class Web Site
Course materials, including seminar notes, can be found online at the following location: http://spot.colorado.edu/~tooley/Philosophy5340.html

Format of the Course
Classes will take the form of lecture/discussion. My goal will be to explain and to motivate the central concepts and arguments, and to encourage class discussion of those ideas and arguments.

Before each class, one should read both the relevant articles, and the seminar notes that are available online, in order to be able to participate fully in the class discussions. Such participation will be very helpful in enabling you to master the material.

Topics and Readings
In the case of some of the topics, the readings are divided into "core readings" and "optional readings". The core readings will more than suffice, in the case of every topic, to give you a very good grasp of the basic issues. If, however, you have a good background in philosophy, or if you find the core readings insufficiently challenging, you may well want to go on to do some of the optional readings. The latter are generally, though not always, somewhat more complicated and difficult, and also, in some cases, rather on the long side.
I. Introduction: Epistemology and Philosophy

II. The Problem of Analyzing the Concept of Knowledge


III. Analysis, Analytically Basic Concepts, Direct Acquaintance, and Theoretical Terms
(This article can be downloaded, via the University library, from JSTOR, and I shall place it on e-reserve as well.)

IV. Skepticism

René Descartes, Meditations on First Philosophy, Epistemology - Contemporary Readings, pp. 513-23.


V. The Justification of Induction

Core Readings


Optional Readings


VI. Theories of Justification: Foundationalism and Coherentism


VII. Perceptual Knowledge of the External World

Core Readings


David Hume, "Of the Academic or Skeptical Philosophy," Epistemology - Contemporary Readings, pp. 46-50.


Bertrand Russell, An excerpt from The Problems of Philosophy, Epistemology - Contemporary Readings, pp. 64-73.

J. L. Austin, An excerpt from Sense and Sensibilia, Epistemology - Contemporary Readings, pp. 74-84.

Optional Reading on Perception


VIII. Michael Huemer on Direct Realism Versus Indirect Realism


IX. Knowledge of the Past


X. **A Priori Knowledge**

**Core Readings**


**Optional Readings**


**Statements Concerning Various Matters**

The University currently recommends the inclusion in all syllabi of statements dealing with the following matters:

(1) **Students with Disabilities**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices.

(2) **Religious Observances Policy Statement**

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, students who are absent from a class due to a religious observance should talk to me about the material that I covered in that class. If a religious observance conflicts with the date of the final examination, please inform me of this in writing as early as possible, so that alternative arrangements can be made.
(3) Classroom Behavior Policy Statement

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student’s legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See polices at [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html) and at [http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code).

(4) Statement concerning Sexual Harassment and Amorous Relationships

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at [http://www.colorado.edu/odh](http://www.colorado.edu/odh).

(5) Statement concerning the Boulder Campus Honor Code

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html) and at [http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/](http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/).