

PH 230: HISTORY OF ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY
Spring 2009

- Class Meetings:** Wed., Fri., 10:10-11:30, Ladd 206
- Instructor:** Professor Matthew Ostrow, Department of Philosophy
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Office Hours: T: 2:00-3:30; TH: 2:00-3:30; and by appointment
- Texts:** Frege, *Foundations of Arithmetic*
Wittgenstein, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*
Wittgenstein, *Notebooks 1914-1916*
Quine, *From a Logical Point of View*
Quine, *Pursuit of Truth*
Packet of Readings

Aims of the Course:

Analytic philosophy is often referred to as “the philosophy of language.” What does that mean exactly? In this course our focus will be on the five key figures of analytic philosophy—Frege, Russell, Wittgenstein, Carnap and Quine—for all of whom the concern with language figures quite centrally. Still, these thinkers do not treat the notion of language as an isolated topic, but rather one that is bound up with a larger inquiry into logic, mathematics, ontology, and the nature of rationality itself. Our study of philosophy of language is thus really a study of a set of related attempts—quite arguably the greatest of the 20th century at least—at grappling with the deepest questions of metaphysics.

Requirements:

Regular attendance is required. In addition, there will be two moderately long papers and an ongoing philosophical journal.

SCHEDULE

January	21	Introduction,
	23	Packet readings 1: Preface to <i>Begriffsschrift</i>
	28	Packet readings 2 and 3: “On Concept and Object,” “On Sense and Meaning”
	30	Introduction to <i>Foundations of Arithmetic</i> (FA), pp. i-xi, 1-24
February	4	FA, pp. 25-51
	6	FA, pp. 51-73
	11	FA, pp. 73-89
	13	FA, pp. 99-104
	18	Packet reading 4: “On Denoting”

	20	<i>Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus</i> (TLP), Preface, 4-4.0031, 4.1-4.122
	25	TLP 2.04-2.225; First Paper Due
	27	<i>Notebooks</i> , pp. 5-30
March	4	TLP 2.2-2.225, 4.01-4.0641
	6	TLP 5.54-5.641, Packet Reading 5 (mistakenly listed as “Reading 7”): “On the Nature of Truth and Falsehood”
	11	No class (spring break)
	13	No class (spring break)
	18	TLP 4.2-4.661, 6.1-6.13, <i>Notebooks</i> 108-113
	20	Packet Reading 6: <i>Philosophy and Logical Syntax</i> , pp. 7-34; Packet Reading 7: “The Elimination of Metaphysics,” pp. 60-65
	25	Packet Reading 6, pp. 35-67
	27	Packet Reading 6, pp. 68-88; Packet reading 7, pp. 65-80
April	1	No class
	3	No class
	8	Packet Reading 6, 88-98
	10	<i>From a Logical Point of View</i> , pp. 20-46
	15	<i>Pursuit of Truth</i> , pp. 1-21
	17	<i>Pursuit of Truth</i> , pp. 23-36
	22	<i>Pursuit of Truth</i> , pp. 37-59
	24	<i>Pursuit of Truth</i> , pp. 61-76
	29	Open

Final Paper Due: May 6