

**PHI 201A: LOCKE**  
**SYLLABUS**  
Spring 2017

Professor: Sam Rickless  
Office: HSS 8012  
Office Hours: M, F 11am-12pm, or by appointment  
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***Course Description***

In this course, we will investigate and evaluate the central features of Locke's philosophical output. The topics to be covered include: Locke's theory of ideas (including his anti-nativism), the distinction between primary and secondary qualities, his account of substance and essence, his account of the will (including his theory of freedom of action), his account of identity (including personal identity), his theory of knowledge (including his proof of the existence of God and the status of his commitment to the existence of a mind-independent world), his ethics and moral epistemology, and the foundations of his political philosophy (including his theory of property and his theory of political legitimacy).

***Course Texts***

**Required**

Locke, John. *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding*. Edited with an introduction by Peter H. Nidditch (Oxford: Clarendon Press). [Abbreviated **ESSAY**]

Locke, John. *Two Treatises of Government*. Edited by Peter Laslett (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press). [Abbreviated **TREAT**]

**Optional (recommended, but not required)**

Rickless, Samuel C. 2014. *Locke*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell. [Abbreviated **RICK**]

Newman, Lex (ed.). 2007. *The Cambridge Companion to Locke's Essay Concerning Human Understanding*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)  
[Abbreviated **CCLE**]

All four texts should be available through the UCSD bookstore. They should also be available online through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other booksellers. Please be sure to acquire the particular Nidditch and Laslett editions of the Locke texts. It will sometimes be necessary for us to refer directly to these texts in seminar, and it will be important for us to have exactly the same text on hand when we are perusing it together. This will become critical when we look, for example, at changes that Locke made to the text of the *Essay* as it went through various editions in his own lifetime. Other editions of the *Essay* that do not capture these changes will be useless.

## Course Units

**NOTE: Material in “Additional Reading” will not be discussed in seminar. It is there to help you get a running start on extra reading in case the topic of that week serves as the springboard for your final paper.**

### WEEK 1: *Anti-Nativism*

#### Reading

- \* **ESSAY**, Book I, Chapters 1-4, 43-103; Book II, Chapter 10, 149-155
- \* De Rosa, Raffaella. “Locke’s *Essay, Book I*: The Question-Begging Status of the Anti-Nativist Arguments,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 69 (2004): 37-64
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. “Locke’s Polemic Against Nativism,” **CCLE**, 33-66

#### Additional Reading

- \* Atherton, Margaret, “Locke and the Issue Over Innateness”. In *Locke*, edited by Vere Chappell (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998), 48-59.
- \* Kim, Halla, “Locke on Innatism,” *Locke Studies* 3 (2003): 15-39.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. **RICK**, 23-38
- \* De Rosa, Raffaella, “Locke’s Critique of Innatism”. In *A Companion to Locke*, edited by Matthew Stuart (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016), 157-174.

### WEEK 2: *The Theory of Ideas*

#### Reading

- \* **ESSAY**, Book II, Chapters 1-7, 104-132; Chapters 9-12, 143-166; Chapter 15, Section 9 (including footnote), 201-203
- \* Chappell, Vere. “Locke’s Theory of Ideas”. In *The Cambridge Companion to Locke*, edited by Vere Chappell (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994), 26-55.
- \* Martha Brandt Bolton. “The Taxonomy of Ideas in Locke’s *Essay*,” **CCLE**, 67-100.

#### Additional Reading

- \* Ayers, Michael. “Are Locke’s “Ideas” Images, Intentional Objects or Natural Signs?” *The Locke Newsletter* (now *Locke Studies*) 17 (1986): 3-36.
- \* Soles, “Is Locke an Imagist?” *The Locke Newsletter* (now *Locke Studies*) 30 (1999): 17-66.
- \* Stuart, Matthew. “Lockean Operations,” *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 18 (2008): 511-533.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. **RICK**, 13-22, 39-69.

### WEEK 3: *The Primary/Secondary Quality Distinction*

#### Reading:

- \* **ESSAY**, Book II, Chapter 8, 132-143; Chapter 21, Sections 1-4, 233-236; Chapter 23, Sections 1-11, 295-302; Chapter 31, Sections 1-2, 375-376.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. "Locke on Primary and Secondary Qualities", *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 78 (1997): 297-319.
- \* Stuart, Matthew. "Locke's Colors", *Philosophical Review* 112 (2003): 57-96.
- \* Jacovides, Michael. "Locke's Distinctions between Primary and Secondary Qualities", **CCLE**, 101-129.

#### Additional Reading

- \* Jackson, Reginald. "Locke's Distinction between Primary and Secondary Qualities", *Mind* 38 (1929): 56-76.
- \* Curley, Edwin. "Locke, Boyle, and the Distinction between Primary and Secondary Qualities", *Philosophical Review* 81 (1972): 438-464.
- \* Mackie, J. L. *Problems From Locke* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1976), Chapter 1, Sections 1-3
- \* Bolton, Martha Brandt. "Locke and Pyrrhonism: The Doctrine of Primary and Secondary Qualities". In *The Skeptical Tradition*, edited by Myles Burnyeat (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1983), 353-375.
- \* Alexander, Peter. *Ideas, Qualities, and Corpuscles: Locke and Boyle on the External World* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985), Chaps. 5-8
- \* McCann, Edwin. "Locke's Philosophy of Body". In *The Cambridge Companion to Locke*, edited by Vere Chappell (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994), 56-88.
- \* Bennett, Jonathan. "Ideas and Qualities in Locke's *Essay*", *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 13 (1996): 73-88.
- \* Keating, Laura. "Reconsidering the Basis of Locke's Primary-Secondary Quality Distinction", *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 6 (1998): 169-193.
- \* Jacovides, Michael. "Locke's Resemblance Theses", *Philosophical Review* 108 (1999): 461-496.
- \* Wilson, Robert A. "Locke's Primary Qualities", *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 40 (2002): 201-228.
- \* Stuart, Matthew. *Locke's Metaphysics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), chapters 2-3.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. **RICK**, 83-97.
- \* Wilson, Robert A. "Primary and Secondary Qualities". In *A Companion to Locke*, edited by Matthew Stuart (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016), 193-211.

## **WEEK 4: Action and Freedom**

### Reading

- \* **ESSAY**, Book II, Chapter 21, 233-287 (paying close attention to the changes made in the second and subsequent editions)
- \* Chappell, Vere. "Locke on the Freedom of the Will". In *Locke's Philosophy: Content and Context*, edited by G. A. J. Rogers (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1994), 101-121.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. "Locke on the Freedom to Will", *Locke Newsletter* (now *Locke Studies*) 31 (2000): 43-67.

### Additional Reading:

- \* Chappell, Vere. "Locke on the Suspension of Desire", *Locke Newsletter* (now *Locke Studies*) 29 (1998): 23-38.
- \* Magri, Tito. "Locke, Suspension of Desire, and the Remote Good", *British Journal for the History of Philosophy* 8 (2000): 55-70.
- \* Yaffe, Gideon. *Liberty Worth the Name: Locke on Free Agency* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000), esp. chapter 1.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. "Gideon Yaffe's *Liberty Worth the Name: Locke on Free Agency*", *Locke Studies* 1 (2001): 235-255.
- \* Davidson, Jack D. "Locke's Finely Spun Liberty", *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 33 (2003): 203-228.
- \* Lowe, E. J. *Locke* (New York: Routledge, 2005), chapter 5.
- \* Chappell, Vere. "Power in Locke's Essay", **CCLÉ**, 130-156.
- \* LoLordo, Antonia. *Locke's Moral Man* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), chapter 1.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. "Locke on Active Power, Freedom, and Moral Agency", *Locke Studies* 13 (2013): 31-51.
- \* Walsh, Julie. "Locke on the Power to Suspend", *Locke Studies* 14 (2014): 121-157.
- \* Garrett, Don. "Liberty and Suspension in Locke's Theory of the Will". In *A Companion to Locke*, edited by Matthew Stuart (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016), 260-278.

## **WEEK 5: Substances, the Idea of Substance, and Real Essence**

### Reading

- \* **ESSAY**, Book II, Chapter 13, Sections 17-20, 174-175; Chapter 23, 295-317; Chapters 30-31, 372-384; Book III, Chapters 1-3 (esp. sections 15-18 of Chapter 3), 402-420; Chapter 6, 438-471.
- \* Bennett, Jonathan. *Locke, Berkeley, Hume: Central Themes* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1971), 59-63.
- \* Bennett, Jonathan. "Substratum", *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 4 (1987): 197-215.
- \* Bolton, Martha Brandt. "Substances, Substrata, and Names of Substances in Locke's *Essay*", *Philosophical Review* 85 (1976): 488-513.
- \* McCann, Edwin. "Locke on Substance", **CCLÉ**, 157-191.

### Additional Reading

- \* Mackie, J. L. *Problems From Locke* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1976), chapter 3, sections 1-3.
- \* Ayers, Michael. "The Ideas of Power and Substance in Locke's Philosophy", *Philosophical Quarterly* 25 (1977): 1-27.
- \* Alexander, Peter. *Ideas, Qualities, and Corpuscles: Locke and Boyle on the External World* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985), chapter 11.
- \* Szabó, Zoltán Gendler. "Locke on Supposing a Substratum", *Locke Newsletter* (now *Locke Studies*) 31 (2000): 11-42.
- \* Newman, Lex. "Locke on the Idea of Substratum", *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 85 (2000): 291-324.
- \* Korman, Daniel Z. "Locke on Substratum: A Deflationary Interpretation", *Locke Studies* 10 (2010): 61-84.
- \* Stuart, Matthew. *Locke's Metaphysics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), chapter 5.

## **WEEK 6: Personal Identity**

### Reading

- \* **ESSAY**, Book II, Chapter 27, 328-348.
- \* Winkler, Kenneth P. "Locke on Personal Identity", *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 29 (1991): 201-226.
- \* LoLordo, Antonia. "Person, Substance, Mode and 'The Moral Man' in Locke's Philosophy", *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 40 (2010): 643-668.
- \* Gordon-Roth, Jessica. "Locke on the Ontology of Persons", *Southern Journal of Philosophy* 53 (2015): 97-123.

### Additional Reading

- \* Flew, Antony. "Locke and the Problem of Personal Identity", *Philosophy* 26 (1951): 53-68.
- \* Allison, Henry E. "Locke's Theory of Personal Identity: A Re-examination", *Journal of the History of Ideas* 27 (1966): 41-58.
- \* Mackie, J. L. *Problems From Locke* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1976), chapter 6.
- \* Atherton, Margaret. "Locke's Theory of Personal Identity". In *Midwest Studies in Philosophy VIII: Contemporary Perspectives on the History of Philosophy*, edited by Vere Chappell (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1983), 273-293.
- \* McCann, Edwin. "Locke on Identity: Matter, Life, and Consciousness", *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 69 (1987): 54-77.
- \* Alston, William and Bennett, Jonathan. "Locke on People and Substances", *Philosophical Review* 47 (1988): 25-46.
- \* Chappell, Vere. "Locke and Relative Identity", *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 6 (1989): 69-83.
- \* Chappell, Vere. "Locke on the Ontology of Matter, Living Things and Persons", *Philosophical Studies* 60 (1990): 19-32.
- \* Uzgalis, William. "Relative Identity and Locke's Principle of Individuation", *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 7 (1990): 283-297.

- \* Bolton, Martha Brandt. "Locke on Identity: The Scheme of Simple and Compound Things". In *Individuation and Identity in Early Modern Philosophy: Descartes to Kant*, edited by Kenneth F. Barber and Jorge J. E. Gracia (Albany: SUNY Press, 1994), 103-131.
- \* Conn, Christopher. *Locke on Essence and Identity* (Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2003).
- \* Yaffe, Gideon. "Locke on Ideas of Identity and Diversity", **CLE**, 192-230.
- \* Strawson, Galen. *Locke on Personal Identity: Consciousness and Concernment* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011).
- \* LoLordo, Antonia. *Locke's Moral Man* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), chapter 2.
- \* Stuart, Matthew. *Locke's Metaphysics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), chapters 7-8.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. "Are Locke's Persons Modes or Substances?" In *Locke and Leibniz on Substance and Identity*, edited by Paul Lodge and Tom Stoneham (London: Routledge, 2015), 110-127.
- \* Weinberg, Shelley. *Consciousness in Locke* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), chapter 4.

### **WEEK 7: Epistemology and the Problem of Sensitive Knowledge**

#### Reading

- \* **ESSAY**, Book IV, Chapters 1-5, 525-579; Chapter 11, 630-639; Chapters 14-16, 652-668.
- \* Allen, Keith. "Locke and Sensitive Knowledge", *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 51 (2013): 249-266.
- \* Nagel, Jennifer. "Sensitive Knowledge: Locke on Skepticism and Sensation". In *A Companion to Locke*, edited by Matthew Stuart (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016), 313-333.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. "Locke's 'Sensitive Knowledge': Knowledge or Assurance?" In *Oxford Studies in Early Modern Philosophy*, vol. 7, edited by Daniel Garber and Donald Rutherford (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), 187-224.

#### Additional Reading

- \* Mattern, Ruth M. "Locke: 'Our Knowledge, Which All Consists in Propositions'", *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 8 (1978): 677-695.
- \* Newman, Lex. "Locke on Knowledge", **CLE**, 313-351.
- \* Rickless, Samuel C. "Is Locke's Theory of Knowledge Inconsistent?" *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 77 (2008): 83-104.
- \* Rockwood, Nathan. "Is Sensitive Knowledge 'Knowledge'?" *Locke Studies* 13 (2013): 15-30.
- \* Weinberg, Shelley. *Consciousness in Locke* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), chapter 3.
- \* Marusic, Jennifer Smalligan. "Locke's Simple Account of Sensitive Knowledge", *Philosophical Review* 125 (2016): 205-239.

## WEEK 8: *God and Morality*

### Reading

- \* **ESSAY**, Book II, Chapter 28, 348-362; Book III, Chapter 5, 428-438; Book III, Chapter 11, Sections 15-18, 516-518; Book IV, Chapter 3, Sections 18-20, 548-552; Chapters 9-10, 618-630; Chapter 12, Section 11, 646; Chapter 13, Section 3, 651; Chapter 17, Section 4, 670-678.
- \* Locke, John. "Essays on the Law of Nature". In *Locke: Political Essays*, edited by Mark Goldie (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997), 81-133.
- \* Locke, John. "Of Ethic in General". In *Locke: Political Essays*, edited by Mark Goldie (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997), 297-304.
- \* Grant, Ruth W. *John Locke's Liberalism* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1987), chapter 1.
- \* Simmons, A. J. *The Lockean Theory of Rights* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992), chapter 1.

### Additional Reading

- \* Colman, John. *Locke's Moral Philosophy* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1983).
- \* Colman, John. "Locke's Empiricist Theory of the Law of Nature". In *The Philosophy of John Locke: New Perspectives* (London: Routledge, 2003), 106-126.
- \* Byrne, James W. "The Basis of the Natural Law in Locke's Philosophy". In *John Locke: Critical Assessments, vol. 2*, edited by Richard Ashcraft (London: Routledge, 1991), 52-62.
- \* Schneewind, J. B. "Locke's Moral Philosophy". In *The Cambridge Companion to Locke*, edited by Vere Chappell (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994), 199-225.
- \* Darwall, Stephen. *The British Moralists and the Internal 'Ought': 1640-1740* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995), chapter 6.
- \* Tuckness, Alex. "The Coherence of a Mind: John Locke on the Law of Nature", *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 37 (1999): 73-90.
- \* Sheridan, Patricia. "Pirates, Kings, and Reasons to Act: Moral Motivation and the Role of Sanctions in Locke's Moral Theory", *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 37 (2007): 35-48.
- \* Wilson, Catherine. "The Moral Epistemology of Locke's *Essay*", **CCLE**, 381-405.
- \* DeHart, Paul R. "Fractured Foundations: The Contradiction between Locke's Ontology and his Moral Philosophy", *Locke Studies* 12 (2012): 111-148.
- \* Rossiter, Elliot. "Hedonism and Natural Law in Locke's Moral Philosophy", in *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 54 (2016): 203-255.

## **WEEK 9: *Natural Rights: Punishment and Property***

### Reading

- \* **TREAT**, *The Second Treatise of Government*, Chapters 1-5, 267-302.
- \* Nozick, Robert. *Anarchy, State, and Utopia* (New York: Basic Books, 1974), 174-178.
- \* Simmons, A. J. *The Lockean Theory of Rights* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992), chapters 2, 3 and 5.

### Additional Reading

- \* Murphy, Jeffrie G. "A Paradox in Locke's Theory of Natural Rights", *Dialogue* 8 (1969): 256-271.
- \* Olivecrona, Karl. "Locke's Theory of Appropriation", *Philosophical Quarterly* 24 (1974): 220-234.
- \* Tully, James. *A Discourse on Property: John Locke and his Adversaries* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1980), chapter 5.
- \* Mautner, Thomas. "Locke on Original Appropriation", *American Philosophical Quarterly* 19 (1982): 259-270.
- \* Waldron, Jeremy. *The Right to Private Property* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1988), chapter 6.
- \* Schwarzenbach, Sybil. "Locke's Two Conceptions of Property", *Social Theory and Practice* 14 (1988): 141-172.
- \* Sreenivasan, Gopal. *The Limits of Lockean Rights in Property* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995).

## **WEEK 10: *Political Society and Consent***

### Reading

- \* **TREAT**, *The Second Treatise of Government*, Chapters 6-9, 303-353.
- \* Pateman, Carol. "Women and Consent", *Political Theory* 8 (1980): 149-168.
- \* Simmons, A. J. *On the Edge of Anarchy: Locke, Consent, and the Limits of Society* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993), chapters 3, 4, and 7.

### Additional Reading

- \* Pitkin, Hanna. "Obligation and Consent—I", *American Political Science Review* 59 (1965): 990-999.
- \* Pitkin, Hanna. "Obligation and Consent—II", *American Political Science Review* 60 (1966): 39-52.
- \* Beitz, Charles R. "Tacit Consent and Property Rights", *Political Theory* 8 (1980): 487-502.
- \* Grant, Ruth W. *John Locke's Liberalism* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1987), chapter 3.
- \* Russell, Paul. "Locke on Express and Tacit Consent: Misinterpretations and Inconsistencies", *Political Theory* 14 (1986): 291-306.
- \* Simmons, A. J. "'Denisons' and 'Aliens': Locke's Problem of Political Consent", *Social Theory and Practice* 24 (1998): 161-182.



## ***Course Requirements and Grading Policy***

- \* 1 presentation : 10%
- \* 5 short (800-1000 word) papers : 15%
- \* 1 (2-3 page) prospectus for the final paper
- \* 1 final paper (4500-6000 words) : 75%

\* Each short paper (in PDF format) is to be posted on the TritonEd Discussion Board by 5pm on the Tuesday immediately before the relevant Wednesday seminar.

\* Each paper should focus on an aspect of the reading for the relevant week.

\* No short paper should be on a topic covered by one of your presentations.

\* All short papers should have been completed by the time the prospectus is handed in.

\* A prospectus for the final paper is to be e-mailed to me sometime before 5pm on Friday, May 26. It should include a brief description of the project for the final paper and a bibliography.

\* The final paper should be posted emailed to me as a PDF by 5pm on Wednesday, June 14. Late papers will not be accepted without a valid excuse communicated to me in a timely manner.

\* Improvement counts in your favor if the relevant numerical calculations place you between grades at the end of the quarter.

## ***Notes***

\* If accommodations are needed for any reason (disability, religious obligation, family obligation, and so on), please notify me as soon as possible.

\* The Academic Honor Code must be observed in this course.

\* The course units, requirements, and policies stated above are subject to change.