

## HEGEL'S SCIENCE OF LOGIC

Kevin Thompson

2352 N. Clifton, Suite 150.24; TH: 12:00-1:00, and by appointment  
773.325.4866 (office); 773.325.7265 (department); Email: kthomp12@depaul.edu

This course examines the central issues and ideas of Hegel's *Science of Logic* [1812/13, 1816]. In this work, Hegel presents the fundamental categories and structures of a post-critical metaphysics. Accordingly, we will explore the major topics of the work—being, essence, and concept—through a close reading of the text, with an underlying concern to set out and evaluate its overarching argumentative structure.

### TEXTS

#### *I. Required*

G. W. F. Hegel, *The Science of Logic* (Cambridge, 9780521832557)

#### *II. Recommended*

G. W. F. Hegel, *Encyclopedia of the Philosophical Sciences in Outline and Other Critical Writings*  
(Continuum, 0826403409)

\_\_\_\_\_, *Encyclopedia of the Philosophical Sciences in Basic Outline: Part I: Science of Logic* (Cambridge,  
9780521829144)

### REQUIREMENTS

*Autumn Quarter*: One exegetical paper (5-7pp., 1500-2100 words), due at Noon, Friday, 29 November 2013

*Winter Quarter*: One thematic paper (10-15pp., 3000-4500 words), due at Noon, Friday, 21 March 2014

The critical edition of the *Science of Logic* is Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, *Wissenschaft der Logik. Erster Band. Die objektive Logik (1832)*, ed. Friedrich Hogemann and Walter Jaeschke, *Gesammelte Werke*, Band 21 (Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 1985) and *Wissenschaft der Logik. Zweiter Band. Die subjektive Logik (1816)*, ed. Friedrich Hogemann and Walter Jaeschke, *Gesammelte Werke*, Band 12 (Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 1981). I recommend the following Philosophische Bibliothek editions as reliable, affordable alternatives:

*Wissenschaft der Logik. Erster Teil. Die objektive Logik. Erster Band. Die Lehre vom Sein (1832)*, ed. Hans-Jürgen Gawoll *Philosophische Bibliothek*, Band 385 (Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 1990, 3787307680)

*Wissenschaft der Logik. Erster Band. Die objektive Logik. Zweites Buch. Die Lehre vom Wesen (1813)*, ed. Hans-Jürgen Gawoll *Philosophische Bibliothek*, Band 376 (Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 1992, 3787307664)

*Wissenschaft der Logik. Zweiter Band. Die subjektive Logik oder die Lehre vom Begriff (1816)*, ed. Hans-Jürgen Gawoll *Philosophische Bibliothek*, Band 377 (Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 1994, 3787307672)

The critical edition of the 1817 version of the *Encyclopedia* is Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, *Enzyklopädie der philosophischen Wissenschaften im Grundrisse (1817)*, ed. Wolfgang Bonsiepen and Klaus Grotzsch, *Gesammelte Werke*, Band 13 (Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 2000).

The critical edition of the 1830 version of the *Encyclopedia* is Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, *Enzyklopädie der philosophischen Wissenschaften im Grundrisse (1830)*, ed. Wolfgang Bonsiepen and Hans-Christian Lucas, *Gesammelte Werke*, Band 20 (Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 1992). I recommend the *Philosophische Bibliothek* edition as a reliable, affordable alternative:

*Enzyklopädie der philosophischen Wissenschaften im Grundrisse (1830)*, ed. Friedhelm Nicolini & Otto Pöggeler, *Philosophische Bibliothek*, Band 33 (Hamburg: Felix Meiner, 1991, 3787310320)

## RECOMMENDED SECONDARY SOURCES

### I. GENERAL

- Frederick C. Beiser, "Introduction: Hegel and the Problem of Metaphysics," in *The Cambridge Companion to Hegel*, ed. Frederick C. Beiser (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993), 1-24
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Hegel* (New York: Routledge, 2005)
- Stephen Houlgate, *An Introduction to Hegel: Freedom, Truth and History*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Oxford: Blackwell, 2005)
- G. R. G. Mure, *The Philosophy of Hegel* (London: Oxford University Press, 1965)
- Ivan Soll, *An Introduction to Hegel's Metaphysics* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1969)

### II. SCIENCE OF LOGIC

- Ermanno Bencivenga, *Hegel's Dialectical Logic* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000)
- John W. Burbidge, *On Hegel's Logic: Fragments of a Commentary* (Atlantic Highlands, N.J.: Humanities Press, 1981)
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Hegel on Logic and Religion: The Reasonableness of Christianity* (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 1992), chaps. 1-5
- \_\_\_\_\_, *The Logic of Hegel's Logic: An Introduction* (Ontario: Broadview Press, 2006)
- David Gray Carlson, ed. *Hegel's Theory of the Subject* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005)
- \_\_\_\_\_, *A Commentary to Hegel's Science of Logic* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007)
- Franco Cirulli, *Hegel's Critique of Essence: A Reading of the Wesenslogik* (New York: Routledge, 2006)
- George di Giovanni, ed. *Essays on Hegel's Logic* (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 1990)
- Errol Harris, *An Interpretation of the Logic of Hegel* (Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1983)
- Justus Hartnack, *An Introduction to Hegel's Logic* (Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Publishing Co., 1998)
- Stephen Houlgate, *The Opening of Hegel's Logic: From Being to Infinity* (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press, 2005)
- Jean Hyppolite, *Logic and Existence* (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 1997)
- Paul Owen Johnson, *The Critique of Thought: A Re-examination of Hegel's Science of Logic* (Brookfield: Gower, 1988)
- Béatrice Longuenesse, *Hegel's Critique of Metaphysics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007)
- James McTaggart, *A Commentary on Hegel's Logic* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1910)
- G. R. G. Mure, *A Study of Hegel's Logic* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1950)
- Terry Pinkard, "The Logic of Hegel's Logic" *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 17 (1979): 417-435
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Hegel's Dialectic: The Explanation of Possibility* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1988)
- Robert B. Pippin, *Hegel's Idealism: The Satisfactions of Self-Consciousness* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989), Part III (Idealist Logic)
- Robert M. Wallace, *Hegel's Philosophy of Reality, Freedom, and God* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), chaps. 3-5
- Thomas E. Wartenberg, "Hegel's Idealism: The Logic of Conceptuality," in *The Cambridge Companion to Hegel*, 102-129
- Richard Dien Winfield, *From Concept to Objectivity: Thinking through Hegel's Subjective Logic* (Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2006)
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Hegel's Science of Logic: A Critical Rethinking in Thirty Lectures* (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2012)
- Alan White, *Absolute Knowledge: Hegel and the Problem of Metaphysics* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 1983), Part One

## READING SCHEDULE

### I. THE OBJECTIVE LOGIC:

#### BOOK ONE: THE DOCTRINE OF BEING & BOOK TWO: THE DOCTRINE OF ESSENCE

#### SEPTEMBER

12: Introduction: The Project of a Post-Critical Metaphysics

Friedrich Hölderlin, "Being Judgment Possibility" (1795) [on e-reserve]

*The Science of Logic*, Preface to the First Edition (1812) [Cambridge, 7-11] [Miller, 25-29]

19: *The Science of Logic*, Introduction [C, 23-43]

[M, 43-64]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia of the Philosophical Sciences* (1817), §§ 1-11; (1830), §§ 1-18 (Introduction)]

#### BOOK ONE: THE DOCTRINE OF BEING

26: With What Must the Beginning of Science Be Made? [C, 45-55]

[M, 67-78]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 12-37; (1830), §§ 19-83 (Preliminary Conception)]

#### OCTOBER

3: General Division of Being & Section I: Determinateness (Quality) [C, 56-60, 80-85, 88-105, 108-120, 126-128, 132-134, 135-137, 138-139, & 141-145]

[M, 79-83, 105-111, 114-133, 136-150, 157-160, 163-165, 167-169, 170-172, & 173-178]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 39-51; (1830), §§ 84-98]

10: Section II: Magnitude (Quantity) [C, 152-155, 165-166, 167-170, 182-186, 189-192, 201-204, 271-280]

[M, 185-186, 187-188, 199-200, 201-204, 217-221, 224-228, 238-240, 314-324]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 52-59; (1830), §§ 99-106]

17: Section III: Measure [C, 282-293, 294-296, 298-310, 318-320, 323-330, & 333-335]

[M, 327-338, 339-342, 344-356, 366-368, 371-379, 383-385]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 60-63; (1830), §§ 107-111]

24: **\*\*NO CLASS\*\***

#### BOOK TWO: THE DOCTRINE OF ESSENCE

31: Introduction & Section I: Essence as Reflection Within [C, 337-350, 351-354, 356, 361-365, 367-370, 374-378, 386-388, 389-399, 402-404, & 407-417]

[M, 389-404, 405-409, 411-412, 417-421, 424-427, 431-435, 444-446, 447-458, 461-463, & 466-478]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 64-74; (1830), §§ 112-130]

#### NOVEMBER

7: Section II: Appearance [C, 418-427, 429-434, 437-454, 455-462, & 463-464]

[M, 479-489, 490-496, 499-517, 518-526, & 527-528]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 75-90; (1830), §§ 131-141]

14: Section III: Actuality [C, 465-471 & 477-505]

[M, 529-536 & 541-571]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 91-108; (1830), §§ 142-159]

21: Final Discussion

29: **\*\*EXEGETICAL PAPER DUE\*\*** [FRIDAY, 29 NOVEMBER, 12:00 p.m.]

## II. THE SUBJECTIVE LOGIC OR THE DOCTRINE OF THE CONCEPT

### JANUARY

9: Book Two: Section III: Actuality [C, 465-471 & 477-505]

[M, 529-536 & 541-571]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 91-108; (1830), §§ 142-159]

16: Foreword, Of the Concept in General, & Division [C, 507-527]

[M, 575-597]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 109-111; (1830), §§ 160-162]

23: Section I: Subjectivity: Chapter 1 [The Concept] & Chapter 2 [Judgment] [C, 528-540 & 546-587]

[M, 599-612 & 618-663]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 112-128; (1830), §§ 163-180]

30: Section I: Subjectivity: Chapter 3 [The Syllogism] [C, 588-604 & 609-624]

[M, 664-681 & 686-704]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 129-139; (1830), §§ 181-193]

### FEBRUARY

6: Section II: Objectivity: Chapter 1 [Mechanism] & Chapter 2 [Chemism] [C, 625-650]

[M, 705-734]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 140-152; (1830), §§ 194-203]

13: Section II: Objectivity: Chapter 3 [Teleology] [C, 651-669]

[M, 735-754]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 153-160; (1830), §§ 204-212]

20: Section III: The Idea: Chapter 1 [Life] [C, 670-688]

[M, 755-774]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 161-168; (1830), §§ 213-222]

27: Section III: The Idea: Chapter 2 [The Idea of Cognition] [C, 689-734]

[M, 775-823]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 169-182; (1830), §§ 223-235]

### MARCH

6: Section III: The Idea: Chapter 3 [The Absolute Idea] [C, 735-753]

[M, 824-844]

[Recommended: *Encyclopedia* (1817), §§ 183-191; (1830), §§ 236-244]

13: Final Discussion: Preface to the Second Edition (1831) [C, 11-22]

[M, 31-42]

21: **\*\*THEMATIC PAPER DUE\*\*** [FRIDAY, 21 March, 12:00 p.m.]

## A NOTE ON THE RECOMMENDED READING ASSIGNMENTS FROM THE ENCYCLOPEDIA

The texts from the *Encyclopedia of the Philosophical Sciences* have a structure that is important to understand so that the recommended readings from this text may be done properly. In both the first [1817] and third [1830] editions of this work, there is a main paragraph (designated by an ‘§’ or ‘#’, and these are often no longer than one sentence in German), followed by a short elaboration, typically referred to as ‘Remarks’ in English (*Anmerkungen* in German). To these, in the case of the 1830 version, the editors of earlier German editions have appended excerpts from student transcripts of Hegel’s lectures. These are referred to as ‘Additions’ in English (*Zusätze* in German).

The Behler/Taubeneck translation (Continuum) of the 1817 *Encyclopedia*, entitled, *Encyclopedia of the Philosophical Sciences in Outline and Other Critical Writings*, makes no distinction between Paragraphs and Remarks. As a general rule, if there are two English paragraphs under a German Paragraph number (designated by an ‘#’), then the second of the two is typically Hegel’s remark on the main (first) paragraph. No Additions were appended to this text.

The Brinkmann/Dahlstrom translation (Cambridge) of Part I (The Science of Logic) of the 1830 edition of the *Encyclopedia* clearly distinguishes between the Paragraphs, Remarks, and Additions.

Finally, please note that the recommended reading assignments refer *only* to the Paragraphs and the accompanying Remarks. The recommended assignments do *not require* reading the Additions. If you do choose to explore these passages though, I strongly advise that you examine them only *after* completing the assigned recommended reading, otherwise the line of argument that Hegel is developing over a set of paragraphs may be lost, and that you do so with the recognition that, as student transcripts of oral lectures, Hegel did not compose these passages, and most importantly, did not prepare them for publication. Consequently, they cannot be held to be Hegel’s “official position” on any matters that they discuss.