

Early Modern Philosophy of Religion

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading
Week 1	Introduction and stage setting	Anstey - Early Modern Philosophy of Religion: An Introduction
Week 2	Thomas Hobbes: Materialism and a Material God	Hobbes - Selection from <i>Leviathan</i>
Week 3	René Descartes & Princess Elisabeth: Dualism of Body and Soul	Descartes - <i>Meditations I-II</i> Elisabeth - Correspondance
Week 4	Arguments for God	Descartes - <i>Meditations III-VI</i>
Week 5	Blaise Pascal: Wagering on God and Other Thoughts	Pascal - Selection from <i>Pensées</i>
Week 6	Lady Anne Conway: A Spiritual Nature and a Temporary Hell Baruch Spinoza: A Natural God	Conway - Selection from <i>Principles of the Most Ancient and Modern Philosophy</i> Spinoza - Selection from <i>Ethics</i>
Week 7	John Locke: Knowledge of God Catherine Trotter Cockburn: Knowledge of God Defended	Locke - Book IV, sections ix-x of <i>An Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> Cockburn - Selection from <i>A Defence of Mr. Locke</i>
Week 8	Nicolas Malebranche: Occasionalism and Seeing in God Gottfried Leibniz: The Best Possible World	Malebranche - Selections from <i>Search After Truth</i> Leibniz - Selection from <i>The Theodicy</i>
Week 9	George Berkeley: Idealism and Idealist Arguments for God	Berkeley - Section 25-33 of <i>A Treatise Concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge</i> Berkeley - Selection from <i>Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous</i>
Week 10	Jonathan Edwards: Divine Sovereignty & Freedom of the Will An Eternal Hell	Edwards - Selection from <i>Freedom of the Will</i> Edwards - Selection from <i>The Eternity of Hell</i>

Date	Topic	Reading
Week 11	David Hume: Against Miracles The Problem of Evil	Hume - Section X of <i>Enquiry</i> Hume - Selection from Section X of <i>Dialogues</i>
Week 12	Against Design Arguments	Hume - Sections II-VII of <i>Dialogues</i>
Week 13	Immanuel Kant: Against Knowledge of God	Kant - Selection from <i>The Critique of Pure Reason</i>
Week 14	God, Free Will, and the Immortal Soul	Kant - Selection from <i>The Critique of Practical Reason</i> (Ak. 5:122-137)
Week 15	William Paley: Divine Design	Paley - Selection from <i>Natural Theology</i>