

Analytic philosophy, 1892-1976

Dr. Jacob Archambault

Course description

This course covers the beginnings of analytic philosophy, from its founding figures of Gottlob Frege, G. E. Moore, and Bertrand Russell, to figures forming the foundation for more recent work, including Saul Kripke, Hilary Putnam, and David Lewis. Through the course, the student shall become acquainted with the canonical texts of analytic ethics, logic, and metaphysics, while also being introduced to secondary literature on and more recent developments engaged with the earlier texts.

Course requirements

Seminar presentation and handout – Each student in the class will present on one of the required or recommended articles. The student will prepare a one-page, single-spaced summary of the reading, and should be prepared to explain and discuss the text for approximately twenty minutes.

Shorter paper – Fewer than 3000 words, footnotes and bibliography included.

Longer Paper – Fewer than 5000 words. May be a revision and expansion of the shorter paper or a distinct work.

Readings

All readings will be provided.

Syllabus

Week	Required	Recommended
1	Frege, Gottlob (1892/1948). "Sense and Reference" <i>The Philosophical Review</i> 57:3, 209-230.	Frege, Gottlob (1918-19/1956). "The Thought: A Logical Inquiry" <i>Mind</i> 65: 259, 289-311.
2	Moore, G. E. (1903). <i>Principia Ethica</i> ch. 1: "The Subject-Matter of Ethics"	Almotahari, Mahrad, and Adam Hosein (2015). "Is anything just plain good?" <i>Philosophical Studies</i> 172, 1485-1508.
3	Russell, Bertrand (1905). "On Denoting" <i>Mind</i> 14:56, 479-93.	Strawson, P. F. (1950). "On Referring" <i>Mind</i> 59:235, 320-44.
4	Brouwer, L. E. J. (1913/1999). "Intuitionism and Formalism" <i>Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society</i> 37:1, 55-64.	Mehlberg, Henryk (1960). "The Present Situation in the Philosophy of Mathematics" <i>Synthese</i> 12:4, 380-414.
5	Tarski, Alfred (1936/1956). "On the Concept of Logical Consequence" in <i>Logic, Semantics, Metamathematics: Papers from 1923 to 1938</i> . Trans. J. H. Woodger (Oxford: Clarendon Press), 409-420.	Etchemendy, John (2008). "Reflections on Consequence" <i>New Essays on Tarski and Philosophy</i> , 263-299.
6	Quine, W. V. (1948). "On What There Is" <i>Review of Metaphysics</i> 2:5, 21-38.	Lejewski, Czeslaw (1954). "Logic and Existence" <i>The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science</i> 5:18, 104-119.

7	Carnap, Rudolf (1950). "Empiricism, Semantics, and Ontology" <i>Revue Internationale de Philosophie</i> 4, 20-40.	Yablo, Stephen (1998). "Does Ontology Rest on a Mistake?" <i>Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society, Supplementary Volumes</i> 72, 229-61.
8	Quine, W. V. O. (1953/76). "Three Grades of Modal Involvement" Reprinted in <i>The Ways of Paradox and Other Essays</i> , 158-176.	Barcan Marcus, Ruth (1990). "A Backward Look at Quine's Animadversions on Modalities." <i>Perspectives on Quine</i> , ed. R. Barrett and R. Gibson, 230-243.
9	Anscombe, G. E. M. (1958). "Modern Moral Philosophy" <i>Philosophy</i> 33:124, 1-19.	Foot, Philippa (1972). "Morality as a System of Hypothetical Imperatives" <i>Philosophical Review</i> 81:3, 305-316.
10	Mackie, J. L. (1965). "Causes and Conditions" <i>American Philosophical Quarterly</i> 2:4, 245-264.	Davidson, Donald (1967). "Causal Relations" <i>The Journal of Philosophy</i> 64:21, pp. 691-703.
11	Lewis, David (1968). "Counterpart Theory and Quantified Modal Logic" <i>The Journal of Philosophy</i> 65:5, pp. 113-126.	Jacobs, Jonathan D. (2010). "A powers theory of modality: or, how I learned to stop worrying and reject possible worlds" <i>Philosophical Studies</i> 151, pp. 227-248.
12	Kripke, Saul (1971/2011). "Identity and Necessity" in <i>Philosophical Troubles: Collected Papers, Volume 1</i> , 1-26.	Putnam, Hilary (1973). "Meaning and Reference" <i>The Journal of Philosophy</i> 70: 19, pp. 699-711.
13	Gibbard, Allan (1975). "Contingent Identity" <i>Journal of Philosophical Logic</i> 187-221.	Almotahari, Mahrads (2014). "The Identity of a Material Thing with its Matter" <i>Philosophical Quarterly</i> 64:256, 387-406.
14	Lewis, David (1976). "Survival and Identity" <i>The Identities of Persons</i> , ed. A. O. Rorty.	Jarvis Thomson, Judith (1983). "Parthood and Identity Across Time" <i>Analysis</i> 80:4, 201-220.