

# Analytic Philosophy PHIL-4150

Spring 2021 Section 01W 3 Credits 01/09/2021 to 05/11/2021 Modified 02/23/2021

## Description

An introduction to analytic philosophy, the predominant tradition of philosophy in America and England during the 19th and 20th centuries. Areas of philosophy to be covered may include the philosophy of language, metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of mind, and ethics. Philosophers covered may include Frege, Moore, Wittgenstein, Russell, Ayer, Ryle, Austin, Quine, and Putnam.

### Requisites

Prerequisites:

PHIL 2010 or PHIL 2020 or PHIL 2030

Corequisites:

## Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Robert Lane

Email: [rlane@westga.edu](mailto:rlane@westga.edu)

Office: TLC 2247

Phone: 678-839-4745

Website: [https://www.westga.edu/administration/profile.php?emp\\_id=410](https://www.westga.edu/administration/profile.php?emp_id=410) ([https://www.westga.edu/administration/profile.php?emp\\_id=410](https://www.westga.edu/administration/profile.php?emp_id=410))

Because it is impossible to practice social distancing in my small office, **I will not be holding in-person office hours this semester.** I am usually available for telephone calls and video conferencing (Google Meet, Zoom or Facetime) by appointment between 9am and 5pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. I will also be available on some weekend days, so if you cannot schedule an appointment during the work week, feel free to request a time on Saturday or Sunday. Just email me to make an appointment.

## Meeting Times

### Lecture

Monday and Wednesday 11am–12:15pm

Pafford Building Room 106

## Materials

### Analytic Philosophy

**Author:** A. P. Martinich and David Sosa, editors

**Publisher:** Wiley-Blackwell

**Edition:** 2nd

**ISBN:** 978-1-4443-3570-5

**Availability:** Campus Bookstore and online book retailers. New copies are available from Amazon for around \$50; used copies are available from Amazon Marketplace sellers from around \$30.

Other assigned readings, both required and optional, will be made available online.

## Outcomes

This is a **Discipline Specific Writing (DSW)** course. All DSW courses require that students write a minimum of 4,000 words across multiple assignments, not including revisions. There will be multiple written assignments that will be evaluated for subject matter, grammar, punctuation, spelling, accuracy, and organization, among other things.

By the end of the semester students should be able to explain and critically analyze, in writing, six of the following topics:

- Gettier's criticism of JTB theory
- Frege's distinction between sense and reference
- Russell's theory of descriptions and the problems it was intended to solve
- Wittgenstein's earlier theory of language
- Logical Positivism, especially the version defended by Ayer
- Wittgenstein's later views on language and essentialism
- Quine's attack on the analytic/synthetic distinction or on reductionism

They should also be able to write an extended defense of an original philosophical thesis employing some of the ideas listed above and/or the ideas of Kenneth Taylor, Paul Grice, Luvell Anderson, Michelle Moody-Adams, and Lynne Tirrell.

These course-specific learning outcomes contribute to the learning outcomes of the Philosophy Program by enabling students better to

- discuss the views of at least three major historical figures of philosophy;
- critically analyze and explain a philosophical issue in written communications.

## ✓ Evaluation

A	90%–100%	(149–166 points)
B	80%–89%	(139–148 points)
C	70%–79%	(116–138 points)
D	60%–69%	(99–115 points)
F	0%–59%	(0–98 points)

### Criteria

### Breakdown

## ☰ Assignments

### Short Papers

Six short papers worth 16 points each = 96 points.

Length: 1,000–1,200 words per short paper.

The first two short papers are due on **Wednesday January 20** (on Gettier) and **Monday February 8** (on Frege) are mandatory for all students. There are five other short papers shown on the course schedule: each student must select **four** of those papers to complete, for a total of six short papers. Detailed instructions for each short paper will be provided in each Assignment Folder in CourseDen.

### Term Paper

This is the major project of the class: a paper that explains the ideas of one or more of the major historical figures covered in the course and responds to those ideas in an original way. You will submit three items as part of this project:

- A **proposal**, due **Monday March 29** (10 points)
- A **draft** that's at least 2,000 words long, due **Monday April 12** (20 points).
- A **final paper** that's between 2,500 and 3,000 words long, due **Friday April 30** (40 points).

Detailed instructions for each of these items will be provided in each Assignment Folder in CourseDen.

### Class Participation

Participation does not contribute to your final grade in any fixed way, but I will consider giving borderline students the next highest grade if their in-class questions and contributions to class discussions warrant my doing so.

## 📅 Schedule

### Week 1

**Monday January 11:** Introduction to the course

**Wednesday January 23:** An example of analytic philosophy: Gettier on knowledge

*Required reading due:*

1. Martinich and Sosa, "Introduction" (pp.1–2 only)
2. Edmund Gettier, "Is Justified True Belief Knowledge?" (Martinich and Sosa pp.205–206; also available through [JSTOR](#)—login to [UWG Library website](#) is required)

*Optional viewing:*

3. Video: "[Epistemology: Analyzing Knowledge #1 \(the Gettier Problem\)](#)" (Wi-Phi, 5:51).

## Week 2

**Monday January 18:** MLK Holiday – classes do not meet

**Wednesday January 20:** Analytic vs. Continental Philosophy

*Required reading due:*

1. Martinich and Sosa, "Introduction" (pp.2–5)
2. Brian Leiter, "[‘Analytic’ and ‘Continental’ Philosophy](#)"

*Optional reading and viewing:*

3. William Blattner, "[Some Thoughts about ‘Continental’ and ‘Analytic’ Philosophy](#)."
4. Gary Gutting, "[Bridging the Analytic-Continental Divide](#)"
5. Video: [Analytic Philosophy](#) (Films for the Humanities and Sciences, 48:59) [login to [UWG Library website](#) is required]

**Mandatory Short Paper 1 (on Gettier) is due Weds Jan 20 before 11:59pm.**

## Week 3

**Monday January 25:** Gottlob Frege

*Required reading due:* Frege, "On Sense and Reference" (Martinich and Sosa pp.9–10 only; a different translation is available in [JSTOR](#): <https://articles.westga.edu:2184/stable/2181485>), read only pp.209–212, which is marginal numbers 25–28)

**Wednesday January 27:** Gottlob Frege

*Required reading due:* Frege, "On Sense and Reference" (Martinich and Sosa pp.10–12 only; a different translation is available in [JSTOR](#): <https://articles.westga.edu:2184/stable/2181485>), read only pp.212–216, which is marginal numbers 29–33)

## Week 4

**Monday February 1:** Gottlob Frege

*Required reading due:*

1. Frege, "On Sense and Reference" (Martinich and Sosa pp.12–13 only; a different translation is available in [JSTOR](#): <https://articles.westga.edu:2184/stable/2181485>), read only pp.216–218, which is marginal numbers 34–36)
2. Frege, "Thought" (Martinich and Sosa pp.27–29 only)

**Wednesday February 3:** Bertrand Russell

*Required reading due:* Russell, "On Denoting" (Martinich and Sosa pp.35–38 only)

## Week 5

**Monday February 8:** Bertrand Russell

*Required reading due:* Russell, "On Denoting" (Martinich and Sosa pp.38–42 only)

**Mandatory Short Paper 2 (on Frege) is due Mon Feb 8 before 11:59pm.**

Wednesday February 10: Kenneth Taylor

*Required reading due:* Taylor, "[The Things We Do with Empty Names](https://westga.view.usg.edu/d2l/le/content/2262945/viewContent/40530814/View)" (pp.183–193 only)

### Week 6

Monday February 15: Kenneth Taylor

*Required reading due:* Taylor, "[The Things We Do with Empty Names](https://westga.view.usg.edu/d2l/le/content/2262945/viewContent/40530814/View)" (pp.193–212)

Short Paper 3 (on Russell) is due Mon Feb 15 before 11:59pm.

Wednesday February 17: the early Ludwig Wittgenstein

*Required reading due:* Wittgenstein, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* (Martinich and Sosa ch.10, pp.118–120 [sections 1–2.063] only)

### Week 7

Monday February 22: the early Ludwig Wittgenstein

*Required reading due:* Wittgenstein, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* (Martinich and Sosa ch.10, pp.120–124 [sections 2.1–4.0031] only)

Wednesday February 24: the early Ludwig Wittgenstein

*Required reading due:* Wittgenstein, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* (Martinich and Sosa ch.10, pp.124–128 [sections 4.01–7] only)

### Week 8

Monday March 1: the early Wittgenstein; background to Logical Positivism

*Required reading due:* None

Wednesday March 3: Logical Positivism: A. J. Ayer

*Required reading due:* Ayer, "*The Elimination of Metaphysics*" (Martinich and Sosa ch.44, pp.499–502 only)

### Week 9

Monday March 8: Logical Positivism: A. J. Ayer

*Required reading due:* Ayer, "*The Elimination of Metaphysics*" (Martinich and Sosa ch.44, pp.502–505 only)

Short Paper 4 (on the early Wittgenstein) is due Mon Mar 8 before 11:59pm.

Wednesday March 10: the later Ludwig Wittgenstein

*Required reading due:* Wittgenstein, excerpts from *Blue and Brown Books* (Martinich and Sosa ch.49, pp.567–577 only)

Week 10: Spring Break. Class does not meet on Mon March 15 or Weds March 17.

### Week 11

Monday March 22: the later Wittgenstein

*Required reading due:* Wittgenstein, excerpts from *Blue and Brown Books* (Martinich and Sosa ch.49, pp. 577–581 only)

Short Paper 5 (on Ayer) is due Mon Mar 22 before 11:59pm.

Wednesday March 24: Paul Grice; Duvell Anderson

*Required reading due:* Anderson, "[Hermeneutical Impasses](#)" (pp.1–12 only) [login to [UWG Library website](#) is required]

*Optional reading:* Grice, "Meaning" (Martinich and Sosa ch.5)

### Week 12

**Monday March 29:** Duvell Anderson

*Required reading due:* Anderson, "[Hermeneutical Impasses](#)" (pp.12–17 only) [login to [UWG Library website](#) is required]

Short Paper 6 (on the later Wittgenstein) is due Mon Mar 29 before 11:59pm.

**Wednesday March 31:** W. V. O. Quine

*Required reading due:* Quine, "Two Dogmas of Empiricism" (Martinich and Sosa ch.46, pp.518–520 only)

Term Paper Proposal is due Wed Mar 31 before 11:59pm.

**Friday April 2:** Last day to withdraw from the course with a grade of "W"

### Week 13

**Monday April 5:** W. V. O. Quine

*Required reading due:* Quine, "Two Dogmas of Empiricism" (Martinich and Sosa ch.46, pp.520–526 only)

**Wednesday April 7:** W. V. O. Quine

*Required reading due:* Quine, "Two Dogmas of Empiricism" (Martinich and Sosa ch.46, pp.526–528 only)

### Week 14

**Monday April 12:** W. V. O. Quine

*Required reading due:* Quine, "Two Dogmas of Empiricism" (Martinich and Sosa ch.46, pp.528–530 only)

**Wednesday April 14:** Michelle Moody Adams

*Required reading due:* Moody, "[On the Alleged Methodological Infirmity of Ethics](#)" (pp.225–229 only) [login to [UWG Library website](#) is required]

Term Paper draft is due Wed Apr 14 before 11:59pm.

### Week 15

**Monday April 19:** Michelle Moody Adams

*Required reading due:* Moody, "[On the Alleged Methodological Infirmity of Ethics](#)" (pp.229–234 only) [login to [UWG Library website](#) is required]

Short Paper 7 (on Quine) is due Mon Apr 19 before 11:59pm.

**Wednesday April 21:** Lynne Tirrell

*Required reading due:* Tirrell, "[Toxic Speech](#)" (pp.139–149 only) [login to [UWG Library website](#) is required]

### Week 16

**Monday April 26:** Lynne Tirrell

*Required reading due:* Tirrell, "[Toxic Speech](#)" (pp.149–159 only) [login to [UWG Library website](#) is required]

**Wednesday April 28:** Summing Up / Review

*No required reading*

## Week 17

Monday May 3: Summing Up / Review

*No required reading*

Term Paper is due Mon May 3 before 11:59pm

# \* Course Policies and Resources

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## Late Work and Work from Other Classes

Apart from extraordinary circumstances (e.g., a serious illness), there will be no deadline extensions for any of your written assignments.

You may not submit work written for other classes in order to earn credit in this class.

## Expectations of Students

You **must** be willing to devote at least 8.5 hours each week doing work for this course: attending class, working through the assigned readings, studying class handouts and your lecture notes, working on papers, etc.

You **must** stay on top of the schedule of work for this course and be aware of all deadlines.

## Electronic Devices

You may use electronic devices—smartphones, laptops and tablets—while in class to view the electronic version of assigned readings.

I **strongly encourage you to take notes by hand rather than with an electronic device.** Typing notes with a laptop encourages you to simply transcribe what's being said without thinking about it, while taking notes by hand encourages you to think about what you're writing.

## Masks / Food and Drink

You must wear a mask with your nose and mouth completely covered at all times while in the classroom as well as while you are anywhere else in the classroom building.

This means that you may not eat or drink anything while you are in the classroom: **food and drinks are strictly prohibited in class.**

## Attendance

In order to distribute Title IV funding (federal student aid), all instructors are required to record student attendance for every class meeting, and so I will take attendance at the beginning of each class. However, **you will not be penalized for absences.** Your final grade in the class will be based on the grades that you earn on the assigned papers, all of which will be submitted online.

From the Office of the Provost (email to all faculty, December 17, 2020):

"The University of West Georgia expects students to attend all regularly-scheduled classes for instruction and examination. ...

"When a student is compelled for any reason to be absent from class, the student should immediately convey the reason for the absence directly to the instructor. The student is responsible for all material presented in class and for all announcements and assignments.

"Extenuating circumstances for which an absence may be excused include, but are not limited to, participation in university-sponsored activities, hazardous weather conditions, personal hardship, extended illness or hospitalization, family emergencies, or death in the immediate family.

"Instructors may request documentation to verify the extenuating circumstances for illness or self-isolation related to COVID-19. Treatment Records are protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) instead of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)."

## Emergencies

If you have an emergency, you can reach me at my UWG email address: [rlane@westga.edu](mailto:rlane@westga.edu), which I check multiple times each day, including on the weekend. Your email must come from your own UWG email account; UWG policy prohibits me from responding to student emails that come from non-UWG addresses.

# Institutional Policies

## Academic Support

**Accessibility Services:** Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact [Accessibility Services \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php).

**Center for Academic Success:** The [Center for Academic Success \(http://www.westga.edu/cas/\)](http://www.westga.edu/cas/) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or [cas@westga.edu](mailto:cas@westga.edu).

**University Writing Center:** The [University Writing Center \(https://www.westga.edu/writing/\)](https://www.westga.edu/writing/) assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or [writing@westga.edu](mailto:writing@westga.edu).

## Online Courses

UWG takes students' privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the [UWG Online \(https://uwgonline.westga.edu/\)](https://uwgonline.westga.edu/) site.

Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the [Online/Off-Campus Student Guide \(http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php\)](http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php).

If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the [UWG Cares \(http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/\)](http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/) site. [Online counseling \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php) is also available for online students.

## Honor Code

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the [Student Handbook \(https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php).

## UWG Email Policy

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to check his or her email.

## Credit Hour Policy

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to

assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

## HB 280 (Campus Carry)

UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance: [http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional\\_information#](http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information#) ([http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional\\_information](http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information)).

You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance: <https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php> (<https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php>).

## Mental Health Support

If you or another student find that you are experiencing a mental health issue, free confidential services are available on campus in the [Counseling Center](#). Students who have experienced sexual or domestic violence may receive confidential medical and advocacy services with the Patient Advocates in [Health Services](#). To report a concern anonymously, please go to [UWGcares](#).

## ELL Resources

If you are a student having difficulty with English language skills, and / or U.S. culture is not your home culture, specialized resources are available to help you succeed. Please visit the [E.L.L. resource page](#) for more information.

## COVID-19

**Proctored Exams/Online Instruction:** Students should be aware and plan ahead for the possibility of having to complete all courses and/or exams online or in a proctored environment. This means talking with your instructors about what minimum technical requirements (software and hardware) will be required should your class move online or a student's personal needs dictate. This also includes making plans for internet access at whatever location participation may occur.

Virtual or in-person proctored exams, if your instructor should require them, may result in an additional cost to the student. Please discuss these details with your instructor or see the information provided here.

**Face Coverings:** Effective July 15, 2020, University System of Georgia institutions, including the University of West Georgia, will require all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to wear an appropriate face covering while inside campus facilities/buildings where six feet social distancing may not always be possible. Face covering use will be in addition to and is not a substitute for social distancing.

Face coverings are not required in campus outdoor settings where social distancing requirements are met. Anyone not using a face covering when required will be asked to wear one or must leave the area.

Reasonable accommodations may be made for those who are unable to wear a face covering for documented health reasons.

**Student FAQs:** For more information about UWG COVID-19 guidance for students visit the [Student FAQ webpage](#) (<https://www.westga.edu/student-services/health/coronavirus-info/return-to-campus/students-faq-return-to-campus.php>).

## Additional Items

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