

THE RATIONALISTS

PHIL 093

Fall 2002

T, Th 10:00am–11:45am

Cowell Clrm 131

Discussion sections:

A: T 6:00pm–7:10pm Soc Sci 2 159

B: W 5:00pm–6:10pm Crown Clrm 203

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Office hour:

T 1:00pm–2:00pm

Text

Readings in Modern Philosophy, Vol. I, eds. R. Ariew and E. Watkins (Hackett, 2000).

Materials in ‘[...]’ are supplementary and will be on reserve.

Requirements

3 papers, due at start of class on:

T 10/15 (4 pages), T 11/5 (4 pages), and T 11/26 (6 pages).

Schedule

Th 19 September	Introduction
T 24 Th 26	Descartes, <i>Discourse on Method</i> , I, II, V [Russell, “Descartes”] Descartes, <i>Meditations</i> , “Dedication,” “Preface,” “Synopsis”
T 1 October Th 3	Meditation I (Doubt) [<i>The Matrix</i> , Malcolm “Dreaming and Skepticism”] Meditation II (The Cogito) [Sartre, selection from <i>Nausea</i> ; <i>What Dreams May Come</i> (esp. ~50–55 min.)]
T 8 Th 10	Meditation III (God’s Existence) [Bouwsma, “Descartes’s Evil Genius”] Meditation IV (Truth and Error)
T 15 Th 17	Meditation V (Material Essences); Galileo, “Corpuscularianism” Meditation VI (Existence of Matter; Dualism) [Ryle, “Descartes’s Myth”]
T 22 Th 24	Spinoza, selections from <i>Descartes’s Principles of Philosophy</i> Leibniz, “On Descartes”; Pascal, “The Wager”
T 29 Th 31	Leibniz, <i>Discourse on Metaphysics</i> , 1–22 [Russell, “Leibniz”] Leibniz <i>DM</i> , 23–37 [Broad, “Leibniz’s Predicate-in-Notion Principle...”]
T 5 November Th 7	Newton, selections from <i>Natural Philosophy, Principia</i> Leibniz, from the Letters to Clarke (I–IV)
T 12 Th 14	Leibniz, <i>Monadology</i> , 1–30 <i>Monadology</i> , 31–59 [Mates, “Leibniz on Possible Worlds,” §I]
T 19 Th 21	<i>Monadology</i> , 60–90 <i>Monadology</i>
T 26	Conclusion