



Fall 2019



PHL304: Modern Philosophy

Dr. Costanzo

T/TH 11:00-12:20

Modern philosophy studies the philosophy of the 17th and 18th century (also called “early modern” philosophy) beginning with Descartes and culminating in Kant. During this period various philosophical positions developed, including rationalism, empiricism and idealism. Within this course, we will examine the ideas of the most significant philosophers within this age, including Rene Descartes, Baruch Spinoza, G.W.F. Leibniz, John Locke, George Berkeley, David Hume and Immanuel Kant. Along with the historical study of these figures, we will also focus upon select problems that developed out of this era, including the problem of knowledge, reality vs. appearances, the existence of the self, the mind-body problem, free will and the existence of God.

Prerequisite: Any previous course in philosophy, religion or humanities.