

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR: : PH 3023 AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY

**-UK LEVEL: 5
UK CREDITS: 15
US CREDITS: 3/0/3**

(Updated FALL 2022)

PREREQUISITES:	None
CATALOG DESCRIPTION:	At the end of the nineteenth century the theory of Pragmatism emerges and puts American philosophy on the map. Examination of its major representatives such as Pierce, James and Dewey. Discussion of contemporary trends in American philosophy as presented in Quine and Rorty. Understanding the factors that shape the American mind and culture.
RATIONALE:	This course traces the major trends in American philosophy from the nineteenth century to the present. It is basic for an awareness of America's contribution to philosophy. The course is relevant to a number of other contemporary philosophy courses and constitutes part of the history of philosophy sequence. It should prove valuable for all students.
LEARNING OUTCOMES:	As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to: 1. Demonstrate a competent understanding of the main streams of American Philosophy, such as Transcendentalism and Pragmatism. 2. Interpret different American thinkers on the basis of their own writings. 3. Critically evaluate American philosophical ideas in the mainstream of Western thought, with an emphasis on the pragmatic method. 4. Elaborate on the impact of American Philosophy on contemporary philosophical thought and culture.
METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:	In congruence with the learning and teaching strategy of the College, the following tools are used: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Classes consist of lectures and interactive learning (class discussions of contemporary articles, as well as of case studies assigned by the instructor).- Office hours: Students are encouraged to make full use of the office hours of their instructor, where they can discuss the course material.- Use of Blackboard, where instructors can post lecture notes assignment instructions, timely announcements, and additional resources.- Use of library facilities: Students are encouraged to make use of the library facilities for their assignments as well as for preparation for the final exam.

<p>ASSESSMENT:</p>	<p>Summative:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="646 199 1385 453"> <tr> <td data-bbox="646 199 1208 323">First assessment: Midterm Examination (take-home assessment) – Essay-type questions</td> <td data-bbox="1208 199 1385 323">40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="646 323 1208 453">Final assessment: Research paper (2,500 words) – Literature Review/Analysis/Evaluation</td> <td data-bbox="1208 323 1385 453">60%</td> </tr> </table> <p>Formative:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="646 520 1385 625"> <tr> <td data-bbox="646 520 1208 590">Class presentation (individual or group)/ or home assignment</td> <td data-bbox="1208 520 1385 590">0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="646 590 1208 625"></td> <td data-bbox="1208 590 1385 625"></td> </tr> </table> <p>The formative assessment aims to prepare students for the research paper.</p> <p>The first assessment tests Learning Outcomes 1 and 2. The final assessment tests Learning Outcomes 2, 3, and 4.</p> <p>The final grade for this module will not be determined through grade averaging. Students are required to resit any failed assessments.</p>	First assessment: Midterm Examination (take-home assessment) – Essay-type questions	40%	Final assessment: Research paper (2,500 words) – Literature Review/Analysis/Evaluation	60%	Class presentation (individual or group)/ or home assignment	0%		
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Final assessment: Research paper (2,500 words) – Literature Review/Analysis/Evaluation	60%								
Class presentation (individual or group)/ or home assignment	0%								
<p>INDICATIVE READING:</p>	<p>REQUIRED READING: Stuhr, John J (ed.). <u>Pragmatism and Classical American Philosophy (Essential Readings and Interpretative Essays)</u>. 2nd edition, New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press, latest edition.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED READING: Borradori, Giovanna. <u>The American Philosopher: Conversations with Quine, Davidson, Putnam, Nozick, Danto, Rorty, Cavell, MacIntyre, Kuhn</u>. Traslated by R. Crocitto. University of Chicago Press, 1994.</p> <p>Boydston, Ann Jo (ed.), <u>The Early Works of John Dewey</u>. 5 vols. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1969-1972. _____, <u>The Middle Works of John Dewey</u>. 15 vols. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1976-1983. _____, <u>The Later Works of John Dewey</u>. 17 vols. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1981-1990.</p> <p>Campbell, James, <u>Understanding John Dewey (Nature and Cooperative Intelligence)</u>. U.S.A.: Open Court, 1996.</p> <p>Festl, Michael, G.Ed.) <u>Pragmatism and Social Philosophy: Exploring a Stream of Ideas from American to Europe</u>. London: Routledge, 2020.</p> <p>Frega, R. & Levine, S. (eds.), <u>John Dewey's Ethical Theory: The</u></p>								

	<p><u>1932 Ethics</u>. London: Routledge, 2020.</p> <p>James, William, <u>Pragmatism: A New Name for Old Ways of Thinking</u>. 2nd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1975.</p> <p>Lekan, Todd, <u>William James and the Moral Life: Responsible Self-Fashioning</u>. London: Routledge, 2022.</p> <p>Liszka, James J., <u>Charles Peirce on Ethics, Aesthetics and the Normative Sciences</u>. London: Routledge, 2021.</p> <p>Marsoobian, Armen and Ryder, John (eds.), <u>The Blackwell Guide to American Philosophy</u>, Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2003.</p> <p>Marchetti, Giancarlo, <u>The Ethics, Epistemology, and Politics of Richard Rorty</u>. London: Routledge, 2021.</p> <p>Mead, George Herbert, <u>Selected Writings</u>. Edited by Andrew J. Reck. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1981.</p> <p>Misak, Cheryl J. (ed.), <u>The Oxford Handbook of American Philosophy</u>, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.</p> <p>_____, (ed.), <u>New Pragmatists</u>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.</p> <p>Peirce, Charles Sanders, <u>The Collected Papers of Charles Sanders Peirce</u>. Edited by Charles Hartshorne, Paul Weiss, and Arthur W. Burks, 8 vols., Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1931-1958.</p> <p>Rorty, Richard. <u>Consequences of Pragmatism</u>. (Essays: 1972-1980), Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1982.</p> <p>_____, <u>Philosophy and Social Hope</u>. Penguin, 2000.</p> <p>Smith, John E., <u>Purpose and Thought: The Meaning of Pragmatism</u>. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1978.</p> <p>Urbas, Joseph, <u>The Philosophy of Ralph Waldo Emerson</u>. London: Routledge, 2020.</p>
<p>INDICATIVE MATERIAL: (e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</p>	<p><i>American Scholar</i> <i>Journal of Philosophy</i> <i>Philosophical Quarterly</i> <i>Southern Journal of Philosophy</i></p>
<p>COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:</p>	<p>Class discussion in academic/professional English and debating speech skills.</p>
<p>SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:</p>	<p>Microsoft Word</p>

<p>WWW RESOURCES:</p>	<p>www.noesis.es www.hippias.com. www.american-philosophy.org.</p>
<p>INDICATIVE CONTENT:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. The historical-cultural setting 1.2. The context of American philosophy 1.3. The philosophical background of American philosophy 2. Transcendentalism <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Emerson 2.2. Thoreau 2.3. Selected readings 3. Charles Sanders Peirce <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1. Pragmatic theory of truth 3.2. Experimentalism 3.3. Selected readings 4. William James <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1. Pragmatism and theory of truth 4.2. Pragmatism, radical empiricism, and pluralism 4.3. Psychology, metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics 4.4. Selected readings 5. Josiah Royce <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1. The absolute and the eternal 5.2. Philosophy of the community 5.3. Selected readings 6. George Santayana <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1. System 6.2. Selected readings 7. John Dewey <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7.1. Philosophy of experience 7.2. Selected readings 7.3. Pattern of inquiry 7.4. Ethics as a moral science 7.5. Selected readings 7.6. Views on democracy and education (philosophy of culture) 7.7. Selected readings 8. George Herbert Mead <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8.1. Human nature as social (the pragmatic self) 8.2. Human nature as pragmatic 8.3. Selected readings 9. Pragmatism criticized and defended (contemporary criticism of pragmatism) 10. Feminism and the writings of American women 11. American idealism and personalism 12. African-American philosophy 13. American naturalism