

Course Overview

1. The Book

The recommended translation is: Kant, I. (2004). *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics, With Selections from the Critique of Pure Reason*, Revised Edition, Ed. G. Hatfield. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

At www.earlymoderntexts.com/authors/kant.html, Jonathan Bennett provides a simplified translation (in downloadable pdf format), which is quite helpful.

An online German edition of all of Kant's works, the so-called *Akademieausgabe* (to which the marginal page numbers refer), is available at: <http://korpora.zim.uni-duisburg-essen.de/kant/aa04/>. There is a digitised facsimile available at the *Münchener Digitalisierungszentrum* (Munich Digitization Center), www.digitale-sammlungen.de/index.html?&l=en.

2. The Programme

Week	Topic	§§.	pp.
1	General Introduction, Kant's life, project		
2	<i>Preface</i>		5–14
3	<i>Preamble on the Distinguishing Features of all Metaphysical Cognition</i>	1–3	15–23
4	<i>General Question of the Prolegomena</i> . Is metaphysics possible at all?	4	24–6
	<i>Prolegomena. General Question</i> . How is cognition from pure reason possible?	5	27–31
5	<i>The Main Transcendental Question. First Part</i> . How is pure mathematics possible? [<i>Critique of Pure Reason: Transcendental Aesthetics</i>]	6–13, Notes I–III	32–45
6	<i>The Main Transcendental Question. Second Part</i> . How is pure natural science possible? [<i>Critique of Pure Reason: Transcendental Analytic</i>]	14–39	46–78
7	<i>The Main Transcendental Question. Third Part</i> . How is metaphysics in general possible? [<i>Critique of Pure Reason: Transcendental Dialectic</i>]	40–60	79–115
8	<i>Solution to the General Question of the Prolegomena</i> . How is metaphysics as science possible?		116–22
9	<i>Appendix. On What Can Be Done in Order to Make Metaphysics As Science Possible</i> .		123–34
10	Review, Outlook, Reception		

3. The Coursework

Would you like credit (CATS points) for this course?

No. Enjoy the course.

Yes. Note: Department has introduced a distinction between *formative* and *summative* coursework. Formative coursework gives you the opportunity for getting informal feedback on your work during the course. The summative coursework is then the more formal assignment that matters for credit at the end of the course.

Here are the options. (a) You can complete five (of eight) coursework sheets that relate to the weekly readings. Since this could be rather extensive, you should either restrict each set of answers to ca 300 words, or be selective in your choice of questions. The first of the sheets is the formative coursework. (b) You can write an essay of about 1,500 words. There are three steps. First, you can arrange the topic with me. Second, you write a brief outline or plan of your essay (ca one page), which we will discuss. This is also the formative coursework. Thirdly, you produce an essay for the specified deadline. (c) You can give a ten-minute presentation in class (with accompanying notes for me). As the formative coursework, you can give me the sketch of your presentation, similar to an essay outline.

4. The Resources

There is a website dedicated to this course, where I will put up the handouts: <http://open.conted.ox.ac.uk/series/kant-prolegomena-any-future-metaphysics>.

The invaluable *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* has a range of entries on several aspects of Kant's work, see <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/kant/> for a start.

Two excellent collections are Guyer, P., Ed., (1992). *The Cambridge Companion to Kant*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. And Guyer, P., Ed., (2010). *The Cambridge Companion to Kant's 'Critique of Pure Reason'*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Both are available online from within the library.

The standard edition of the *CPR* is with *The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Immanuel Kant*, transl. and ed. P. Guyer and A. W. Wood (1998). *Critique of Pure Reason*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

The standard German of the *CPR* edition is probably ed. by R. Schmidt (1990). *Kritik der Reinen Vernunft*. Hamburg: Felix Meiner Verlag. There is a handy (and cheap) Reclam edition (Stuttgart) of the *Prolegomena* ed. by R. Malter (1989).

There is no commentary for the *Prolegomena*, but there is a wide range of introductory texts; here is a selection: (a) Buroker, J. V. (2006). *Kant's Critique of Pure Reason. An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (b) Guyer, P. (2006). *Kant*. London: Routledge. (c) Savile, A. (2005). *Kant's Critique of Pure Reason. An Orientation to the Central Theme*. Oxford: Blackwell. (d) Rosenberg, J. F. (2005). *Accessing Kant: a Relaxed Introduction to the Critique of Pure Reason*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

For those interested in Kant's life, see Kuehn, M. (2001). *Kant. A Biography*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.



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