Phil 1: The Nature of Philosophy
Topic: Skepticism
Prof. Gila Sher
TA: Titus Jewell
Winter 2011

Required Reading:

Grades: Midterm (1/3), Final (2/3).
Extra-Credit: Class Presentations.
Office Hours: M 3:30-4:30, HS&S 8042.

Schedule of Classes:

M 1/3 Introduction to Class
W 1/5 Plato: “Allegory of the Cave”
M 1/10 Descartes: Introduction
W 1/12 Discourse on Method: Parts 1-2
M 1/17 UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY
W 1/19 Parts 3-4
M 1/24 Parts 5-6
W 1/26 Meditations on First Philosophy: Meditations 1-2
M 1/31 Meditations 3-4
W 2/2 Meditations 5-6
M 2/7 Midterm
W 2/9 Hume: Introduction
M 2/14 An Abstract of A Treatise of Human Nature
W 2/16 An Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding: Sections 1-3
M 2/21 UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY
W 2/23 Sections 4-5
M 2/28 Sections 7 and12. Appendix: “Why a Cause is Always Necessary”
W 3/2 Putnam: “Brains in a Vat”
M 3/7 Cont.
W 3/9 Conclusion