MASTERCYLLABUS
(Generic Outline)

Administrative Unit: History and Social Sciences Department

Course Prefix and Number: PHIL 322

Course Title: Major Figures and Schools: Early Modern to Modern

Number of: Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Intensive study of treatises by major philosophers in the early modern and modern world.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior standing or instructor’s permission.

Text(s): Descartes, Meditations
Locke, Essay Concerning Human Understanding
Berkeley, Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous
Liebniz, Monadology
Hume, Treatise or Enquiry
Kant, Critique of Pure Reason or Prolegomena

Course Objectives:
• To be familiar with the matter and method of modern western philosophy.
• To be familiar with some of the classic texts from modern philosophy.
• To understand the views of some of the giants of modern philosophy as well as the arguments in support of those views.
• To understand the lasting influence modern philosophy has upon contemporary philosophy.

Measurable Learning Outcomes
• Read classic philosophical prose for critical understanding.
• Understand the classic issues and problems in modern philosophy.
• Formalize sophisticated philosophical arguments.
• Analyze and provide criticism of sophisticated philosophical arguments.
• Understand the method of western philosophy and how contemporary philosophy treats the history of philosophy.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):
Instructors may choose to concentrate on one major figure of the period or conduct an historical survey.
• Rationalists
• Empiricists
• Kant

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 20
Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Mark L. Price

Name __________________________ Signature __________________________

Date: September 27, 2005

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

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