

History of Analytic Philosophy, 70.271 – Winter term 2011
Brandon University
 Lectures: Thrs 1:40-4:30, Clark hall 302
 Instructor: Dr. Derek H. Brown
 Contact information: brownd@brandonu.ca, 727-9765
 Office hours: Tues 1:30-3:30, Clark Hall 331

Prerequisite: Predicate logic or permission of Instructor.

An introduction to the philosophical approach that currently dominates North America. The roots of analytic philosophy are found in the method of *rigorization* in mathematics developed throughout the 19th century and the formulation of modern logic by Frege in 1879. After introducing these roots we will consider their broader applications in the philosophies of Frege, Russell, and Wittgenstein. Highlights include Kant's division between *analytic* and *synthetic* knowledge, Frege's distinction between *sense* and *reference*, and Russell's theory of descriptions.

Required Texts:

- [1] J. Alberto Coffa. *The Semantic Tradition from Kant to Carnap: To the Vienna Station*.
- [2] A. Sullivan. *Logicism and the Philosophy of Language*. Broadview Press.
- [3] Gottlob Frege. *Foundations Of Arithmetic*.
- [4] Ludwig Wittgenstein. *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*.
- [5] Bertrand Russell. *The Problems of Philosophy*.

*There are many editions of all but [2], and most of them are equally good. Additional required material may be made available to students throughout the course.

Evaluation

Test (Thursday, March 18)		25%
Presentation; outline; discussion questions (dates TBA)	12+6+2 =	20%
Essay 1, 5 pp (Thursday, Feb 3)		15%
Essay 2, 5 pp (Thursday, March 3)		15%
Essay 3, 10-15 pp (due Thursday, April 14)		25%

Rough Course Schedule

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Readings</i>
Week 1:	Kant and Bolzano Coffa, Chapters 1&2.	
Week 2:	19 th century mathematics	Coffa, chpt 3; Sullivan, chpt 10.
Week 3:	Frege's <i>Begriffsschrift</i> (modern logic)	Sullivan, chpt 1-3.
Week4:	Frege's <i>Grundlagen</i> (modern logic applied to arithmetic)	<i>Foundations Of Arithmetic</i> (Coffa, chpt 4).
Week 5:	The linguistic turn: Frege's theory of sense and reference.	Sullivan, chpt 7 (Coffa, chpt 5).
Week 6:	The first set-back: Russell's paradox.	TBA.
Week 7:	The next linguistic turn: Russell's theory of descriptions.	Sullivan, chpt 11&14 (Coffa, chpt 6).
Week 8:	Beyond language: Acquaintance & description; Presentations.	Sullivan, chpt 12.
Week 9:	A pleasant introduction to the discipline; Presentations.	<i>Problems of Philosophy</i> .
Week 10:	Philosophy as logic; Presentations.	Sullivan, chpt 13; Coffa, chpts 14-15.
Week 11:	A strange step sideways; Presentations.	Wittgenstein's <i>Tractatus</i> (Coffa, chpt 8).
Week 12:	What happened next; Presentations.	N/A.

Students are specifically referred to the policy on academic integrity Section 4.2.2 of the General Calendar. Violations of this policy, including all forms of plagiarism, will not be tolerated.