

HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
Undergraduate Course Outline 2022–2023

## Phil3040F: Origins of Analytic Philosophy

Mon 2:30–3:30, Wed 3:30–5:30  
Classroom: W101 (Huron)  
Office: Lucas House Annex

Instructor: Emerson Doyle  
email: [edoyle9@uwo.ca](mailto:edoyle9@uwo.ca)  
Hours: Wed 1:00–3:30 or anytime via Zoom

### Course Description

Analytic philosophy developed in the main as a response to the Idealist philosophy that had become fashionable in Europe during the latter half of the 19th century. It grew throughout the 20th century to become the dominant method of Western philosophy. Somewhat ironically, both traditions trace their origins back to Kant’s criticisms of the Early Moderns. What distinguishes the analytic tradition is its close connection to the contemporaneous development of modern logic, its focus upon an analysis of language as the interface between mind and world, and its sensitivity to the revolutionary mathematical and scientific advancements being made at the time. Indeed, we can do worse than to characterize early analytic philosophy as the application of logico-mathematical methods to philosophical questions raised in the sciences, including computer science, semantics, psychology, physics both large and small, mathematics, and biology.

This course aims to give us a sense of the motivations, methods, problems, and solutions that compose the early analytic tradition, both as a philosophical school and in terms of the wider cultural and scholarly contexts within which analytic philosophy developed. After a brief look at the intellectual landscape forming the background of the analytic tradition, we will take a “problem focused” approach, considering a variety of topics which showcase analytic methods.

### Course Objectives & Methods

Students should finish the course with an understanding of some of the key issues that faced 20th century philosophy, as well as an understanding of analytic methods more generally. You will also have the opportunity to improve your writing, critical analysis, and argumentative abilities. These are extremely valuable skills not just for success in academia, but also within the personal and professional spheres more generally.

We’ll begin most weeks with a short lecture on background and key concepts. The remainder of the class will be more free-form, consisting of discussion, textual analysis, and close reading of the material. Obviously, students will be expected to attend every class having done all the readings, and to regularly make contributions to class discussion. In my experience this makes for the most enjoyable and beneficial sort of classroom environment.

*Analytic philosophy at a glance*

	Frege	Russell	Vienna Circle	Quine	Oxford	TLP	PI
linguistic turn	(x)	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
rejection of metaphysics	x	x	✓	x	(✓)	(✓)	✓
philosophy ≠ science	(x)	x	(✓)	x	✓	✓	✓
reductive analysis	(x)	✓	✓	(✓)	x	✓	x
formal logic	✓	✓	✓	✓	(x)	✓	x
science oriented	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
argument	✓	✓	(✓)	(✓)	✓	(x)	(✓)
clarity	✓	(✓)	✓	(✓)	✓	x	(x)

Parentheses indicate either that the verdict is contestable or that the feature is partly present or partly absent.

From Hans-Johann Glock’s *What is Analytic Philosophy?*

## Texts

- All course readings will be posted on OWL.

## Recommend Texts (primary & secondary sources, as background/starting point for essays)

- Beaney, M. (2018) *Analytic Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction*. OUP.
- Demopoulos, W. (2013) *Logicism and its Philosophical Legacy*. CUP.
- Lapointe, S. & Pincock, C. (2017) *Innovations in the History of Analytic Philosophy*.
- Martinich, A.P. & Sosa, D. (2011) *Analytic Philosophy: An Anthology, 2nd Ed.* Wiley.
- Miller, A. (1998) *Philosophy of Language*. Routledge.

You will be expected to come to class not only having done the readings, but also having critically reflected upon them. Our material will sometimes be dense, involving difficult concepts and arguments. Some weeks I will post a set of “Questions for Thought” that reinforce and review the material. But you should always bring questions to class for discussion! Such discussions will be an essential element of the course, taking up the majority of our time.

## Requirements

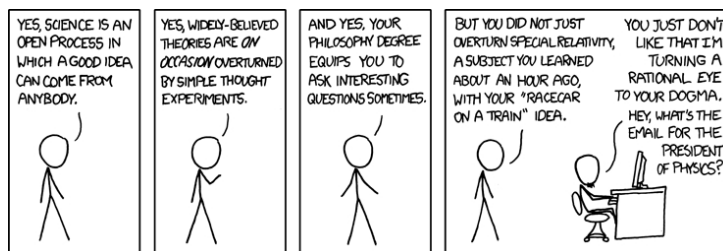
- Free Responses: 10% (10 responses each worth 1%)
- Argumentative Papers: 50% (6/8 pages maximum, two papers 20% & 30%)
- Class Presentation: 15% (leading discussion for one week’s readings)
- Final Exam: 25% (during the Fall exam period)

**Free Responses** are a response to **anything** related to the content of class discussion or readings for the week. No length or topic requirement, but your thoughts should be substantial. Responses should be posted to the appropriate OWL Forum by Wednesdays at 10:00am. Each response is worth 1%. There will be **no opportunity** to hand these in late or if you miss class.

**Paper topics** for the first paper will be distributed in advance. You’ll develop your own topic for the second paper, in consultation with me. Both papers are expected to be substantial contributions which involve research outside the readings from class. Late work submitted without arrangement with me **in advance** will be penalized by **5% per day late**, including weekends.

You will prepare a short **Class Presentation** for one week’s readings. We’ll decide presentation assignments in the first week or two. Besides a formal presentation to the class in the style of my summary lectures, you should also be prepared to lead the class discussion for the topics that week.

The **Exam** will occur during the appropriate exam period. These will be “take-home” style assignments requiring a demonstration of understanding and significant synthesis of course content.



## Schedule

\*Please be advised that the reading list is tentative.

Week 1 (Sept 13/15)

### **Analytic Origins: Idealism vs. Direct Realism**

- Griffin, “Russell and Moore’s Revolt against British Idealism”
- Bradley, selections from *Appearance and Reality*
- Moore, “The Refutation of Idealism”

Week 2 (Sept 20/22)

### **Analytic Origins: Kant and the Synthetic A Priori**

- Conant, J. & Elliott, J. (eds), selection from *The Norton Anthology of Western Philosophy: After Kant*
- Kant, selections from *Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics*
- Frege, selections from *Foundations of Arithmetic*

Week 3 (Sept 27/29)

### **A Paradox of Analysis? Sense and Reference**

- Frege, “Sense and Reference”
- Miller, selections from *Philosophy of Language*
- Carnap, selections from *Introduction to Philosophy of Science*

Week 4 (Oct 04/06)

### **Logicism: Mathematics from Logic?**

- Frege, selections from *Foundations of Arithmetic*
- Selections from the Frege–Russell Correspondence
- Doyle, “Number Theory, Logicism, and Paradox”

Week 5 (Oct 11/13)

### **That Paradigm of Analysis: The Theory of Descriptions**

- Russell, “On Denoting”
- Strawson, “On Referring”
- Miller, selections from *Philosophy of Language*

Week 6 (Oct 18/20)

### **Logicism Continued**

- Russell, selections from *Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy*
- Demopoulos & Clark, “The Logicism of Frege, Dedekind and Russell”

**First Paper due October 20th — 20%**

Week 7 (Oct 25/27)

### **The Theory of Logical Atomism**

- Wittgenstein, selections from *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*
- Russell, selections from *The Philosophy of Logical Atomism*

Week ☹ (Nov 01/03)

**No Class — Reading Week!! (whew!)**

Week 9 (Nov 08/10)

\*Drop Date Nov. 12

### **Applications: The Elimination of Metaphysics**

- Carnap, “The Elimination of Metaphysics. . .”
- Hempel, “Problems and Changes in the Empiricist Criterion of Meaning”

Week 10 (Nov 15/17)

### **Applications: The Foundations of Computation and A.I.**

- Turing, excerpt from “On Computable Numbers”
- Turing, “Computing Machinery and Intelligence”
- Searle, “Can Computers Think?”

Week 11 (Nov 22/24)

**Applications: The Analytic–Synthetic Distinction**

- Carnap, “Empiricism, Semantics, and Ontology”
- Quine, “Two Dogmas of Empiricism”

Week 12 (Nov 29/Dec 01)

**Applications: The Definition of Truth**

- Tarski, “The Semantic Conception of Truth”
- Reading TBA

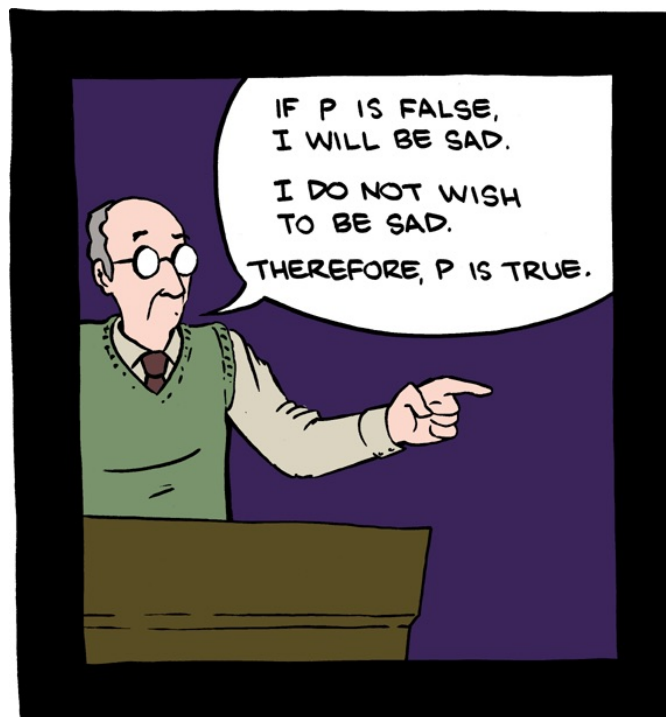
Week 13 (Dec 06/08)

**Applications: The Structure of Science via Ramsey Sentences**

- Carnap, selection from *Introduction to Philosophy of Science*
- Demopoulos, “Three Views of Theoretical Knowledge”

Second Paper due December 08th — 30%

Final Exam during Fall Exam Period — 25%



There. Now you can skip 99% of philosophical debates.

## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022**

### **Pandemic Contingency**

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no further disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

### **Student Code of Conduct**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

### **Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar/)

### **Statement on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: [Academic](https://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar/)

[Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) .The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf).

### **Turnitin.com**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)**

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

### **Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence**

- (a) **Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade:  
Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may not collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

**b) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising**

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

**c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca).**

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [accommodation medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca) for any further questions or information.

**Support Services**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services at

[huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>  
 Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>  
 Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>  
 Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>  
 Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>  
 Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

### **Wellness and Health Supports at Huron and Western**

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: [huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca)  
 Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)  
 Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)