

Phil 335 – Analytic Philosophy

Spring 2008 – Prof. Kevin C. Klement (Please call me “Kevin.”)

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1pm-2:15pm in 206 Bartlett

Course description:

Analytic philosophy is a movement in, and style of, philosophy that began in Britain and America in the early 20th century, and continues to dominate academic philosophy in the English-speaking world. In this course, we examine some of the most important works of this movement. The topics we’ll cover include philosophical analysis, logical form, logical atomism, logical positivism and “the linguistic turn” in philosophy.

Contact info:

My office is 353 Bartlett Hall. My office phone is 545-5784. My office hours are Tuesdays 11:00am-12:00pm, Thursdays 12:00-1:00pm and by appointment. You may also e-mail me at klement@philos.umass.edu.

Webpage: <http://courses.umass.edu/phil335/>

Texts (available at the Textbook annex):

A. J. Ayer, *Language, Truth and Logic* (Dover 1952).

Saul Kripke, *Naming and Necessity* (Harvard Univ. Press 1982).

Bertrand Russell, *The Philosophy of Logical Atomism* (Open Court 1985).

Ludwig Wittgenstein, *Philosophical Investigations* (3rd ed., Blackwell 2002).

Course requirements:

Your final grade will be based on the following requirements: (1) in-class participation (10%), (2) four take-home exams (4 × 15% each), and (3) regular quizzes (30% total).

Exams: You will be given four take-home exams, one for each major work we will be reading. These will be in essay format: in effect, you will be writing several short papers. For some exams, I may ask you to write one long (5-6 page) essay, and for others I may ask you to write two or more shorter (e.g., 2-3 page) essays. You will usually have a choice of topics or questions to answer, depending on the exam. The exams will be handed out approximately two weeks ahead of their due dates, which are listed *tentatively* on the reverse side.

Quizzes: Just about every week, I will be giving a short 5-10 minute quiz on the material covered since the previous quiz. These quizzes may require you to provide one or two *short* essays (4-5 sentences), including defining terms, clarifying arguments, and explaining/discussing main philosophical theses, or may consist of multiple choice questions covering the philosophical views or texts in the assigned reading for that class session.

Participation: You are expected to attend class regularly and participate by asking questions, and raising points for discussion.

Reading Schedule

Note: This schedule is *subject to change*.

Day	Date	Material Covered
Tu	Jan 29	Course introduction
Th	Jan 31	Background lectures
Tu	Feb 5	Background lectures
Th	Feb 7*	Russell, <i>Philosophy of Logical Atomism</i> , Lecture I (pp. 35-49)
Tu	Feb 12	Russell, <i>Philosophy of Logical Atomism</i> , Lectures II-III (pp. 49-79)
Th	Feb 14*	Russell, <i>Philosophy of Logical Atomism</i> , Lectures IV-V (pp. 79-109)
Tu	Feb 19	No class. (Monday class schedule followed.)
Th	Feb 21	Russell, <i>Philosophy of Logical Atomism</i> , Lecture VI (pp. 109-123)
Tu	Feb 26*	Russell, <i>Philosophy of Logical Atomism</i> , Lecture VII (pp. 123-141)
Th	Feb 28	Russell, <i>Philosophy of Logical Atomism</i> , Lecture VIII (pp. 141-155)
Tu	Mar 4	Transition Lecture: Logical Positivism; First take-home due
Th	Mar 6	Ayer, <i>Language, Truth and Logic</i> , Chap. I (pp. 33-45)
Tu	Mar 11*	Ayer, <i>Language, Truth and Logic</i> , Chaps II-III (pp. 46-70)
Th	Mar 13	Ayer, <i>Language, Truth and Logic</i> , Chap. IV (pp. 71-86)
	Mar 17-21	No class. (Spring Break!)
Tu	Mar 25*	Ayer, <i>Language, Truth and Logic</i> , Chap. V (pp. 87-101)
Th	Mar 27	Ayer, <i>Language, Truth and Logic</i> , Chap. VI (pp. 102-120)
Tu	Apr 1*	Ayer, <i>Language, Truth and Logic</i> , Chap. VII-VIII (pp. 120-153)
Th	Apr 3	Transition Lecture: Wittgenstein's Early and Later Philosophy; Second take-home due
Tu	Apr 8	Wittgenstein, <i>Philosophical Investigations</i> , §§1-37 (pp. 2e – 16e)
Th	Apr 10*	Wittgenstein, <i>Philosophical Investigations</i> , §§38-88 (pp. 16e – 36e)
Tu	Apr 15	Wittgenstein, <i>Philosophical Investigations</i> , §§89-133 (pp. 36e – 44e)
Th	Apr 17	Wittgenstein, <i>Philosophical Investigations</i> , §§134-242 (pp. 44e – 75e)
Tu	Apr 22*	Wittgenstein, <i>Philosophical Investigations</i> , §§243-317 (pp. 75e – 89e)
Th	Apr 24	Transition Lecture: Late 20 th Century Analytic Philosophy
Tu	Apr 29	Kripke, <i>Naming and Necessity</i> , start of Lecture I (pp. 22-48); Third take-home due
Th	May 1*	Kripke, <i>Naming and Necessity</i> , end of Lecture I (pp. 48-70)
Tu	May 6	Kripke, <i>Naming and Necessity</i> , Lecture II (pp. 71-105)
Th	May 8	Kripke, <i>Naming and Necessity</i> , start of Lecture III (pp. 106-134)
Tu	May 13*	Kripke, <i>Naming and Necessity</i> , end of Lecture III (pp. 134-155)
	Finals	Fourth take-home due

The days marked by * are days on which a *quiz* will most likely be given.